

School Newsletter

7th December 2017

Headteacher News

This week I would like to begin by saying a huge thank you to Katie and her PTA team, who I am sure you will agree did an amazing job putting on a truly exceptional Christmas Fayre, bringing something together such as the Fayre cannot be done without a team. Therefore, if you wrapped gifts, helped with hampers, operated a stall, set up or cleared away or just came and spent your money, we are exceptionally grateful and we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you!

As a testament to all your hard work, we are delighted to announce that the next 4 Clevertouch boards are being installed on Tuesday, into years 2 and 3. I am sure you will agree this is a fantastic achievement! Well done and thank you again to all involved. I know the teachers and children in those classrooms are already very excited.

PTA News

Elf hats are on sale today after school! There is also a Fun Friday tuck shop from 3.10pm. If you have not yet bought your child's class craft, please send in the contribution tomorrow: £2 for KS1 and £2.50 for KS2 (not Year 6)

Reception Outdoor Learning

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their introduction to outdoor learning this half term with Mrs Mabey. Thank you very much to the parent volunteers who have come in to support us. In January, RSE will continue with outdoor sessions for the whole half term and RRO will continue after February half term. Further information is attached to this newsletter.

School Uniform

As the weather has turned colder we do expect children to have appropriate outdoor clothing. However, we would like to remind parents and pupils that furry winter boots are not school uniform and if pupils need to wear winter boots for

walking to school they should have school shoes with them to change into.

Is your child due to start school September 2018?

This week we have received notification from Bucks CC that the numbers of parents applying for their school places for September 2018 is lower than they would expect it to be. If your child turns 4 before 31st August 2018 then you need to apply for a school place.

You can do this by visiting the Bucks online portal.

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/apply-for-a-school-place>

Community Engagement – St Michael's

Last Sunday, the school had the privilege of being invited to read at the all age service at St Michael's. I was joined by 5 pupils from year 6 who ably read the Hebrew reading about Faith. We were made to feel exceptionally welcome by the church community and the pupils acted as excellent ambassadors for the school.

Thank you to the families of Matthew, Tallulah, Keira, Sophia and Hannah who also gave up their time to join us.

Attached to the newsletter, you will see a letter from Reverend Keith inviting you to attend one of their many Christmas Services.

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Advent week 1! – Listening #godwithus

The preparations for Christmas is always a busy time, with the shops packed with people and numerous Christmas parties and events. This week in collective worship I have challenged the children and staff to find moments of silence and in this time to reflect on what we hope for Christmas and what we are thankful for.

It is through these moments of silence that we learn to pray and through prayer that we develop our relationship with God.

So as a family this weekend we are asking you to take a minute as a family to be silent.

Absence

If your child is not well or absent for another reason, it is vital that you inform us as soon as possible. Please either email the office or leave a message clearly stating the name of your child, their class and the reason they are absent. We are required to check attendance by law, so if children are absent and we have not been informed of this we will send you a text message, followed by another if you have not replied. If they are still absent then we may have to raise concerns for their welfare. A message can be left on the absence line or an email can be sent, please do not give messages to siblings to pass on – the school needs to be informed by a parent or guardian.

Christmas Nativity Tickets

Today you should have received your Nativity tickets. Whilst there have been many negative comments about the new system I would like to thank those who have respected the decision and have offered their support. So once again a final reminder, if you do not present your ticket on the door you will not be admitted. This is for everyone's viewing pleasure and safety.

Charitable Giving

A gentle reminder that we will be taking a collection at the end of each of the Christmas performances and this will be split between the Children's Society and Wycombe Homeless Connection. I am sure you will agree these are both worthy causes.

Homework

This week will be the last week of homework before the Christmas break. Homework will resume on 09.01.18

Lost Property

There is a large amount of lost property around the school, at the end of next week we will be clearing away all the remaining lost property.

If your child has lost something, please come and look under the shelter, as there are many items that are new and unnamed.

Christmas Walk to School

On Thursday 14th December we will be holding our annual Santa walk to school. If you would like to join us we will be leaving the common in Great Kingshill at 8:00 am, everyone is welcome to join us.

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Christmas Jumper Day

On Thursday please send your child to school in a Christmas jumper, we will be having our Christmas dinner and it would be lovely to have all children dressed in their Christmas jumper. However, please can you ensure that you have full uniform on underneath.

Attendance

Our overall school attendance to the end of this week is
95.52%

Well done to our joint attendance champions this week – 1LS and 2 KP with attendance of 100%!

