



Dear Parents

I would like to thank you for your support since September, especially through the challenges of the building project. The expectation is that the toilets will be operational on our return to school in the New Year and the playground will also be back in use. We will all be very pleased to return to the convenience of toilets accessible from inside the school building and I know the new toilets will look fantastic!

It is inevitable that some things change over time but we are all working to protect and develop all that is good about North Cerney Primary Academy and that special feeling that we know our school gives every one of us. Every child is nurtured and valued as an individual and the work of the staff, governors and parents always holds the children at its heart.

There has been much to celebrate this year including some new sporting challenges for the school. Thank you to all those children and parents who have been involved in team events after school. Mrs Dearsley has been busy signing us up for more sport opportunities next term so watch out for the next event!

Mrs Anderson was the very first member of the school to be nominated for a 'Socks Off Award'. This award is only given out when someone can demonstrate they are working hard to achieve their best in all areas of the curriculum in school and at home as well. The teachers have been on the lookout for the first pupil to be nominated who is Abigail Norburn. Well done to you both.

This week we hand out our very first 100% attendance awards to all children who have attended school for every session since September. Our school has a very poor annual attendance rate and our children do not appear to be particularly unhealthy so I am keen that we should do our best to improve attendance across the school. The North Cerney Attendance Bear will also make an appearance after Christmas. The bear and award will help to raise awareness of attendance in the school and to remind everyone that every school day missed is a day of learning lost.

Children to achieve 100% attendance this term are:

Ava Bevan, Felix Chippendale, Axel Cross, Tyler Drew, Jacob Eyre, Alex and Emmy Finlayson, Amber Forde, Ruby and Bethany Gearing, Abigail Norburn, Darcey and Willow Paterson, Mina and Rohan Stoten and Flynn Vernon.

The Christmas Fair was a wonderful event that really brought the community together and raised an enormous amount of money which will certainly benefit the children. Thank you so much to everyone who was involved in making it such a success. The amount of work that goes into organising this sort of event can never be overestimated and I hope we can continue to build on this success in future years.

This week we are joined by a Zambian teacher. Miss Shanchebo lives and works in Lusaka which is the capital of Zambia. I have been in partnership with her school since 2005 and we have undertaken a number of shared projects with children from our schools. I hope the children will have a chance to ask her about her school and her pupils and suggest ideas of new ways to extend the partnership. We have just found out that we have been selected to host a Spanish student teacher from February so watch out for more news nearer the time.

So, as we reach the end of a very busy couple of terms I would like to thank each and every member of the school community. It is only by working together that we can achieve the best for the children in our school. I wish you all a joyful Christmas holiday and best wishes for a happy new year.

PHOTOS OF THE CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND CHOIR SERVICE

