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NOTRE  
DAME  
SCHOOL



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The Week @NotreDameCobham

**Pippa Earley—  
Elmbridge Youth Sports  
Personality of the Year!**



Congratulations to Pippa on winning this prestigious award last Friday! She was up against some strong competition especially two other international performers from the sports of fencing and canoeing. The award ceremony was very inspiring and the Olympic Gold medal hockey player Gisele Ansley and Canoeist Rebeka Simon were interviewed.



Pippa is a very impressive athlete who competes at Kingston & Polytechnic AC. She has always wanted to be like Jessica Ennis-Hill

and if her recent results are anything to go by, she is on the right path to emulating some of the achievements of her idol. Pictured above: Pippa's trophy and a photo of her with 2 members of Team GB - Giselle Ansley (hockey) and Rebeka Simon (kayak).



**Chaplain's Corner—  
Follow us on twitter  
[@NDS\\_Chaplaincy](https://twitter.com/NDS_Chaplaincy)**



Major news stories, such as this week's US election inevitably, and often appropriately, dominate headlines

and news programmes. However, in their midst, things can be missed (such as the story this week of a man in his hot tub sending a drone to collect him a hotdog from a local vendor!) and we can lose perspective. A recent survey was conducted of people coming towards the ends of their lives asking them to share their biggest regrets. They included wishing they hadn't compared themselves to others and been content with what they had; telling others they loved them and not holding grudges; taking more chances and not giving up; taking 'time out' and being more confident. Nothing remains constant and few things are forever but thankfully, every day is a new opportunity to be true to our values. Encouragingly we read in

St Paul's letter to the Hebrews, 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever'. He can be the constant presence in our days as we negotiate the challenges of life and longs to help us every step of the way.  
*Mrs Harrison, Chaplain*

**Open Morning**

We had a busy Open Morning earlier this week and it was clear to see that Notre Dame is the 'talk of the town'.



Prospective Parents were full of praise for our wonderful Year 6, 8 and 9 tour guides. They were very impressed with the variety of speakers from Izzy in year 8, Deputy Head Girl Anna and Professor Madden.

They also enjoyed these delicious treats provided by our superb catering team.



## AUTHOR MATT HAIG BRINGS EARLY GLIMPSE OF CHRISTMAS



Pupils from four local schools were delighted to welcome author Matt Haig to Notre Dame's capacious Montaigne theatre this week.

The Blue Peter Book Award and Smarties Book Prize winner thrilled his young fans with an interactive presentation explaining how the idea for his latest book; *The Girl Who Saved Christmas*, was born, bringing out props to bring his characters to life for the children and showing a clip detailing his collaboration with artist Chris Mould who illustrates his books.

*The Girl Who Saved Christmas* is the second book in the series, following on from the hugely popular *A Boy Called Christmas* inspired by Matt's own son, who wondered what Father Christmas would have been like as a child.

Following the presentation, the children were invited to meet Matt Haig, who generously signed each child's book and answered any questions they had.

Visitors to Notre Dame School left clutching their books along with a bespoke bookmark to mark the occasion.



Follow us on twitter  
[@NotreDame\\_ND6](https://twitter.com/NotreDame_ND6)

## Safe Driving

On Monday the 7th November, the Sixth Form attended the 'Safe Drive, Stay Alive' talk at Dorking Halls, organised by Surrey Fire and Rescue.



The talk was an eye-opener to the dangers and consequences of reckless driving; all of the audience were shocked by the number of teenage casualties and accidents that occur on Surrey roads. The presentation

was delivered by members of the fire brigade, police and ambulance services and was enriched by families and victims who gave moving accounts of their experiences of teenage deaths and casualties as a consequence of un-safe driving.



The talk moved the Year 12s and left many in tears; the hard hitting nature of the talk really demonstrated the responsibility of safe driving for both the driver and the passenger. Many of the Year 12s altered their perspective on driving, recognising the responsibility they have to be safe road users.

This is hugely valuable session run by Surrey Fire and Rescue. For more information please visit: <http://www.safedrivesurrey.org/>

Miss Harber

## Peer Mentors

Introducing the new Year 10 Peer Mentors



Congratulations to our new peer mentors on their insightful applications. These friendly faces will be happy to help the lower years feel even more welcome at the Senior school. Watch this space!

