

Headteacher's Newsletter

December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is hard to believe we are already approaching the end of term! However, we still have much to do in the final few weeks, with Key Stage 1 performing their play, Ned's Christmas Discovery, the Christmas concert at the church, the School Choir's first public performance and Christmas parties as well!

During this term we have held our first Film Club of the year, with a large number of Key Stage 2 children enjoying an after school film as well as holding our school disco last week. It was wonderful to see the children letting their hair down and enjoying their evening – ably encouraged by their host Oscar throughout! The Christmas Fayre was another huge success, thank you for coming to support it throughout the afternoon. The BRSA have been invaluable in putting on these events – thank you to everyone who has helped to organise and run them. The children always enjoy them and it also raises money for the school.

Mrs Harman also delivered a very informative and practical Maths Information Evening, focussing on the development of the written methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. This was well attended, but if you were unable to attend the presentation from the evening is on the website.

School Choir

The School Choir, led by Natasha Marsh, are due to give their first public performance outside of school on Tuesday 13th December. They will be opening the Brass Band concert, which is being held in the village hall. The concert begins at 7:00pm and entry is £3. I am sure they would love your support!

Christmas Concert

We will once again be journeying to the church to participate in our annual Christmas Concert on Thursday 15th December at 9:30am. This will involve singing some tradition carols, hearing the school orchestra play and hearing about some of the Christmas customs such as Advent, Christingle and thinking about what Christmas means to us. You are more than welcome to join us.

Christmas Parties

After the Christmas Concert at the church the children will be having their Christmas parties in their classes. More information about this will be circulated via the class teachers.

Christmas Cards

Over the last few years Key Stage 2 has run a "Global Village Project" instead of sending individual Christmas cards to each other.

Given how many Christmas cards could be sent to school and how much paper is needed for the thousands of cards and envelopes, we spend hundreds of pounds – more than some people in developing countries have to live on for the whole year!

How the Global Village Project works:

All the children who want to take part...

- **Do not** buy packs of cards to send to their classmates
- **Do** bring the money that they/you would have spent on cards into school
- **Do** spent an afternoon in school designing, making and signing cards for each other, so that each child gets one special card signed by all the other children in the class
- **Do** contribute to life-changing Christmas gifts for poor families/ communities

Christian Aid's '*Just Gifts*' and Oxfam's '*Unwrapped*' schemes allow people in this country to make a real difference to the lives of ordinary people far away. Examples include:

- £10 for a brood of 10 chickens to provide food/cash now & in the future
- £29 to train a mobile teacher to work with nomadic farmers
- £30 for an emergency shelter kit for families who've lost everything
- £35 for a bicycle to enable a rural health worker to get around more easily

Many children want to do something that will make a difference to other people's lives this Christmas and we hope you'll want to support them.

Children in Need

Thank you for your generosity on our recent Mufti Day to raise money for Children in Need. As a school, we managed to raise £202.35.

Midday Supervisor

We do still have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor. If you would be interested in this role, please contact the School Office. We have been very fortunate to have been helped over the last months by a very willing and able group of parents – however this is not sustainable in the long term. If you would consider fulfilling the role on a part or full time basis, please do get in touch with the school office.

Parent Parking

Thank you very much for your cooperation regarding parking at the junction of Church Lane. The junction is now much clearer, making it much safer for the children to cross the road on their journey to school.

Matched Funding

If any parents' work for a company who run a matched funding scheme, the BRSA would love to hear from you! There are many opportunities to get involved with different aspects of running different BRSA events, and with matched funding we could also increase the money raised towards running projects within the school.

As always, thank you for your continued support. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Mr. A. Haywood
Headteacher

Diary Dates

08.12.16	KS1 Christmas Performance @ 9:30am	04.01.17	INSET Day
09.12.16	KS1 Christmas Performance @ 1:30pm	05.01.17	Children return to school
13.12.16	Choir perform at Village Hall	31.01.17	M&M Pantomine in school
15.12.16	Carol Concert	04.02.17	BRSA Quiz Night
15.12.16	Christmas Parties		
18.12.16	BRSA Panto Trip		
20.12.16	Finish for Christmas @ 1:30pm		