

Newsletter ~ Term 3, Week 3

Christingle Mass

Thank you to our Year 1 and 5 children and staff for leading a beautiful mass this morning filled with music, dance and light.

Outdoor Learning News

We are planning to develop our outdoor learning opportunities here at school and make the most of our beautiful outdoor spaces, field and pond area. The Reception and Year 1 teachers have kindly agreed to start the ball rolling for us! We have wellies in school for our Reception children already, so we are asking all parents of Year 1 children to provide their child with a pair that they can keep permanently in school. Donations of unwanted wellies would also be warmly welcomed.



We are planning to be outside in all weathers, so you may want to provide your child with an extra layer on a Friday and make sure they have a waterproof coat, gloves, scarves and hats. If you would like your child to wear an all-in-one waterproof, then please make sure that also comes into school on a Friday. As always, clearly label all belongings.

Our first 'welly adventure' will be next **Friday 2 February**. We would welcome parent helpers so please let your child's class teacher know if you can help. If you have not yet been through our new volunteer procedure, this takes a few days to process so let them know as soon as possible.

We are also in the process of buying lots of new equipment for the children to play with at playtimes and lunchtimes, thanks to the support of the Friends. If you do have any toys that would otherwise be going to the charity shop, please give us first refusal. Items we are looking for include: cars, plastic dinosaurs and farm animals, kitchen equipment (real and play), hats and helmets.

Parent-pupil Consultation Evenings: **Wednesday 7 February and Thursday 8 February**

We have allocated appointment times and they should be with you by now. If for any reason you have not received your time slot or you wish to change it, please see your child's class teacher.

Mrs Field will be the teacher available to year 5 and she is liaising fully with Miss Townsend about your child's learning. If you wish to see Miss Townsend specifically please ask her to make an appointment with you at another time convenient to you both.

Book Fair

We will once again be hosting the travelling Scholastic Book Fair during the two Parents Evenings. It will be open from **5pm – 8pm on Wednesday 8 February** and **3.30pm – 6pm Thursday 9 February**. We would be grateful for help on either of these evenings. If you can spare an hour or so to come and help with book sales, please leave your name at the office and the time you are available.

Station Road

The transport committee and various local councillors are working hard behind the scenes to make the road outside our school safer for everyone. During the next few weeks, you may see me up at the school entrance with a photographer. The photographs taken will be 'vetted' by me before they go

any further and will then only be used to demonstrate to local government how busy and potentially dangerous the road is. No photographs will be uploaded onto any publicly accessed website.

Please let the office know if you would not like images of yourself or your family to appear on these photographs.

Well Done...

...To Matias, Sarah, Ella, Jonah and Alonso, Freya, Leo, Marley, Nina and Elli, Lois, Ted, Chloe and Nicola, Abi, Nathan, Izzy, Kaci and Isla, Olivia, Luca, Maya, Jamie-Ann and Benji, Matthew, Olly, Nancy, Scarlett, Ezekial and Ciara. Their hard work, listening skills and desire to challenge themselves were recognised this week. I was particularly pleased to hear that one person had demonstrated 'curiosity and a questioning approach' to his work and another for 'asking questions enthusiastically'. We have been talking about the importance of curiosity in our learning this week.

E-safety Workshops for Parents and Children

Our e-safety workshops are going ahead in March and we have now opened the sessions up to Year 4 parents and pupils as well. If you have missed out on the letter or not yet returned the slip please let the office know. Understanding how to keep your children safe online is so important in this world of social media and easy internet access and with the teenage years come a whole new minefield of potential pitfalls. It is well worth being armed in advance!

Final arrangements will follow next week.

And Finally...

When Jesus was lost in the temple at the age of 12, the scholars were more amazed by the questions He asked them than by the answers he gave.

We have been talking to the children this week about being curious and asking questions. Here are some of their responses:

"We were asking Miss Parry questions today about the fire brigade in the olden days and we had so many we ran out of time!"

"I am curious about life and why we are made."

"When our teacher doesn't know the answer, she researches to find out."

"My teacher is curious about what music we like."

I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious.

Albert Einstein