Mrs Costa-Veysey



Computing—follow us on twitter:  
[@NDS COMPUTING](https://twitter.com/nds_computing)



**Prep Purplemash Festive Card Competition**

Purplemash would like you to design the official Purple Mash festive card. Design a festive image using 2Paint a Picture and submit it to the competition display board for your age category. Everyone is welcome to take part. There are two categories: under 8s and under 12s. Each girl can only submit one entry, so make sure you are totally finished before you submit it to the board. You can save your work and come back to it as often as you like. Log in at

<https://www.purplemash.com/sch/notredameschool>

Design a festive image using 2Paint a Picture. Save and edit your work as many times as you like until it is totally finished! When you are ready, save it one last time then submit it to the 'Festive Card Competition' Display Board. If you win, you will receive 50 professionally printed copies of your card to take home and an awesome t-shirt with your design on it. Not only that, your image will become the official Purple Mash festive card! & let's get festive Make sure you get your entry in by November 27th for your chance to win.

Contact Mrs Plummer if you need any more information!

**Childnet Digital Leaders Programme**

This term, the ICT & Computing department are delighted to announce that a group of students in Year 7 and 8 are participating in the Childnet Digital Leaders Programme.



The programme aims to develop youth leadership in online safety and will offer students structured training, support from a team of experts in the field and access to an online community of digital leaders across the UK.

The programme will finish with students getting the opportunity to educate their peers, parents and teachers about staying safe online via student led workshops and presentations. We look forward to hearing more about these workshops and events in the summer term.

Mrs Archer

**Notre Dame Girls Are Busy Outside School Too!**

**Tennis**

Congratulations to Kakou N (Y5) on winning a silver medal at the LTA British Tennis Winter Regional Tour. She competed in the U9 girls section at Bucks Tennis Center, Buckinghamshire last weekend.



**Daisy Parry wins series and collects award.**



Straight from finishing second in the Epsom Downs Series XC on Sunday, Daisy then rushed up to London to pick up her award for winning the 2016 London Junior Triathlon series in category T1. She received her award in front of 200 people from ex-London series competitor Alex Yee, who is the current World Junior Triathlon Champion.

**Fencing Success for Yana**

Last Sunday Yana (Y7) took part in the GB youth series at Claremont school in Cobham. We are extremely proud to say she came 3rd in her age group!



**Creative Sophia**

Sophia T (5C) just loves to doodle! She used her 3D doodler set to make these models of herself!





# MUSIC BOARD

Follow us on twitter: [@NotreDame MUSIC](https://twitter.com/NotreDame_MUSIC)

## ■ Prep News

### ■ Lestonnac Choir Christmas Carol Singing visit to Sunrise Senior Living

On Thursday 1 December the Lestonnac Choir will be singing to the Residents at Sunrise Senior Living, Esher. The visit will take place during school time in the afternoon, transport will be by minibus and the girls will be back in time for the Swimming Gala at 4pm. Letters have come out regarding this already so please return the permission slips as soon as possible. Please send girls on the day in winter uniform with tights, blazers and feast day ribbons.

### ■ Christmas Soirees Tuesday 6 December

Mr Mitchell and Miss Porter will be giving Christmas Soiree concerts for their pupils on Tuesday 6 December. The guitar concert will be at 2:10pm and the Flute concert will be at 4pm. Parents are very welcome to attend. Further details will follow.

### ■ ABRSM Exams

We have confirmation from the ABRSM exam board that practical music examinations will be on Tuesday 6 December. There will be a rehearsal day in the week preceding the exams. Letters will come out shortly detailing exam times and exam fees which will be added to your school bill, and any additional accompanist's fees. If you need to discuss your examination date or time please contact Mr Black or Mrs Shaw.



*Mrs Shaw*

## ■ Senior News

The music department is buzzing with all of the activities going on at the moment.



Oliver is less than 2 weeks away and the girls are working very hard each day, including weekends! Everybody should have learned their lines in readiness for the rehearsal

this Sunday and be even more polished when putting their songs across. Please remember to bring plenty of food and drink and wear warm clothes on Sunday! If you would like some tickets for the show then please contact the school office.

### ■ Feast Day

The whole school is preparing for this year's Feast Day Mass to be held on **November 21<sup>st</sup>** where the students will sing parts of the St Bernadette Mass and many congregational Hymns.