House Points

Many congratulations to Tudor house for earning the highest amount of house points this week.

Tudor	York	Windsor	Stuart
248	226	245	244

Reception Christingle Service

Reception will be holding their Christingle service across the road in the Methodist church at **2pm** on Monday 18th December. The time has been changed, to allow us to finish in good time. This ensures that any parents who need to collect pupils from Hughenden Church, are able to do so.

Inter House

Please ensure that all children have their PE in school next Friday for our Interhouse competitions.

Crossing the road – SAFELY!

Yesterday as I left school to attend a meeting, I witnessed a parent dragging a child across the road, not using the crossing and walking out in front of the cars. This was incredibly dangerous and both parent and child were lucky to not be hit by a car.

When I returned from my meeting, I received an email from a parent from another school, who nearly hit a parent and a pupil yesterday morning in a separate incident. She regularly drives from Cryers Hill Lane and said that parents are habitually just walking out into the road and not looking.

This is exceptionally dangerous, we have a crossing, please ensure that you use it. Also, please think about where you choose to cross and what this says to your child. Being able to cross the road safely is vitally important for all.

Parking

We have had several residents from School Close, complaining about parents using their road to park in or using driveways to turn their cars around. This is a private road, there should be no cars entering the road, unless you are a resident or visiting a resident there.

Community Help Required!

Your local Rainbows unit are looking to start up another unit as there are so many girls on the waiting list. Many of the girls who attend the unit are pupils of Great Kingshill and the current leaders are looking for people who may be interested in helping.

Being a **Rainbow** is all about having the space to try new things. Through taking part in a range of different activities with girls their own age, **Rainbows** develop self-confidence and make lots of new friends.

If you are interested in helping or maybe leading this unit please contact Natalie Bowden on 07401262428

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Year 6 Science

This week I had the pleasure of being invited to attend the year 6 science lesson on the phenomena of light.

This is what the children had to say:

We conducted a range of experiments to look at how light travels and this is what we learnt.

Refraction

Light travels in straight lines. When light reaches a transparent or translucent material, the light is able to pass through it. The bending of the light is known as refraction.

Amazing Arrows

The water is like a mirror making the light bounce off it and turning it the other way in our eyes.

Water Magnifier

The concave shape of the water made the words bigger nearly acting like a magnifying glass.

The surprising coin

You couldn't see the coin in the cup but when you put water in the cup you could see the coin because it was reflecting off the water.

We had a great science lesson this week and we learnt a lot about light. Mr Hoddell and Mr Martin even showed us some magic.

By Jake and Ethan 6KH

Attachments

Letter for Year 2 – Great Fire of London

Letter for Year 3 – Paleolab

Letter for all from Reverend Keith Johnson

PTA Letter for all Fun Friday 8th Dec

Future Dates all new dates are shown in

RED

December

10th Carols at the SPAR – 5.30 pm

11th Grandparent & Toddler Performance KS1 2.00pm

12th KS1 Nativity 2.00 pm

13th Grandparent & Toddler Performance EYFS 2.15 pm

13th KS2 Music Concert 6.30 pm

14th Santa walk to school from the Common 08.00 am

14th Early Years Nativity 09.30 am

14th Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day

14th KS1 Nativity 6:30pm

15th Interhouse Hockey

15th Early Years Nativity 2.15 pm

18th Christmas Church Service – drop off at church 08.30 am

18th Key Stage 1 St Michael's (pm)

18th EYFS Christingle Methodist Church **2.00 pm**

19th End of Term 1:30pm

January

3rd Inset Day

30th Year R Interschool – Winter Olympics

February

12th HALF TERM

21st Year 3-6 Interschool Cross Country

March

2nd World Book Day Dress Up

6th Year 4 Interschool Football

12th Parents Evening 3:30- 5:30

14th Parents Evening 5:00 – 8:00

16th School Disco

19th Year 6 Isle of Wight

28th Easter Church Service KS2

29th End of term 1:30pm

April

6th Inset Day

25th Year 3 Interschool – Tennis

30th Class Photos

May

23rd Year 2 Interschool – Games

28th – HALF TERM

June

27th Year 6 Interschool – Games

29th School Disco

July

3rd Secondary Transfer Day / Move up day

5th Bucks School Games

6th INSET DAY

9th Sports Day KS2 AM / KS1 PM Picnic Lunch for all

11th Reserve Sports Day

13th Reports out to parents

24th July End of Term 1:30pm