

Dear parents,

What a wet and cold snap we've had! There is lots of warmth and brightness in school with Christmas performances and letters from Father Christmas arriving for Class 1 and 2. I have been delighted this week with the number of children coming to my office to share their great resilience in learning and improvement in writing. Enjoy reading more about school life below.



Key Stage 2 Design and Technology

The children in KS2 have had great fun designing and making Christmas decorations. They have planned their ideas, practised their stitching and created decorations which would delightfully adorn any tree.

A huge thank you to Mrs Monkman, Mrs Pegler (Laila's Gran) and Mrs Pates (Miss Pates mum), for sharing their sewing skills with the children—it really helped to have your expertise and support.

Christmas Performances

Christmas is creeping up on us all and the children are busy in school practising their Christmas plays. Reception and Key Stage 1 are performing 'Prickly Hay' and Key Stage 2 will perform 'Aladdin' - the children are really excited about sharing with you. As a school we recognise some parents/careers do not want their child/ren to be photographed for a range of reasons. As a result we ask you not to take photos or video recording at the Christmas performances. Mr Dougan, who is a skilled photographer, will take photos and make these available to you via Drop Box—a letter with further information will be sent to you. Positively, this means everyone present at a performance can relax and really enjoy the show.

The retiring collections from all performances will be divided between school funds and the charity chosen by the children—this year it will be Clic Sargent who support children who have cancer and leukaemia. At a time when we will be celebrating together it's lovely that the children will also be helping others too.

School Council

The School Council have been active again by entering the local Christmas Tree Festival held at St Michael's and All Angels Church. The children devised a plan using recycled materials. They created a marvellous tree, with wonderful origami stars, glistening lolly stick snowflakes and a delightful wash-up bottle angel. Lots of people in the community enjoyed seeing the tree over the Christmas Tree Festival weekend (and in our front entrance this week). In the visitor vote during the festival, our tree came first! Well done School Council, you did us proud! A huge thank you to Mrs Yorke for leading the School Council in this creative project too.



Our Christmas tree

The children in the School Council have had a wonderful time decorating the super Christmas tree that stands proudly near the entrance to the school hall. This year the tree we purchased had a wonky trunk but it still looks and smells marvellous. Every year Trevor Davis and Ms Jo Jackson, former parents, kindly make a donation to school so we can purchase a real tree for everyone to enjoy—a lovely gesture. Our heartfelt thanks to Trevor and Jo for remembering us again this year. At the end of term the tree will be passed on to be reused in our community.



Final Friday of Term

The children in each class have enjoyed making a range of fantastic Christmas items to sell at the end of term: Class 1—wooden tree ornaments; Class 2—Christmas foliage table decorations; Class 3—Rocky Road treats; Class 4—Sewn Christmas tree decorations and Class 5—chocolate dipped peppermint creams. These will be for sale on the last day of term from 3pm. Whether wet or dry Class 5 hope to enjoy singing Christmas carols. I hope you can join us for a short time.

If the weather is dry, the sale and carols will be in the playground, along with PA tombola and wonderful Class 4 cake stall. If the weather is wet, we plan to run the tombola under the cover at the school entrance, the cake sale from the hall doors and sell the class items from individual classes.

Dates for your diary

We have listed below some of the key dates for your diary.

Autumn Term 2

November

- Mon 4th - First day of Autumn Term 2 for pupils
- Tues 5th - C5 educational visit to Ashmolean Museum (Egypt focus)
- Thurs 7th - Open afternoon for new parents 1:45-3:15pm (please phone Mrs Birch to arrange time)
- Tues 12th - School photographer (individuals and families - school hall)
- Fri 15th - C4 assembly—parents welcome 10am
 - C5 Children In Need: 'Bring and Buy' and cake sale
- Tues 19th - Open morning for new parents 9:30-12:00 (please phone Mrs Birch to arrange time)
- Wed 27th - PC Weedon (local School Beat Officer) : Role of the police assembly for all children
- Fri 29th - C3 assembly—parents welcome 10am
 - Tag Rugby Festival Y5/Y6 TBC Mr Meloscia will inform those involved

December

- Tues 3rd - Flu immunisation
- Fri 6th - School Council enter Christmas Tree Festival in St Michael and All Angels church
- Thurs 12th - KS1 Nativity 2pm and 6pm
- Mon 16th - Christmas Dinner—children welcome to wear Christmas jumpers-£1 donation to PA welcomed.
- Weds 18th - KS2 performance 6.30pm (updated evening performance time of 6.30pm)
- Thurs 19th - KS2 performance 1:45pm and 6.30pm (updated evening performance time of 6.30pm)
- Fri 20th** - 3pm: Carols, Children's Christmas items for sale and PA cake sale & tombola
 - **Final day of Term 2**

Spring Term 1 : 2020

January

- Mon 6th - INSET — For staff
- Tues 7th** - **First day of term for children**
- Fri 10th - C4 Creative dance /drama day. Parents welcome for performance at 2.50pm
- Thurs 16th - Y3 and Y4 swimming weekly lessons commence
- Tues 28th - Y3/4: Skillzone Educational Visit: Fire Safety—1.00pm-3.45pm
- Wed 29th - Y5/6: Skillzone Educational Visit: Fire Safety –1.00pm-3.45pm

February

- Tues 4th - Y6 Internet Safety with Beat Officer PC Weedon
- Thurs 13th - Rec & KS1 Fire Safety - visit from local firefighter
- Fri 28th - PA Class 2 Cake Sale



Thank you for your continued support,
Zoe Avastu

Aiming high.....together