

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 4, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all your support during our recent fundraising events including:

**The Royal British Legion Poppy appeal:** We raised **£357.11**  
**Children in Need:** We raised an amazing **£173.00** and I would like to say a big thank you to the School Council children for organising this fundraising event for the whole school.

### **Christmas events and activities:**

Christmas has officially started in school and this morning the children thoroughly enjoyed their whole school Pantomime Cinderella. Our school **Post Box** is situated in our school office area ready to receive Christmas cards for all children and staff. **Children should deliver their cards to the post box, not hand them out.** Deliveries will be made at key times during the week to ensure that we can manage the distribution of cards.

### **Other important dates and information so that you can enjoy, plan ahead and celebrate with us:**

On **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** we have our school **Christmas Lunch**. Children are invited to wear a CHRISTMAS JUMPER to school in place of their normal school jumper/cardigan, as we enjoy eating and celebrating Christmas together in the school hall.

The **EYFS and KS1 Nativity** will be performed on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December** at 2pm and **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December** at 9.15am in the school hall. Please bring your ticket on the day.

On **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December** Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have their Christmas parties in the afternoon and can bring in a plate of party food and their pyjamas to change into. Father Christmas will be delivering class presents on this day! Information regarding the arrangements has been sent home by the class teachers. On **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 have their Christmas carousel of fun activities taking place across all classes.

On **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** at **1.30pm** for a **1:45pm start**, the **KS2 Carol Service** will take place at Mereworth Church. Children will return to school after the concert for collection.

### **PARKING for our Christmas events:**

We have made arrangements for **additional parking** to be available at the **Pavilion car park** for parents attending the EYFS and KS1 Nativity on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December. It will also be open for parking from 1.00pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December for parents attending the KS2 Carol Service at the church. **The Pavilion car park is on the right hand side of 'The Street' coming from Kings Hill and Wateringbury direction, just before Butchers Lane.** Please park here to avoid congestion on The Street. Thank you.

### **Joint Music concert at Discovery Primary School**

On Thursday last week the **school choir**, along with a number of other children, sang, played the **guitar, piano** and **drums** at our joint concert with Discovery Primary School. The evening was a huge success and the children's performances were outstanding. The singing was amazing and I was immensely proud of the children's achievements! I would like to thank Mrs Jones for all her hard work organising this music event and to Mrs Delaney and Mr Bodle for their support.

### **Sporting competitions – update:**

We have had 7 competitive matches since September: 5 football games and 2 netball games involving our Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 children. We have had a very successful start to the newly formed regional Football and Netball leagues.

**The Year 5 and Year 6 football team** has played 2 matches winning both games 6-1.

**The Year 3 and Year 4 football team** has played 3 matches winning 6-3, 2-0 and 5-0.

**The Year 5 and Year 6 Netball team** has played 2 matches winning them 3-2 and 4-2.

There are many more games to play in these competitions and we hope to give as many children as possible the opportunity to represent the school in these matches. We have also recently started a **Girls' football team** and we are pleased to announce our first competitive fixture will be on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

**Our school value for December is GRATITUDE.**

This value provides us with an opportunity at school and at home to think about how we express our appreciation for one another and the things that we have, especially at this time of year when we give and receive gifts at Christmas.

**After school:**

Once you have collected your child, please leave the school premises. This will alleviate traffic on The Street and also enable our After School Clubs to run effectively and be supervised properly. Thank you.

**End of Autumn Term 2019**

I look forward to seeing you all over the next few weeks as we begin a very busy schedule of fun and enjoyable Christmas events and activities, and I would like to thank you for all your support during this Autumn Term. We have had an excellent start to this school year with many actions taken to drive the school forward. In Term 3, we look forward to welcoming you all into your child's class to observe the **daily teaching of reading**. Individual letters will be sent home before Christmas with dates for your child's class. We are also looking forward to welcoming all parents to our first **Celebration of Learning event** that will take place after school on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 4.30-6.00pm**. Please look out for a separate letter giving information about this event as we aim to increase communication regarding your child's attainment and progress. In Term 4, I am delighted to announce that we will introduce a **Forest Schools Education programme for all classes**, with every year group having a block of learning in either Term 4, Term 5 or Term 6. We will provide more information about this after Christmas.

May I take this opportunity to thank all the school staff that work very hard to ensure that we deliver the best provision for all our pupils. I am very fortunate to have such a fantastic team of people that really care about the children and the school. I would also like to thank all the volunteers that have helped with the great work that has taken place on our school grounds and our daily reading programme.

**Staffing update:** Mrs Pearson (our acting Deputy Head Teacher and Year 6 Teacher) will be commencing maternity leave at the end of this term. We look forward to hearing all about her baby in the new year. Miss Maryon will be returning early from her sabbatical year to her post as Deputy Head Teacher and Year 6 Teacher from January 2020. You may see her around school in the last few weeks of term! Miss Lavelle – Head Teacher



Thank you to FOMS for all their hard work with the *Winter Festival* that will take place this Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 12-3pm. We hope everyone will attend and invite their family and friends! I would also like to say a big thank you to everyone in advance for supporting our Winter Festival by donating items on non-uniform day for the bottle tombola.

FOMS have worked very hard this Autumn Term to provide excellent events and fundraising opportunities including a *Children's Film Night*, *Children's Disco*, *Pumpkin Competition* and *Bags2School collection last week (which raised £108.00)*, in addition to the *Winter Festival* and *Wreath Making* events taking place this week. They have also supported all of our *Reception Open Days*. Their ongoing support for the school is very much appreciated and provides invaluable funding to buy resources and equipment that benefit all the children. On behalf of the staff, governors and children we would like to thank all the FOMS helpers for their time and support.

**Term 3: Children's Film Night** on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January – details to follow.

**Please find attached the dates for Term 3 and Term 4**  
We will send home our **Term 3 CLUBS list at the end of this week** so that you can plan ahead for extra curricular clubs that you would like your child to attend next term. Please remember that we also have fantastic opportunities for children to learn a wide range of **musical instruments**. If you have any questions about this please see the school office or Mrs Jones our Music Leader.