



# Head's December Newsletter 2016



## Christmas Productions

As you will appreciate, the logistics and organisation required to put on a Christmas production involving all children in school is quite a challenge to say the least. This year, we have the additional hurdle of sharing the hall time with the whole school due to the expected works in our second hall in the Westwood Centre. In addition, when we start rehearsing the productions, there is always the unknown quantity of "exactly *when* will we be physically ready to perform?" This said, we did publish the dates on the Newsletter in the first week of November and indicated that the time would be in the "pm" for Reception and Yr1&2. This, I feel, was giving sufficient notice ahead of the planned events. Admittedly, the only delay has been the actual *start* time within the afternoon and the release of tickets. Due to the number of expected guests to see the productions, it will be impractical for us to provide refreshments. However, due to the small Nursery setting and the timing of their production, we will be able to provide some small refreshments.

## Peace and Good Will to All

Christmas is a very busy time of year and stress levels do tend to escalate due to all the additional pressures of attending plays, productions, fairs and other events. Please do bear in mind that the majority of our staff are also working parents and we are all doing our best to plan, organise and run excellent events involving your children as well as making sound progress in all curriculum areas too - *don't get me wrong, we do like doing this!* However, this often comes at the expense of missing our own children's performances and events in their schools. During this festive time, I am calling for your upmost support, consideration and understanding. We are proud of our school and of all the children within it and we do not make decisions and arrangements to intentionally meet your disapproval. Please focus on the multitude of positive aspects that are occurring over the next couple of weeks.

## Diary of Events (For all Reception to Year 6 productions, tickets are limited to 2 per family in the first instance. Extra tickets will be shared as equally as possible upon request before each event.)

- Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Dec - Reception Christmas Production (2pm)
- Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Dec - Yr1&2 Christmas Production (2pm)
- Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Dec - Chrimbo Non-uniform Day (chocs, sweets,biscuits to be used as prizes for Bingo-Ho-Ho!)
- Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Dec - WPTFA Christmas Fair from 3:05pm in both halls
- Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Dec - Yr3-6 Christmas Production1 in Buckley Cross Methodist Church 1:30pm *Tickets on sale from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec*
- Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Dec - Yr 3-6 Christmas Production2 in the school hall at 6:00pm *Tickets on sale from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec*
- Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Dec - Nursery Nativity Production (9:30am)
- Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Dec - Children's Christmas dinner (£2.10 per pupil)
- Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Dec - School Council Christmas BINGO-Ho-Ho 6:00pm
- Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Dec - Nursery Christmas party morning
- Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Dec - Community Christmas Tea, Coffee & Cake in the school hall from 2:00pm
- Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Dec - All children Christmas party afternoon
- Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas break
- Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017 - Children return to school

## Swimming

Next week will be the last swimming session for Mrs Brown's Class. Well done to all the class for their water skill development. The next to go will be the pupils in Mr Powell's Class starting from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017. Children will need swimming costumes/shorts/trunks, goggles and a towel. As we walk to Elfed

## Christmas Parties

Please refer to Diary of Events for dates. All children will be provided with a small party snack (drinks, crisps and possibly a couple of sweets or cakes too!) as they enjoy a session of games, music and dancing. I have been told that Father Christmas may be able to drop in to see the children if his elves are on schedule in his toy workshop.

## Westwood Parents, Teacher and Friends Association (WPTFA)

The WPTFA usually provide the funding for every child in school to receive a small gift. In the past, this has been a selection box or a book. However, this year all children will be given a £5 credit that will go against the cost of a bus for a school trip. This will make a class trip/ educational visit cheaper by £5 at some point in the remainder of the academic year. This is a very generous contribution and clearly aims to give a little back to all parents in school. After all, it is thanks to your generosity during planned events that this is possible.

## Thank You Lesters Farm Shop!

Lesters Farm Shop in Drury have generously donated a real Christmas tree for our school foyer. This is a very kind gesture and I hope you find the time to pop into Lesters over the festive period to top up on some wonderful Christmas food and produce!

## Merry Christmas and Happy New year! Nadolig Llawen a blwyddyn Newydd Dda!

On behalf of the whole school staff, may I wish you all the very best for the festive season. As always, it has been a very productive start to the academic year and I am in no doubt that 2017 will be much the same! Looking back, this year has certainly been eventful and very rewarding. In relation to our current performance data, standards and categorisation group, we are comparative to all other schools in Buckley.

