



ABINGDON

From the Head of German: Alexandra Cardinal von Widdern

7 November 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian

**The Oxford German Network "Plätzchenbackbewerb" & Christmas Event**

**I am writing to you today to inform you of the opportunity for your son/daughter to participate in a festive Plätzchenbackwettbewerb, a German Christmas biscuit baking competition and Christmas event.**

Lower school students in the network's partner schools are invited to take part in a Plätzchenbackbewerb - a competition to make the tastiest, most beautifully decorated and most inventive German Christmas biscuits!

Christmas biscuits, or *Plätzchen*, are a grand tradition in the German-speaking countries. Families and groups of friends gather in the weeks before Christmas to sift, stir, shape and bake piles and piles of delicious *Plätzchen*, which are then offered to guests over the whole festive season, and often given as Christmas presents to friends, too.

The beauty of the Plätzchen is that the basic recipes lend themselves to endless experimentation and invention. **The Oxford German Network invites Lower School students to get creative in the kitchen, and to bring the biscuits they have made to a presentation and tasting evening in Abingdon on Wednesday 26 November from 4.30 – 6.30 pm in the Charles Maude Room under the chapel at Abingdon School.** There will be prizes for the winners, as well as a Christmas Quiz, music and refreshments.

In fact, Abingdon boys and St Helen's girls will get the chance to bake their biscuits together during the joint bi-weekly MFL Club on Tuesday 25 November. We will meet the boys in the Lower School house room at 4pm to walk over to St Helen's where we will be using the kitchen to create our competition entries.

Please follow the link below for recipes to help you get started should you wish to bake at home. We encourage you to experiment with different shapes, spices, ingredients and decorations to bake truly unique *Plätzchen* that will wow the judges!

<http://www.ogn.ox.ac.uk/christmas-event>

If you would like your son/daughter to participate in the event on Wednesday 26 November, please complete and return the consent form, **by Friday 14 November**. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on [alexandra.widdern@abingdon.org.uk](mailto:alexandra.widdern@abingdon.org.uk) or by telephone 01235 849 032.

Yours sincerely

A Cardinal von Widdern  
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**Please return to Miss Widdern by Friday 14 November 2014**

Oxford German Network "Plätzchenbackbewerb" & Christmas event Wednesday 26 November 2014

I would like my son \_\_\_\_\_  
(tutor group) \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the German Christmas biscuit competition.

(Please delete as appropriate)

I will collect my son at 6.45pm/my son will be collected by \_\_\_\_\_ at  
6.45pm/my son will make his own way home.

Signed : \_\_\_\_\_

**Please print your name:** \_\_\_\_\_