

# Landscape C of E Primary School

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## NEWSLETTER: FESTIVE CHRISTMAS EDITION!



**8<sup>th</sup> December 2017.**

**Dear Parents,**

I hope you are enjoying all the pre-Christmas events!

### **NATIVITY WEEK – REFLECTIONS**

Wow! What a week! Whilst the temperatures outside might have been chilly the atmosphere in the school was **red hot!** I have been through quite a few of nativity seasons during my career and I never tire of our trips to Bethlehem!

All three performances were brilliant and the confidence and self-assuredness displayed by the children was remarkable. The KS1 event was simply delightful with a real sense of joy and innocence that made it memorable for all. What I call “Ahhh... factor 10”. And the KS2 shows? Well, I thought that every single child contributed to two very accomplished and entertaining evenings. The atmosphere in a candle lit St Matthew’s was perfect and encouraged all the children to do their best.

Of course, whilst the children are the most important part of these seasonal events we mustn’t forget that without a whole team effort these results would never be possible. And so I want to thank you all, the parent

body, for putting in the effort and time to provide such fantastic costumes that helped to give the children the confidence to get into character and do their best. Clearly the



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school staff also had a big part to play and I publically want to thank each and every one of them for giving the extra that is required to create something so special.



### **FOLS CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Next..... I want to say a few words about the Christmas Fair and the brilliant result produced by our hard working team. If you were a member of the merry group involved in the preparation and running of the fair you need to give yourselves a big pat on the back. The atmosphere on Friday was just so... warm... and uplifting ~ I could tell that everyone was having a marvellous time. So please accept my thanks, whether you were a “do-er” or a “spend-er” or both.

Kate believes we have raised in the region of £2000 which is a great achievement for a school of our size. We have some great events coming up in the next two terms but they can't be done without your support, so please do sign up and lend a hand; not only does it help raise funds for all your children but everyone has a few laughs along the way! Thank you.

The next FOLS meeting will be Wednesday 10th Jan at 7pm in the school hall.

### **SCHOOL VALUES**

We are currently exploring Advent which is the first season in the church year. It is the period of time immediately before Christmas when Christians get ready to celebrate Jesus' birth and reflect on God's coming to earth. The children have enjoyed stories and sharing their knowledge with us.

### **VISITS TO BUCKFAST ABBEY**

Classes 1, 3 and 4 have all had a great time at Buckfast Abbey this week. We have enjoyed listening to stories, meeting a monk, exploring the abbey and making Christmas decorations. There were some real wow moments and we spent the afternoon enthralled! Don't worry, Class 2 haven't been left out! They will be visiting the Abbey at Easter.



### **CHRISTMAS**

**Outstanding events still to take place are:**

**Mon 11th** Christmas Party Day: Classes 3&4 (new date)

You should have received a letter from the class teachers about this. If you have any questions please ask them.

**Wed 13th** Christmas Dinner Day

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The usual festive feast from Riverford. The staff will be armed with festive pinnies to serve lunch to all the children.

**Thu 14th** Christmas Party Day classes 1&2

You should be expecting a letter from the class teachers about this. If you have any questions please ask them.

**Friday 15th** Carol Service 1:45, St Matthew's

Our traditional carol service, where we ask you to join in~ so make sure that you bring your best singing voices with you!

**SAFEGUARDING & ATTENDANCE**

**Operation Encompass** launched on Monday. This is coordinated by the Police and ensures that every school knows about any child who has been exposed to domestic abuse the night before or over the weekend. Further details can be found here <http://www.operationencompass.org/>

**A reminder about photos taken during the nativity season: please do not put these on social media as you do not have permission from other parents. Thank you.**

Attendance: 27 <sup>th</sup> November – 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2017		Number of sessions missed per class: (session = a whole morning or afternoon)
Whole school	95.81 %	72
Class 1	97.86 %	3
Class 2	97.12 %	15
Class 3	92.60 %	37
Class 4	96.96 %	17
Well done to Class 1 & 2		

**KS2 SWIMMING LESSONS**

Due to an error by Dyrons it seems we have no swimming lessons next term; but never fear the Ashburton pool, a week of swimming and possibly a KS2 swimming gala is being planned for the summer term, so we won't miss out! In fact, I think it sounds like a rather fun week that Mrs Smart has in store for us!

To fill the PE gap Mrs Smart has arranged for us to have Rebecca Stanlake, who will work with classes 1 & 2, teaching gymnastics. She will then offer an afterschool club for years 2 & 3 on Wednesday ~ details to follow. Sam Lyndon will be in on a Friday to teach gymnastics to KS2 followed by a gymnastics club after school for years 4-6 ~ again details to follow next week.

**A NEW CLUB**

Next term Jennie Farrell and Tati Bloxham are offering an art club in which children will experience working with clay, felt, willow, papier mache and sewing. They have many ideas for some exciting projects! Please look out for the letter and signing up form in January. This club will have spaces for up to 12 children, be available to Y2-Y6 and will be on a first come first served basis at a cost of £3 per session.

## **APPLICATIONS FOR RECEPTION PLACES IN SEPTEMBER 2018**

If your child was born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 you will need to apply for a school place by 15th January 2017. Please apply online at [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline)

## **STUDENT TEACHERS**

We have a long standing relationship with Plymouth Uni & Marjons and benefit from the latest research as well as offering student placements for teacher training. This term we have welcomed Mrs Karen Barlow into class 3 and Miss Lauren Cooper in class 4. Lauren completed her practice with us today ~ gaining an OUTSTANDING grade~ Well Done! Karen is off to Illsham in January but returns to us later in the spring term 2018 when she will join Miss Pooler and Class 4.

## **PARKING**

### **Yes back to the thorny issue of parking!**

I am aware that this is an on-going issue and have recently raised this with the School Ethos Committee, My Chair of Governors and my Health and safety governor.

The following is the outcomes of those discussions.

1. We will aim to have parking bay 1 as a disabled bay from the New Year.
2. There will be two bays in front of the bins which will be reserved spaces for taxis and child minders with large vehicles who rely on staff to take children to these vehicles. This will be signed only as the school cannot afford to have bays painted. Again this will be in place for the New Year.

I hope we can work together to make this a reasonable solution!

## **A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHURCH WARDEN**

Dear Jill and all at Landscope School,

On behalf of Landscope Church I would like to give a big thank you to all who donated to our Lychgate roof appeal at your Nativity services.

I am delighted to say that you raised the magnificent sum of £225.25 which is very much appreciated.

A huge thank you again.

Ros Edwards

Deputy Church Warden

St Matthew's Church

## **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**

Break up                      2.30 Fri 15th December

Back to school              9:00 Wed 3rd January

Finally, as this is the last newsletter this term; a merry Christmas and a happy new year from all the staff at the school to all of you. Let's hope for another great year for the school starting in January.

Jill Ryder