



Working together so that all may flourish
Head Teachers Letter
Friday 25th November



Dear Parents and Carers,

Good afternoon, I hope that you have had a lovely week and that you have been as delighted as I have with the learning that has been going on in school. In Foxes class today a shop set up for the children to practise paying and giving change. Badgers have been using 'The Write Stuff' approach in their writing to come up with their own Christmassy versions of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Otters have been making penguins, combining their maths work on shape with their science work on animals.

I would like to celebrate the improvement in our school lunchtimes with you. Previously we have had challenges both in the lunch hall and on the playground with behaviour, attitude and levels of noise. To address these issues, last term we introduced 'Family Lunch' to our school. The aim of this is to make our lunchtimes a pleasant shared experience, supporting the children to have discussions with each other and develop an atmosphere that you would find round the table when families eat together. Since the introduction of this we have noticed a marked improvement in children's behaviour and attitudes at lunchtime. This has developed over the past few weeks, with some of our older children volunteering to sit with the younger children to support the conversations that come from the 'Sticky Question' and 'Appreciations'. Also at both playtimes and lunchtimes this week, children have been able to use the field even though it has been wet, as they have brought in wellies and 'mucky shoes' to allow them to do so. Thank you for your support in this as it makes such a difference when the children can use all of the space available to them.

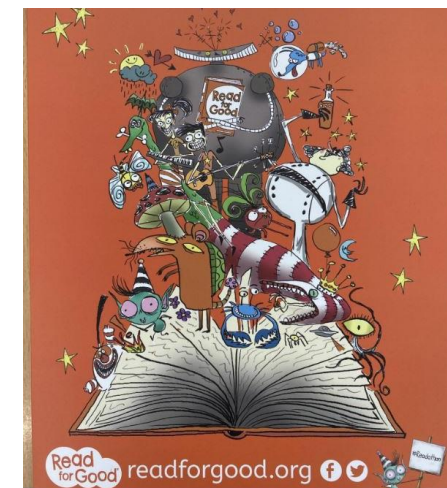
Christmas is fast approaching and we are in full swing with our Nativity and Christingle rehearsals. The nativity will be on Tuesday 13th December. Tickets need to be booked in advance please follow the directions on Mrs Roberts letter to do this. The shows are filling up fast so the sooner you can let us know which performances you would like to attend the better.

The Christingle service will be on Thursday 15th December at 5 o'clock. We warmly invite you all to attend. The children will be making Christingles in school for this service. The Christmas fair will be on Friday 2nd December, a big thank you to HEFA for organizing this event. Just a reminder that on Friday 2nd December we will start dismissing the children at 3:00 rather than the normal 3:15. The children, including reception children, will come out from the front of the school, via reception. The doors to the hall at the back of the school (in Otters outside areas) will then be open for people to go into the Christmas fair. We will of course supervise children as normal until the regular pick up time of 3:15 but ask that you collect your child before attending the Christmas fair.

SEND Fact of the Week

Did you Know?

Cinemas have autism friendly screenings. The screenings will include brighter than usual lighting, lower levels of sound and no trailers or adverts.



Today is the last day of our Readathon.

Thank you for taking part!

Please return your sponsorship forms - so that we can claim gift aid - and monies/ cheques to school at your earliest convenience... and definitely by the end of the week: 2nd December.

Thank you for reading, raising and being amazing!



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As you will have seen this week the Key Stage Two dance festival will be happening on Wednesday 8th February at the Forum in Bath. Miss Graham will be taking a group of dancers from our school. A letter with further details has been sent out. In an amendment to this letter there will not be a rehearsal on Friday 2nd of December as that is the day of our Christmas fair. The rehearsal on Friday 9th December will go ahead. If your child has already signed up to sing at St Johns on that day they are still welcome to sign up to be a part of the dance festival but they will miss that rehearsal.

If you are not currently receiving Free School Meals, please see the criteria below to check whether you may be eligible to apply. Free School Meals are available to eligible children that attend school within Wiltshire on a fulltime basis. This includes Nursery children of compulsory school age who attend school full-time. You must be in receipt of one of the benefits listed below to be eligible for Free School Meals for your child or children:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance (NOT contribution based JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (NOT contribution based ESA)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 - National Asylum Seekers Support (NASS)
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (you must NOT be entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190 (April 2012)
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment you receive for a further four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you think that you may qualify for Free School Meals please see the application form on the Wiltshire Council Website <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

As always if you have any questions or queries please do come and speak to myself or a member of staff. Thank you for your continued help and support.

Mrs Anderson
Head Teacher

November and December dates for your diary:

Friday 2nd December- Christmas Fair

Friday 9th December- St Johns carol service (a choir made up of Y4/5/6 to attend)

Friday 9th December- Christmas disco

Tuesday 13th December- Otters and Foxes Nativity performance

Wednesdays 14th December- Christmas lunch

Thursday 15th December- Christingle service

Friday 16th December- Last day of term

Wednesday 4th January- First day of term



House Points

Mars: 78
Jupiter: 102
Mercury: 65

This weeks winners are Jupiter



Well done to Maddie and Ella for achieving their Bronze house point award.

Attendance

ATTENDANCE MATTERS
every student, every day



This week's winners for w/c 3rd October with the highest attendance score of all of the classes is Foxes Class with 99.5% attendance.

Values Champions

Leon - for showing great enthusiasm in class by putting his hand up to answer questions.

Oliver - for having a positive attitude in school and working well as a learning partner in maths.

Monty for demonstrating courage and perseverance in all of his learning this week. A fantastic first week at Heytesbury School!

Amelia for demonstrating mutual respect as a Badgers' family lunch ambassador. Jolly well done!

Freddie Vost- working hard on phonics and remembering new words to write in a super sentence. Well done Freddie!

Mia Blake - super maths magician this week! Counting in 2's. Well done Mia!