Newsletter 10
Autumn Term 2016
Friday 2nd December

Dear Parents and Carers,

The festive season has well and truly begun in school this week. Children have been rehearsing for their productions, there was a superb carol service yesterday and tonight we are looking forward to the Christmas Bazaar. Next week, we will be enjoying our trip to the pantomime on Tuesday and Christmas dinner on Thursday.

Christmas Bazaar

The Christmas Bazaar will be taking place in school tonight from 5.30pm until 7.30pm. Please do come along and support the school and enjoy the festivities with us. To coincide with the Christmas Bazaar, the Scholastic Book Fair will be in school tonight; the school will receive a commission from all of the books that are purchased.

Mornings KS1 and KS2

Key Stage Two children have been coming straight into class each morning this week. It has been very successful and after listening to parental feedback we have decided to include Key Stage One children (along with EYFS) from next week. Key Stage One/EYFS teachers will be available at their classroom doors to pass on messages in the usual way. A member of staff will be present in the playground to take any messages that need to be passed to Key Stage Two teachers. Please ensure that your child arrives in school so that they are at their desks and working by 8.50am.

Jack and the Beanstalk – Tuesday 6th December

The PFA funded trip to the Civic Theatre in Chelmsford will be taking place on Tuesday. Children will be travelling to and from the theatre by coach; we will be leaving school after lunch and hope to return by 5.30pm. Due to the parking challenges in the layby, the coaches will drop the children at the back of the school and children will be escorted back to their class bases. Please collect your child/children from their normal doors.

Kingswood Year 5/6 Residential Trip

We are planning to take the children in Year 5/6 next September (18th- 22nd) to Kingswood, providing there are sufficient children who wish to participate. We will be funding the cost of the coach travel; the remaining cost per child is £297. If your child is planning to attend, Mrs Murphy will need a deposit of £40 please by the end of January to secure the booking. It is a fabulous experience and great confidence booster that children always talk about for months afterwards. If you have any questions or concerns please do come and talk to us.

Application period open for primary school places

Parents in Essex are being encouraged to apply for their children's primary school places for children starting Reception from September 2017. Parents and carers of children born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 must apply between 14 November 2016 and 15 January 2017. Applications can be made on line at www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Class R

Mrs Downes, Mrs Clark and Mrs Barker will be continuing their very successful 'Stay and Play' sessions on Wednesdays at 9.00am; it is a lovely opportunity to see how our youngest children learn and play.

Reminders

We have had a number of children arriving at school this week with dirty shoes; this has been due to dog mess not being cleared up from the park. We are working with the Parish Council to raise awareness of this but please talk to your children about being careful in the meantime.

If your child is being collected by a different adult than usual please inform us on the day.

Now that the weather has turned much colder, please ensure that children have suitable outdoor PE kit including warm tracksuits. Tights are not a suitable alternative.

Please ensure that you do not park across the entrances to either of our staff car parks during dropping off or picking up your children; we have members of staff and club leaders who need to be able to arrive or leave promptly throughout the school day.

This year, we will be participating in Christmas Jumper Day. It takes place on Friday 16th December to raise money for 'Save the Children'.

Stars of the Week

Class R Allegra Trew for fantastic number work
Class 1 Matilda Judd for great effort and focus on all of her learning and caring about her learning
Class 2 Ethan Kemp for super rehearsing for the Christmas production
Class 3 Shane Camm for great joined up handwriting
Class 4 Bradley Elsey-Seaman for his positive attitude to his learning and attitude in his after school clubs
Class 5 Amelia Gandy for being kind and helpful and an excellent role model.

Well done to all of these children for impressing their teachers this week!

Mathletics

Bronze Certificates (5 house points)

Ashlin Kearney, Grace Lee, Julia Jablonska, Libby Seaman, Zachary Tiley, Saskia Stumpio, Honor Gandy, Amie Rice, Hannah Grace Blakey-Sewell, Freddie Nicholls, Harri Hoste, Luke Roberts, Phoebe Wright, Kyra Hedges, Connor Bryant, Nathaniel Blakey-Sewell.

Silver Certificates (10 house points)

Caitlin Wright, Ella Fethers

Gold Certificates (20 house points)

Ellis Hearnah, Scarlett Cook

Well done to all of those children who have put in extra time to improve their learning. Congratulations to Scarlett and Ellis, joining Luke Roberts as the only gold certificate achievers so far this year. For information on how certificates are awarded, please visit the Cressing website http://www.cressingprimary.com/mathletics

Best Class Attendance

Class 1 have been awarded the best attendance with 96.67%. Next week they will have an extra 5 minutes playtime to celebrate. Well done Class 1!

Word Millionaire

Once again, there are changes in Classes 2 and 4 where there are four or five children in each class battling for the top 3 positions!

Class 1: Leo Dupree, Finley Hearnah, Julia Jablonska
Class 2: Alfie Helier, Ethan Kemp, Zachary Tiley
Class 3: Amie Rice, Alistair Mizon, Honor Gandy
Class 4: Leiah Melamed, Jasmine Heath, Eden Stobbart
Class 5: Grace Denny, Kyra Hedges, Aimee Chapman

We are also introducing a new monthly competition to encourage children when quizzing the books they have read. Children who average a quiz score of 90% and over will be entered in to a prize draw so it is important that children take the time to carefully read and hence understand the books they are reading.

House Points

Children are able to collect house points for their team for good work and positive behaviour. Each week we will announce the winning house in our Friday assembly and also in the newsletter. Congratulations to the **Romans** this week with **125** points.

Diary Dates

Term dates
Wednesday 21st December – last day of term
Thursday 5th January 2017 – Friday 31st March 2017
Easter break Monday 3rd April 2017 – Monday 17th April 2017
Tuesday 18th April 2017 – Friday 21st July 2017
Half term Monday 29th May 2017 – Friday 2nd June 2017
Summer break Monday 24th July 2017 – Friday 1st September 2017
Non-pupil days
Friday 10th February 2017, Monday 5th June 2017 and Friday 7th July 2017.

Christmas
Tuesday 6th December – PFA funded trip to pantomime at The Civic Theatre, Chelmsford (return to school by 6pm)
Wednesday 7th December – School Choir to sing to residents at Wickham House
Thursday 8th December – School Christmas Dinner
Friday 9th December – clubs end
Monday 12th December – KS1 dress rehearsal 9.15am
Monday 12th December – KS1 performance 6.00pm
Tuesday 13th December – KS1 performance 2.00pm
Wednesday 14th December – KS2 dress rehearsal 9.15am
Wednesday 14th December – KS2 performance 6.00pm
Thursday 15th December – KS2 performance 2.00pm
Friday 16th December – School Choir to sing to at Tesco (letter to follow)
Christmas jumper charity day

Next week, we will be on **Week 2** of the menu. School dinners cost £2.10 per day (KS2). All meals must be paid for in advance please.

Mr S Caplen & Miss N Rainford