## Choirs

The Notre Dame Singers and Chamber Choir are each preparing new material for The Carol Service this December. The NDS choir have also been invited to sing in a special service in Esher, entitled "Light Up A Life", held at the Princess Alice Hospice on Sunday afternoon, **December 4<sup>th</sup>**. The service is for families and friends to share memories and make dedications to their lost loved ones. This year, there is an online "Wall of Remembrance" where you can make a dedication, share messages and add images. The choir will perform on stage to add solemnity and music to help commemorate this event.



## ABRSM

ABRSM exams are getting close so please make sure you are going over your pieces and everything else for the examination with your teacher. You need to be practising your pieces, scales, sight-reading and aural tests each day. I am happy to go over any of this with you, if you are not sure or need extra help with something. ABRSM also offer online practice tests and I would recommend you give these a go!



*Mr Black*

## ■ DANCE

### ■ ND Ballet Feet! #pointyourtoes





# DRAMA

Follow us on twitter: [@NDS THEATRE](https://twitter.com/NDS_THEATRE)

## Prep

Year 2 getting 'Strictly Nativity'!



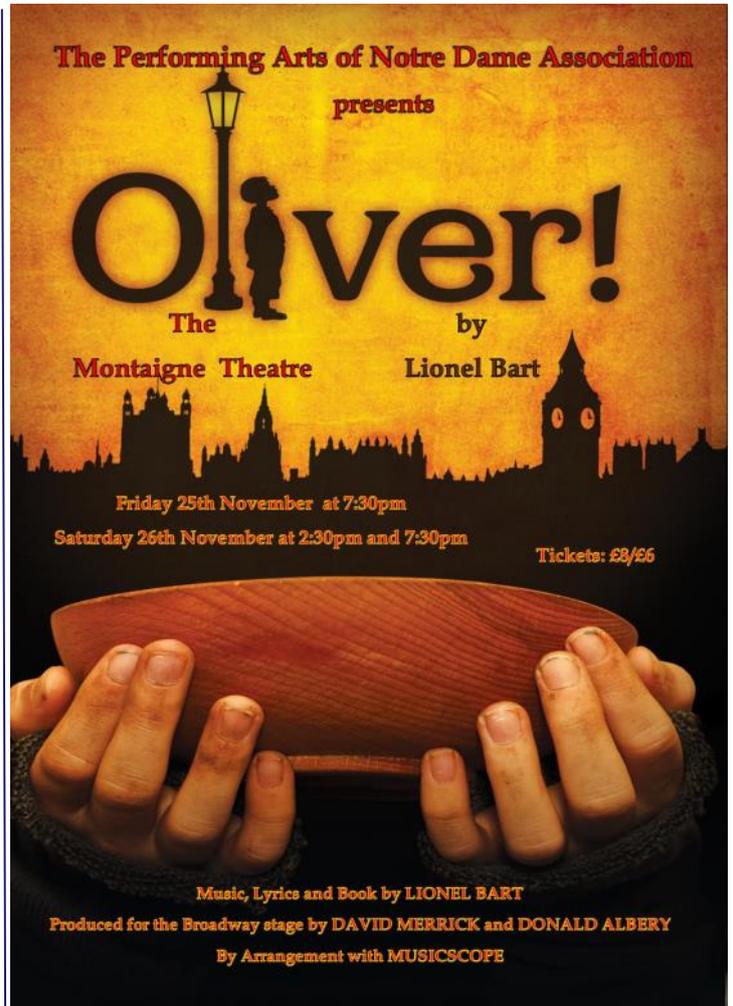
Please do remind your daughters to learn their lines!

Miss Fletcher

## Senior

### Oliver! Final Rehearsals and Performance Reminder

Our largest ever cast of actors from Years 8 to 13 are now working hard in the final stages of rehearsal for this year's Christmas production, Lionel Bart's much-loved family musical, **Oliver!**, based on the novel *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens.



Set in Victorian London, with well-known songs such as: 'Where is Love?', 'Food, Glorious Food', 'As Long As He Needs Me' and 'Consider Yourself', the story of how orphaned Oliver runs away from the workhouse, is befriended by The Artful Dodger and drawn into the criminal underbelly of London, when recruited for Fagin's pickpocketing gang, is an exciting, thrilling and heart-warming tale. Tickets are now on sale online for the three public performances - and we hope you won't have to 'Pick-a-pocket-or-two' to buy them, so make sure you book early! We look forward to seeing you there.

