

Weekly Newsletter



Friday, 11th December, 2015

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Christmas jumper day – We are holding our Christmas Jumper Day on Wednesday, 16th December. This means that children are invited to come to school in non-uniform as long as a bright or festive jumper is also worn. We are not asking for any contributions for this event, it is just for fun.

Carol singing – We invite you all to join us at 6:00 pm on Thursday, 17th December for carol singing, hot chocolate and mince pies. Weather permitting, we will gather at the front of the school, but we will use the hall if need be. Remember to wrap up warm and bring your torches/lanterns. The carol singing usually lasts for up to half an hour.

Year 1 play – The dress rehearsal on Wednesday was excellently performed by Year 1 and really got us into the Christmas spirit. Please remember to bring your tickets if you are coming to one of the performances.

School Journalists – As you may know, the Year 1 dress rehearsal for this year's Christmas play was on Wednesday afternoon. The Christmas play is usually performed by Year 2, but this year our 5 and 6 year olds took centre stage. It was a spectacular success. If you haven't seen it yet, their costumes were magnificent and the acting was unbelievable. They were brave enough to act, sing and play instruments in front of the entire school, some of the parents and their siblings.

A big thank you to all the teachers and LSAs, they worked hard, gave us entertainment and a little time out of the classroom. I am sure that we have lots to look forward to from this year group, as they have more talent to show. *By Louise Clements*

Fundraisers Secret Gift shop – Santa's elves are ready to help wrap presents at The Secret Gift Shop on Monday, 14th December during the school day. Thank you to Angela Long and Christine Richardson for organising all the presents and volunteers. Money for the gifts should have been in by today. If your child wishes to participate and has not paid, their money **MUST** arrive by morning registration on Monday. If not, they will not be able to visit the Gift Shop. Presents will be brought home after school on the day.

Fundraisers Magical Christmas Grotto – Thursday, 3rd December was an afternoon of magic, wonder, fun, laughter and pure entertainment. Mister B was amazing and children cheered, while Year 6 elves (who did Holly Trees School proud and provided outstanding service) helped Santa in his Grotto! Thank you also to all the parents who offered their time to help out at this event and special thanks goes to Velda Wells and Sarah Adams for organising it. Without everybody's help it would not have been possible to run this event which raised over £500 to go towards the Music Practice Room project.

Fundraisers My Art Project – We hope everyone enjoyed seeing children design their Christmas card artwork at home this year and we think you will agree that the work produced was of an extremely high standard! The results were produced on high quality Christmas tags, wrapping paper and cards etc. A big thank you to all those children who took part.

Fundraisers Rag Bag – Donations are closed for the moment but will reopen in the New Year.

Paying for Christmas dinner – As you are aware, online payments are usually restricted to a minimum of £11 but we are aware that some children will be having Christmas dinner (£3) on 16th December who do not otherwise have school dinners. From 7th December, we will reduce the minimum payment to £3 so that the Christmas can be paid for online. While the minimum payment is reduced, some parents who owe a small amount may wish to settle their bills as well. Remember that the Christmas dinners must be paid for in advance of 16th December, unless your child is entitled to free meals.

Spring term consultations – Following feedback from parents in the recent survey, we have changed how we will carry out consultations with parents in the spring term. We will be offering parents the opportunity to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher on Thursday, 14th January between 5:00 and 7:00 pm or on Monday, 25th January between 3:30 and 5:30 pm. The appointments will be made online (details to follow). The time slots will be available to book from 5th January. If you have not yet registered for Parentmail, please do so as soon as possible. We will not be sending appointments to anyone who does not book online.

Sports kits amnesty – If your child has school football, rugby, basketball kits or school tracksuits at home, please return them next week.

Owl Team non-uniform day – Snowy Owls will have a non-uniform day on Thursday, 17th December. Please make sure that your child is suitably dressed to be able to function at school.

Lost property – Please make sure you check the lost property box before the end of term as everything will be disposed of before the start of spring term.

Literacy with iPads – Holly Hobbies are running a two week course on Tuesday, 12th and Tuesday, 19th January at 1:15 to 3:15 pm. The aim of the course is to find and use the most suitable apps to support your child's learning in phonics and literacy. The course is free and welcome to all. Please let Hilda Mehmet know if you are interested or just turn up on the day.

Threadworms – We have had a case of threadworms in school. Please be aware and treat your child, if necessary.

Attendance – 97% target - Congratulations to Birch, Elder, Elm, Holly, Hornbeam, Larch, Mulberry and Sycamore for having over 97% attendance since the start of the academic year (September).

Menu - Week 1 of the new winter menu. Christmas dinner is on Wednesday.

Forthcoming dates

14th Dec – Y1 play

14th Dec – Secret gift shop

16th Dec – Christmas dinner

16th Dec - EYFS Christmas sing-a-long

17th Dec – flu immunisation

17th Dec – carol singing

18th Dec – last day of school – children return on Tuesday, 5th January

Congratulations

Bronze Certificates went to Sharnell George, Kieron Ramsey, Jasmine Leaver, Ethan Jones, Gracie Field, Kai Davies, Sai Alleesaib, Jess Baksh, Jude Bartlett and Louise Clements.

Silver Certificates went to Jessica Hart, Edmund Bass, Zoe Hewitt and Joseph Chege..

Headteacher's Award went to Jessica Hart.