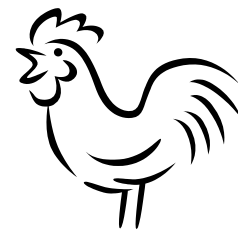


Wisbech St Mary School

News

December 2014



MERRY CHRISTMAS



Our Priorities for 2014-15

We are always working hard to develop our school. We are doing this by:

- Making sure all our lessons in school are good or better.
- Putting in place a new marking and feedback policy which involves you!
- Giving children personalised targets to work towards in reading, writing and maths.
- Tracking the progress of all children in school and giving them extra support if they need it.
- Looking at how we make playtimes and lunchtimes enjoyable for all.
- Putting into practice our new school values and house point system.
- Providing opportunities for children to lead in school.
- Continuing to work on our new curriculum to make sure that it interests and inspires everybody in school.

Attendance

As a school we are always trying to improve. Our attendance for last year was 93.9% and we have set ourselves a target this year to make it 94.5%. This means that we need your help! At the start of the year, we sent out a new Attendance Policy stating that if a child's attendance dropped to 90% or below in a 4 week period we would be sending out letters to parents/carers to offer support. Please note that this letter is a standard letter from Education Welfare. We are also working with a new Educational Welfare Officer called Lesley High to help improve attendance across the school. If you have any concerns about attendance, please do come in and talk to us - we are here to help.

In a 4 week period 1 day absence = 5%

Thanks to you, our attendance has already improved and stands at 94.51%



Christmas Performance—What Christmas Means to Me

Children in years 1 to 6 are now preparing for our whole school production entitled 'What Christmas Means to Me'. We will be holding 4 performances this year, Monday 15th December at 1.30pm and 6pm and Tuesday 16th December at 1.30pm and 6pm Tickets are limited to **two per family** initially and will be available from Wednesday 3rd December from the office. Children need to be back in school by 5.30pm for the evening performances. Further tickets may be available on Friday 12th December on a 1st come 1st served basis.

Before School

Please note that children should not be on site before 8.45 am in the morning as staff are not on the playground to supervise them until this time. Also please remember that bikes and scooters should not be ridden across the playground at the beginning or end of the day for safety reasons .

Christmas Disco

It is coming up to the party season and we are holding our Christmas Discos on Monday 8th December.

Tickets cost. £2 (£1.50 for siblings) and will be on sale from the office from Tuesday 2nd December.

Children can bring up to £1.00 to spend on sweets.

4-5pm- Hudson, Godfrey and Mowbray classes.

5.15-6.15pm- Octavia, Clarkson, Peckover and Awdry classes.

PLEASE NOTE ALL CHILDREN MUST BE COLLECTED PROMPTLY AT THE END OF THE DISCO BY AN ADULT

Christmas Jumper Day

We are again supporting Save the Children by asking pupils to wear their Christmas jumper (or something Christmassy) to school on Friday 12th December. We are asking children to make a donation towards this worthwhile cause.

To Contribute - To Respect - To Achieve - To Value



Parking.

Parking outside school continues to be a major problem with complaints from local residents and the emergency services.

PLEASE park safely and considerately - you may incur a parking fine from the police if parked illegally as the police are now regularly patrolling this area at the beginning and end of the school day.

THIS IS FOR YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY!

Mrs Rasberry

It is with sadness that I have to tell you that Mrs Rasberry is leaving us at the end of the Autumn term. She has made the difficult decision to leave the school to work closer to her home in King's Lynn. I know that you will join us in wishing her every success in her new school.

We are very fortunate in that we have been able to employ a permanent teacher to start in January, her name is Denise Wyatt and I know that you will welcome her to our school.

Reception Class Nativity

Hudson Class will be performing their Nativity at Church on Friday 12th December at 1.30pm. Parents are welcome to attend and do not need tickets.



Earrings

Our school policy regarding earrings is as follows: Earrings can be covered for PE for the first 6 weeks after piercing. After this period earrings must be removed for PE. Earrings allowed are small stud type earrings - no hoops or creoles.



CHILDREN IN NEED

Thank you to everyone for supporting the charity day for Children in Need.

We raised a whopping £228.94
Well done!

Sue Ryder - Lights of Love tree - an alternative to sending cards

We have a special Christmas tree which pupils, adults, staff and visitors can add a bauble to. The baubles are available from the office for a donation to Sue Ryder. A festive message can be written on the bauble before placing it on the tree. All monies raised will go directly to the Thorpe Hall Capital appeal which is raising money for a new hospice in Peterborough.

Parentmail

As a school we are trying to reduce the amount of paper we send home to parents and carers. To achieve this we need to make more use of the Parentmail system to send newsletters and other information.

In future newsletters will no longer be sent out as a paper copy, but will be emailed as a PDF file, which can be downloaded free of charge from the internet.

Please speak to Mrs Boyce or Mrs Embling if you cannot access the internet for Parentmail.



Dates

- Thur 4th Dec- Parents' evening 1-7pm
- Mon 8th Dec- Christmas Disco -see page one for times
- Tue 9th Dec - Whole school to pantomime
- Wed 10th Dec- Christmas Lunch
- Fri 12th Dec - Xmas Jumper Day for Save the Children
- Fri 12th Dec- Hudson Class Nativity in church 1.30pm
- Mon 15th and Tues 16th Dec- Whole school Christmas production
- Thu 18th Dec - Celebration Assembly 9.00am
- Thur 18th Dec - School closes for Xmas
- Mon 5th Jan— School closed for staff training
- Tues 6th Jan— School opens for Spring Term



**Merry Christmas and
A Happy New Year**