### Tickets for Oliver

The information link for Oliver tickets will be sent out to parents at the start of next week and will also be available on the school website.

The cost of tickets is £8 adults and £6 for children and concessions.

Performances:

Friday 25th Nov @ 7.30pm

Saturday 26th Nov @ 2.30pm

Saturday 26th Nov @ 7.30pm

Miss Graham





# READING MATTERS @NDS LIBRARY

## Prep Library News

### ■ Matt Haig visit to Notre Dame

On a wet dark gloomy Wednesday morning the girls in Years 4, 5 and 6 were treated to a morning of fun, happiness, hope and festive cheer thanks to award winning author Matt Haig. We were joined by pupils from Duke of Kent School, Cowarth Flexlands and Rowan School in our Montaigne Theatre for this special event launching Matt's new book, 'The Girl Who Saved Christmas'. We played Victorian Who's Who, learned some Victorian vocabulary and even Elf swearwords! The battle of the Elves and the Trolls was too close to call! It was a very special morning and a real mood lifter for both pupils and staff. The photos of the morning can be viewed on the Notre Dame Flickr account.



### ■ Chatterbooks Club

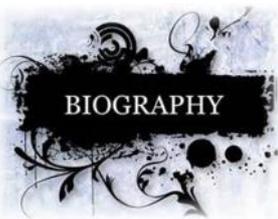
This week we continued with our funny books theme and the girls enjoyed creating their very own funny book characters. Among the creations were Terrible Tiffany (quite possibly a rival to Horrid Henry!) and Flap-along, a 1097 year old dwarf who is good at magic tricks. Our Chatterbooks girls are clearly authors of future best-sellers.



As November is National Non-Fiction Month we will be looking at and discussing the latest non-fiction titles at our next meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November.

Mrs Thompson

### ■ Senior Library News



In the Senior Library we currently have over 900 Biographies and Autobiographies. These books are very popular with students who are interested in particular subject areas and titles are also chosen for the Library Passport scheme (Non-Fiction

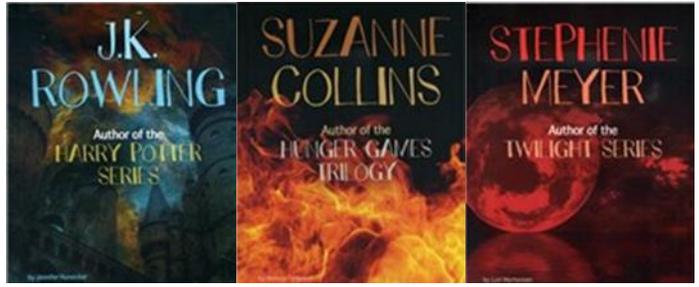
category).

In 2016, the most popular reads in this genre were:

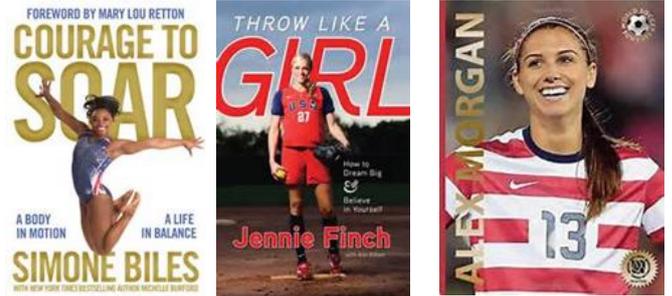
- I am Malala* (Malala Yousef)
- Mo Farah* – Olympic Hero (Simon Hart)
- My Family and Other Animals* (Gerald Durrell)
- Chinese Cinderella* (Adeline Yen Mah)
- Is it Just Me?* (Miranda Hart)
- Going Solo* (Roald Dahl)

### ■ New Titles

We are currently looking to expand our 'life of' section and new titles soon to hit the shelves include a series about the life and works of authors (what inspires them; what led to their successes; their writing processes and what's next in their lives.)



