

## Newsletter ~ Term 2, Week 3

### Children in Need, Friday 17 November

The school is buzzing this morning with lots of excited children ready to spend their money at the stalls and games organised by the year 5 pupils. A reminder to you all that there will be a cake stall this afternoon for parents and carers running from 2.45pm in the year 6 classroom. Thank you for all the cakes that have been brought in already – we will continue to accept any cake donations this afternoon.

### Anti-Bullying Week

This week the children have attended a special assembly led by Mrs Galey to support anti-bullying week. This year we have focussed on what to do if we feel we are being bullied or if we are a bystander when someone is being bullied.

These are the messages the children received:

Sarah in year 1 says, "You say 'stop, I don't like it' in a big voice and if they don't stop you tell a teacher."

Isobel in year 3 says, "Stand up for someone who does not know what to do."

Alessandro in year 5 says, "When someone's getting hurt, you just tell the person who is doing the hurting to stop and if they carry on, tell a teacher."

### Friends' News

*Our Christmas party is just over a week away and we can't wait to visit Santa in his Grotto! There are lots of festivities planned, from Christmas crafts, a secret present room, face painting, sweets & cakes, to a kid's fun room, local traders, a disco to end the night and more! We have appreciated the feedback and will have stalls starting from 20p in the kids' fun room, so make sure you pre-purchase your tickets this week to claim your free drinks!*

*We are very excited to announce that we have the most amazing Nutcracker fruit cake created by Shona Rickard which is on display in the Staffroom window for you all to be amazed at! It truly is a work of art and tickets will be on sale at 50p each or 3 for £1 in the playground next week and on the night. A huge thank you to Shona for your work and the donation of the cake.*

*Our main raffle tickets went home this week, so please sell as many as you can to be in the draw to win an Echo Dot, vouchers, hampers and more!*

*A reminder that hoopla jars are available outside the office window to be filled and you can return these filled into the box with the red lid, which is also outside the office window.*

*The all-exciting mufti day is scheduled for **next Friday, 24 November**. In return for your child/ren wearing mufti for the day, we ask that they bring in a new, sealed bottle for the Tombola stall. Ideas include: wine or other alcohol products, beauty products, food products - the list is limitless.*

*And last but not least, **Advent Wreath Pack Pre-order Forms are due back by Wednesday, 22 November. Extra forms can be found in the office foyer.***

### Advent

The season of Advent is fast approaching – the first Sunday of Advent is Sunday 3 December – and as part of this we ask our children to make an Advent wreath at home and bring it to school to be blessed by Father Reg at a special assembly on **Friday 1 December**. The traditional wreath consists of a ring of evergreen greenery, 3 purple, 1 pink and 1 white candle. The white candle is placed in the middle of the ring and the other four around the edge. Each part of the wreath is symbolic and we will remind the children of this during the assembly. Last year the hall was filled with Advent wreaths and it would be lovely to have even more this year. Children should bring their wreath to school on the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup> and take it back home for use in the four weeks up to Christmas.

If you have any spare greenery in your gardens it would be gratefully received. Please bring it into school during the week beginning 27 November.

### **Christmas Dinner**

On the day of the Christmas dinner (Friday 15 December) the prayer team are asking children to wear a festive jumper over their normal school uniform and bring in a small donation in order to help people at Christmas who are less fortunate than ourselves.

### **Friary Fayre, Saturday 18 November, 12 noon to 3pm**

Clevedon Parish fayre takes place this Saturday 18 November 12-3 in the Community Hall, Princes Rd, Clevedon. All are warmly welcome. Special guests this year, providing festive live music, are the Portishead Concert Band.

### **Flu Vaccinations**

Just a reminder that the flu vaccinations for years R - 4 will be taking place on Monday 20th November.

### **Please let us know on the day if:**

- your child is wheezy or has been wheezy in the last three days
- your child is asthmatic and has had any medication changes since you signed the consent form
- any other changes to your child's health since the form was signed by you.

### **St Francis' School Needs You!**

We are looking for a friendly, reliable person to come and join our lovely lunchtime staff team. We are looking to develop the range of play activities on offer at lunchtime so we are especially interested in anyone who is keen to help all children have enjoyable and positive play experiences at school. We would be open to a job share. If you are interested in joining our friendly team of dinner ladies, please contact the school office for further details.

### **New Play Equipment**

Children are loving using the new play equipment and have been busy writing lots of thank you letters to the many people who have helped make their playground so special. If you are one of those people who have helped over the years, they say a huge 'thank you'.

The play equipment and artificial grass surface have been designed for **low level play only** for children **above the age of 5**. In order to keep everyone safe **at all times** when playing on the equipment, the school council (in consultation with the other pupils) has come up with the following rules:

#### *New KS2 Playground Equipment Rules*

*The School Council wants to make sure that everyone has a good time on the equipment and that everyone gets a fair go. To help us do this, we have agreed these rules:*

- 1. Keep to the clockwise one-way system*
- 2. Wait your turn without pushing, barging or snatching*
- 3. Make sure you are no more than one metre off the ground*
- 4. Step on and off the equipment carefully*
- 5. Walk sensibly between the pieces of equipment*
- 6. Share the equipment fairly*
- 7. Use the equipment the way it was designed e.g. no flipping over on the poles or changing the equipment to make it harder*
- 8. Only children who are playing on the equipment are allowed on the grass area*
- 9. Children must only use the equipment when supervised by an adult*

*Maximum number of children at one time: 15*

*Maximum number on rolling log: 4*

*Maximum number on twisting net: 1*



As responsible adults, we also check that weather conditions are not making the equipment too slippery or otherwise dangerous before we allow the children to play. Children fully understand these rules and are brilliant at being responsible for safe play during their playtimes.

## **Well Done**

To Year 5 children for a wonderful time at Kilve Court last week – the sun shone (most of the time) and the views from the top of the Quantocks were spectacular! The children were brilliant at helping each other out, encouraging each other and 'having a go' even if things were scary or challenging. There were some especially good disco dancers this year! Mrs Lumsden really enjoyed getting to know the children and has now had a good sleep! Photographs will be available shortly.

We still have some lost property which we think might have gone into the wrong bags so we would be grateful if you could check that your child did not bring home extra clothes and towels!

We also say a big 'well done' to Euan, Byron, Catherine, Maya, Claire, Ellie, Finlay, Zak, Aoife, Tiago, Scott, Adam, Valentina and Sampson for a range of commendable attitudes and work skills including fantastic writing, participation in class discussions and knowing so much about Remembrance Sunday!

## **And Finally ....**

*I thought as term starts to take on that busy feeling, a list of Dates for your Diary may be helpful:*

Saturday 25 November	Friends' Christmas Party	4pm – 7.30pm
Monday 27 November	Advent Wreaths to be brought in	
Wednesday 6 December	KS1 Nativity	1.45pm
Thursday 7 December	KS1 Nativity	9.30am
Tuesday 12 December	KS1 Christmas Workshop	
Thursday 14 December	KS2 Christmas Carol Service	7pm
Friday 15 December	Christmas Dinner	
Monday 18 December	KS1 Christmas Party	
Tuesday 19 December	End of Term Mass	10am