

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School.

Number 188

16.12.16

It's hard to believe that another year has slipped by and we are heading towards 2017. I would like to start by thanking you all for your continued support of the school and all its activities. I would also like to take this opportunity to publically thank ALL the staff for their hard work and commitment to the rounded education of the pupils of Whimble Primary School. They are a dedicated bunch of people who put in many hours behind the scenes to ensure things happen and run smoothly.

We will be continuing with our Fantastic Friday curriculum in January so anyone who is able to help, or continue to help, if you could let me know that would be helpful.

Christmas celebration events

Thank you to everyone who has supported us through the last two weeks.

The Carol Service started the festive mood; the Year 6 children reading with confidence and clarity. The singing from both the choir and the congregation was fabulous.

On Friday came the Christmas Fair and what a lovely event for all the children. I finally got to see Santa this year and the grotto was magical. A huge thank you to all the parents who worked hard to make this such a success.

A special mention to the organisers: Charlotte Woollam and George Bayley.



'Whoops-A-Daisy Angel'

Congratulations to all the children involved our production. As always they all made us very proud and performed their little hearts. We hope you enjoyed their performance as much as we did. A big thank you to Rosemary Allen, who has spent many hours with us recently being our star pianist.

As the children sang - we'll say goodbye now to our good friend 'Whoops-A-Daisy Angel':



A message from Mrs Jessop

Unfortunately my health has not recovered to a level where I will be able to return to school in January. I would like to wish you all a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year and to thank the staff for the fantastic job that they are doing. I hope that you all enjoy the school's Christmas festivities and have a great Christmas break.

Best wishes

Mrs Jessop

Christmas dinner - Wednesday 14th December

A lovely feast was enjoyed by all at our Christmas dinner. Festive music played in the background whilst the children ate with the Mealtime Assistants, and our own little elves served. Then of course the traditional cracker was pulled followed by the telling of some terrible jokes!



It's amazing to see such a selection of Christmas jumpers and the children's hats were fabulous. Every year they seem to get more creative. (Thank you to all those parents who supported and encouraged their child to participate at this busy time of year.)



The hats were judged by all the staff and the school council children:

Year group	<u>Hat competition results</u>		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Reception	Lucie Best	Maria Geyko-Bisson	Zachary Swain
Year 1	Sophie Yendole	Joshua Plank	Joe Bristow/George Williams
Year 2	Miley Arthurs	Owen Major	Lottie Williams
Year 3	Lizzie Yendole	Katie P/Bethan B	Oliver Hynd
Year 4	Henry Fenner	Olivia Woollam	Tilly/Daniel/Ben/Isabella
Year 5	Ben Cortinhas	Freddie Fenner	Bill Ramsay
Year 6	Jonny Baker	Lily Hemsley/Eloise Hill	Lucy Trehearne

Half of the collection from the church, along with the Christmas jumper contributions, so far total £146.20 for 'Stand-up to Cancer'. Thank you.

Divali at Whimble



During the Autumn term, Year 2, 3 and 4 have been learning about Hinduism and the Divali celebration. They have created Rangoli patterns, made Diva lamps, role played the story of Rama and Sita and visited their very own Mandir (with a sprinkle of imagination) in the classroom.



Mrs Sachdeva visited, wearing her traditional dress, to talk to the children, answer questions and show some Hindu artefacts. A big thank you to Mrs Sachdeva and also to Mrs Davey and Mrs Hardy who helped with the clay.

Poppy Appeal

A total of £204.35 was raised by the children of Whimble Primary School from the sale of poppies and wrist bands. This is a huge amount - well done and many thanks for your support.



Choir at Ottery Hospital

The children of the choir went to sing at Ottery Hospital to the patients of Rowan Ward (the dementia unit). This was a lovely experience for all parties involved. Many thanks to Emma Palmer for helping to organise this and to all the parents who helped to transport children.

What a fantastic performance our talented instrumentalists gave us in the Musicians' Assembly last Monday. It takes a lot of guts and resilience to perform to a large audience and keep going - well done everyone!



If your child has any interest in learning to play a specific instrument, please contact us. If we don't already have a teacher of a particular instrument we can probably find one.

New Year's resolutions

Let's start 2017 on a positive note and make some resolutions that will benefit our children.



1. Getting to school on time - please have your child in school before 9 o'clock. Arriving even a minute late not only means your child does not have a calm start to the day but it is disruptive to those who are already sat for registration. We all have odd days where something occurs out of the blue, however, there are a small number of repeat offenders who are late (both in the morning and afternoon) several times a week.

2. Parking in the Victory Hall - the hall car park is for users of the hall. Parents are encouraged to park either at the Thirsty Farmer, train station or the free car park just off the square. A little exercise walking to school has many benefits and helps to keep our walkways free, especially on wet days.

3. Items for school - can you please make sure your child has all the items required for their days at school. We often have children without waterproof coats, PE kits or trainers and even book bags.

Forest School

If anyone has the following for use at Forest School sessions I would be very grateful:

- Old saucepans (not non-stick) to be made into fire bases. Wobbly handles not a problem, as they will be removed.
- Large metal coffee tins.
- Large branches or telegraph poles to create seating in a fire circle.
- Wood for fire lighting, in particular finger sized diameter (easy to handle and quick to extinguish).
- Elder cuttings. (In the future I hope to plant our own.)
- Sand



Many thanks
Mrs Wall

And finally... (this is a bumper edition)

All the staff would like to thank the parents and children for all their gifts - the biscuits and chocolates have helped to give us an energy boost at key times. May we also take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, especially through the last few hectic weeks of term.

We wish you all a lovely Christmas and New Year.



Dates for your diary

Friday 16th December – School finishes at 1.30 pm

Spring term 2017

Tuesday 3rd January

Non pupil day

Wednesday 4th January

First day of term

Monday 13th – 17th February

Half-term

Friday 31st March

End of term 1.30 pm finish

Summer term 2017

Tuesday 18th April

First day of term

Monday 1st May

Bank Holiday

Monday 29th May – 2nd June

Half-term

Friday 21st July

Last day of term

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