The majority of requests from students are for sports biographies so we will be acquiring the latest 'must reads'. *Courage to Soar* is about the multi gold medal winning gymnast Simone Biles; *Alex Morgan*, describes the life of the footballer who is a 'role model to thousands of girls who want to be their best, not just in soccer, but in sports and in life.' *Throw Like a Girl: How to Dream Big and Believe in Yourself* is an inspirational book about Jennie Finch, the softball player and has been described as 'absolutely mandatory reading' for parents and children who want to participate in any sport.



If there are any other recommendations for biographies or autobiographies, students can let me know via the Book Request Log.

Mrs Finch

## SPORTS BOARD



### ■ PREP @NotreDame SPORT

#### ■ U9 Netball Tournament

Well done to all of year 4 who braved a very cold morning to play in the Rowan Netball tournament. The A team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and the B team didn't place, however they showed great determination and improvement throughout the morning.



#### ■ U9 Netball v St Catherine's

Well done to the ND U9 girls who were on from on Monday night against St Catherine's in very wintry conditions. The ND A team won 9-3, showing great team work and a high level of skill when moving the ball up and down the court. The B team showed the biggest



improvement and although they lost 1-5, they had many shots on goals and the majority of the possession during the game. Huge well done to both teams and keep up the hard work.

**Morning Shooting Club** – This will now take place on the new courts unless it is raining. Breakfast club girls will be escorted down to the courts. Parents arriving after 8.15 am need to bring your children to the club. All girls need to have trainers in order to take part as well as being appropriately dressed.

## Autumn/ winter Clothing

This week I have been surprised to see so many girls without jackets or tracksuit bottoms arriving for PE lessons outside. Please ensure the girls have warm clothing in the PE bags every week, as we will be outside for majority of lessons. Leggings are an addition to the PE kit and won't necessarily provide the warmth required during the winter months.

## Fixtures Coming up

- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November- U11A Netball v St Hilary's (Non-Choir girls)
- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November- GALA v ST Hilary's @ ND
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November- U8 Hockey v Downsend AWAY 3:15pm
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November- Year 3 A and B Netball v GHS and Halstead AWAY at Guildford High 4:30pm
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November- U11A and B v Tormead AWAY 4:30pm
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November- Year 2 Netball v Rowan @ Oaken Lane 2:30pm
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November- Year 4 Hockey Tournament @ Downsend School
- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November – U11 A and B Netball v St Catherine's @ ND
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December – GALA v Manor House @ ND
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December- Annual Splash and Dash

[Prep Fixtures Calendar](#)

Mrs Purgavie

## Swimming

Over the next couple of weeks I will be running an Inter-house Swimathon for the Junior Girls. This will happen during their normal swimming lessons. Each year I assess the girls' ability to swim for a continuous period of time, it provides a good indication of their level of swimming fitness and stamina. The girls will swim for 15 minutes trying to complete as many lengths as possible. The class teacher and myself will record the number of lengths swam. They will gain house points for the lengths swam and after all the juniors have swam I will add all the house points together for an overall Inter-house Swimathon winner. Each girl taking part will receive a certificate showing their own total of full lengths or half lengths completed which they can take home to show their parents. They can also compare this to last year's certificate to see their improvement. Please try to encourage all girls to take part so that they all contribute to the grand house point total.

## Swimmer of the Week

- 1W – Dolphins – Arina G; Starfish – Kaitlyn H  
2S - Dolphins – Hannah R; Starfish – Lucy D



Please note we have another Gala at Notre Dame on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November against St. Hilary's. Letter for this gala will be given out on Friday 11<sup>th</sup>, please return your slips asap.  
*Mrs Jones*

## SENIOR @NotreDame SPORT



### Swimming Gala against Prior's Field

On Monday Notre Dame's U12 A, B&C, U13 A&B, U14 A, U15 A and U16 A swimming teams swam against Prior's Field. It was a tense gala with many races being very close across all age groups. The overall result was Notre Dame scoring 91 and Sutton High scoring 101.

### Swimmers of the night:

**U12: Sienna M; U13: Katie G; U14: Kayleigh M; U15: Amelia D; U16: Fenna A**

### Netball

#### U13 v Claremont

On Tuesday the U13 A & B netball teams had matches away against Claremont School. Both teams played very well, showing good all-round play and some excellent shooting. The A team won 33-21 and the B team won 16-3, well played to all the girls concerned.

