



NEWSLETTER



December 15th 2023

Monday 1st January 2024	SCHOOL CLOSED - HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Tuesday	SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS – INSET DAY
Wednesday	First Day back after the holiday
Thursday	
Friday	Reverend Sarah Leading Worshp

Christmas Fair

As I mentioned in my email, we managed to raise an enormous £1401 at the Christmas Fair. Thank you again to the PTA and those who volunteered their time to prepare or organise the event. Thanks also if you bought raffle tickets or were able to come along to enjoy the café, see Father Christmas or play some games.



This week – has been fun and busy!

On Monday the Golden Book children were able to choose 2 shorts from the Disney Chanel to enjoy together in the hall.

On Tuesday morning, Bishop Luffa led a worship on Tuesday morning. Gretta, Jono and Hanna were chosen to take part in their interviews with Shepherds, angels, Mary and a King. Our children listened to the message that with the birth of Jesus, we have Hope, Peace, Joy and Love for all. Our children then sang to the Bishop Luffa Students as our 'gift' to them. As always, our children very impressive and full of enthusiasm!

On Tuesday afternoon the children enjoyed crafting winter hats and mittens using different art techniques. They worked as House Teams, supporting one another and spending time with different teachers.

On Wednesday afternoon we went for a walk to the top of Levin Down and across the fields so that the children could enjoy running up and down the 'dip'. We returned to sit together in the hall for hot chocolate and a small piece of cake or biscuit.

On Wednesday evening, Mathilda, Hanna, Harriet, Lena, Gretta, Dolly, Martha, George (Y2), Raya, Malachi, Amelia, Coco and Francesca, accompanied Miss Boyd and I, together with family, Reverend Sarah and the local community sang carols as we walked around the village. It was a very special evening. Our children sand Go Tell it On the Mountain, with great gusto! Thank you to all of the children and their families who supported this event.

On Thursday the hall was filled with excitable children all day! Parties took place across the day and we enjoyed a Christmas lunch too. Games were played, children danced and we enjoyed each other's company. Oak class played a great game of create the snowman – Mathilda the snow-woman looked very authentic and was part of the winning team! Beech Class played team games with balloons connected between 2 people in a relay and Willow Class were fabulous at dancing and sliding on their knees!

On Friday morning, CYE came to share their re-telling of the Christmas Nativity. This year they retold the Nativity, with each of the main characters being 'less than perfect' The King accidentally threw Myrrh over baby Jesus, the donkey was unable to carry Mary, the Angel Gabriel forgot her lines and the lamb started off as a tiger and then a chicken! CYE shared how God does not expect us to be perfect and will always love us for who we are – which is why He sent us all the gift of Jesus.

On Friday afternoon, Year 6 delivered the Christmas Card post to each class. Then each class enjoyed a treat of their choosing in the afternoon.

New Year News

When we return in the New Year, I will continue to be class based in the mornings and the occasional afternoons when needed. Please ensure you direct any concerns about your child/ren to the class teacher in the first instance. If for any reason this is not appropriate, please email me directly and I will endeavour, as I have over the past couple of weeks to read emails after school. Thank you for your continued support with this arrangement.

We will welcome Miss Emilie Scones, a teacher from Chichester University to Willow Class in January. She will be with us on placement until almost the end of March. She will work with Year 2 in the morning and Year 1 and 2 in the afternoon. Miss Scones will be supported by the Willow Class team.

Mrs Radley will be going onto maternity leave from the 26th January. Miss Emma Woolston who is covering her leave, will join us from Wednesday 24th January to enable a good handover.

Clubs

We are disappointed that JC Sports were unable to continue running their wrap round care. With such low and decreasing numbers, JC Sports was unable to cover costs and as a small school we are unable to fund the shortfall. They will continue to run clubs which will be sports based. There will be a different sport each day. For those children who have attended Wrap Round care, it was usual for the children to spend the first hour outside playing sports, so this is a similar structure.

The school staff will also run clubs on Mondays from 3-4pm and notification of this will be sent in the New Year.

And finally –

As we look back over 2023 we remember; the flooding and power cuts, OFSTED, sports days, a family rounders match with some over-zealous bowling, an Easter egg hunt, a coronation tea party and quiz, sporting opportunities, lots of fabulous learning, SATs tests, leavers services, a beach trip, charity days, an art exhibition, the Nativity, the Christmas Fair, an amazing panto, good news and difficult news, farewells and welcomes – and lots more in between!

Of course, without a community there would be no one to create these memories with, so I just want to say thank you to the children, staff, Governors, PTA and our wider community for your continued support of our school.

We look forward to 2024 -we have plans to look forward to and events to share.

On behalf of the team, I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Theresa Smyth and Team

