



5.12.24

Dear Parent/Carer,

Newton Abbot's Christmas Lantern Parade – Wednesday 11th December
Starting - 6.00pm at Bearnas School

As you know already, on Tuesday we had a wonderful lantern making workshop at The Avenue Church working with artist Karol Da Silva (and others!) to create amazing animal lanterns for this year's Lantern Parade. Karol and the other artists were incredibly complimentary about our children, their behaviour and the way they engaged and listened so well.

Now that the lanterns have been made, we are ready to do the parade. This is a wonderful experience for all involved and it would be lovely to see as many of you there on Wednesday 11th December as possible. This is not a school trip, but a community experience, one which we can all share together.

We would ask you to bring your child to Bearnas school playground at 6.00pm where myself and other adults from school will meet them at the gate and will take them onto the playground to retrieve their own lantern and take their place in the parade. Once your child is dropped off to a Haytor View adult, we would ask that you wait outside to avoid overcrowding in Bearnas playground and at 6:30pm, we will exit the school playground onto Queen Street and invite parents and families to join us in walking together as part of a procession across Newton Abbot town centre, to arrive at the clocktower around 7:00pm. Once there, there will be a little story and a bit of a presentation and then you are welcome to squeeze in some late-night shopping or make your way home with your lantern. A real Christmas treat!

The procession itself is not led by members of school staff, but children, families and staff from our school are invited and encouraged to take part. Myself, Mr Hampton, Miss Shopland and other Haytor View members of staff will be there, but we will not be responsible for your child during the procession itself. The safety of your child during the procession is the responsibility of the adults with whom they are attending it.

We are really keen that as many children as possible are able to attend what should be a really memorable evening in the build up to Christmas. Where possible, we will try to bring lanterns of those unable to attend back to school with us but cannot guarantee this will be possible, so if you want your lanterns, then you need to turn up and collect them on Wednesday 11th December, 6.00pm Bearnas School.

To help us know who we are expecting, we'd be really grateful if you could complete the reply slip coming home with your child today and if you have any questions, comments, concerns or suggestions, please share them with me.

Yours sincerely,

Iain Franklin

Year 5 Learning Leader