#### U12 v Prior's Field

On Wednesday the U12 A, B, C & D netball teams had matches against Prior's Field School. The A team played well throughout, putting good pressure on their opponents and they recorded an excellent 22 goals to 5 win. The B team were involved in a closely contested game, with Prior's Field staying ahead until the final quarter before ND came back to level and draw the game 7-7. The C team were strong throughout and gave their opponents very few opportunities to shoot and it was ND who won by 13 goals to 1. The D team also enjoyed a commanding victory, winning 16-0, showing some pleasing teamwork and dodging. Well played to all four teams.



### Hockey lunchtime practices will start next week on the AWP

For keen hockey players in **Year 9 + above** your lunchtime practice will be on a **THURSDAY** (1.30-2.00pm) + **Years 7 & 8** will be on **FRIDAYS** (1.30-2.00pm). **Everyone attending the practices must have shinpads and a mouthguard** and preferably your own hockey stick.

All pupils will have experience of hockey in their timetabled PE lessons from the week beginning Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November so please be organised with the necessary equipment.

### Alumnae Paralympic Fi Tillman to Visit

Next week we are looking forward to ex pupil Fiona Tillman coming in to school to speak in assembly and do a basketball session with the Yr 11 GCSE PE group. Fiona competes at Paralympic level in wheelchair basketball.

[Senior Fixtures Calendar](#)

Mrs Marsh



FoND Follow us on twitter:

[@NotreDame\\_FoND](https://twitter.com/NotreDame_FoND)

Friends of NOTRE DAME PRESENTS

**elf**  
Rec-Year 2  
3.30-5.30pm

**Nativity!**  
Years 3-6  
6.30-8.30pm

£10  
Including drink and snacks.  
Tickets available from Class Reps.

**Christmas Movie Night**  
Saturday 3rd December

[easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk)  
feel good shopping

- o Current amount of Supporters - 41
- o Donations to date: £437.03
- o Please sign up to have a chance to win the 'Fundraiser of the Month' prize (commenced 1 Nov)



Winter is coming and that means it's time for.....

Hot Chocolate with all the trimmings

£1 per cup

Every Friday, from 3.15pm  
Prep School Playground

**Hot Chocolate** with all the trimmings on sale every Friday from 3.15pm in the Prep School playground!

## EARLY YEARS (NDEY)



Follow us on twitter: [@NotreDame\\_EY](https://twitter.com/NotreDame_EY)

Reception were thrilled to receive a letter from The Queen thanking them for her 90th birthday card which was sent last summer term.



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 14 Nov** Alternative date for Y2 Parents' Evening 4-5.30pm **Prep**
- 15 Nov** Notre Dame Explorers Day for Year 2 **4.30—5.30pm**
- 16 Nov** Year 8 Latin Trip to Butser Farm **Snr**  
Year 12 Visit STEM Careers Exhibition **ND6**
- 18 Nov** FoND Year 7 & 8 Disco **Snr**
- 21 Nov** Feast Day Mass 10.30am—all parents welcome  
Year 7 Parents' Evening 4.30—6.30pm **Snr**
- 25 Nov** First Performance of Oliver! 7.30pm **Snr**  
Year 12 Snr Maths Challenge at Surrey University **ND6**
- 26 Nov** Performance of Oliver!  
Matinee 2.30pm and Evening 7.30pm **Snr**
- 30 Nov—9 Dec** Y11 Mock GCSE Examinations **Snr**
- 1 Dec** Lestonnac Choir Care Home Visit to Sunrise Senior Living Esher 1pm—3.50pm **Prep**
- 2 Dec** Infant Nativity—Refreshments from 8.45am **Prep**
- 3 Dec** FoND Movie Afternoon and evening **Prep**
- 6 Dec** Guitar Christmas Concert (Mr Mitchell & pupils) 2:10-2:50pm  
Flute Christmas Concert (Miss Porter & pupils) 4-4:45pm  
Year 12/13 Parents' Evening 4.30—6.30pm **ND6**
- 8 Dec** Early Years Christmas Celebration from 10am **NDEY**
- 9 Dec** Year 8 Parents for Coffee & Mince Pies 8.45am **Snr**
- 12 Dec** Prep & Senior Carol Service—7pm **School**
- 13 Dec** End of Term at 12Noon **School**
- 14—20Dec** ND6 Ski Trip to Austria **ND6**

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS!](#)