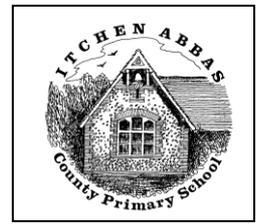


Itchen Abbas Primary School Newsletter

School Lane
Itchen Abbas
01962 779310

18th December 2018

Newsletter No. 6



Email: admin@itchenabbas.org.uk



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Dear Parents

Events

We have had a lovely time in the run up to the end of term. Foxes Parent Assembly was brilliant! They presented their learning about the Ancient Greeks and then amazed us all by racing the Greek Chariots they had constructed and programmed using crumble boards. I know they required a great deal of hard work and perseverance to get them to work, well done for not giving up!

The Squirrels Nativity was an absolute joy! The children sung, narrated and acted superbly. It is always lovely to watch our Nativities and the response from the audience showed us that they agreed. Thank you to everyone who supported the children in learning their words and getting costumes organised.

On Monday we had our Hedgehogs, Otters and Foxes carol service in the church. Again, we were delighted to have a full congregation, thank you. The children sang beautifully, our readers read clearly and our musicians were superb! I think we all enjoyed the Foxes recorder performance! Thank you to the children for their hard work in bringing this together and volunteering for the various activities.

On Tuesday, volunteers from the Otters and Foxes classes went to sing at CAMEO (Come and Meet Each Other). Children sang carols to the elderly whilst they enjoyed their Christmas lunch and then we sang some together. The children really enjoyed themselves and it was lovely to be able to provide some entertainment.

Staffing

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to Mr Lovegrove from the Squirrels class. He has secured a position much closer to his new home. We wish him the best of luck and will miss him. We have appointed Mrs Karlie Sharp who will be joining the Squirrels class. Mrs Sharp is an experienced LSA and we are very much looking forward to welcoming her.

For very sad personal reasons, Mrs Worth, who has been working in year 6, will also be leaving us. We hope to recruit early in January for a replacement and will keep you informed. In the meantime, contingency plans have been put in place.

Behaviour Policy

We have been working hard this term to rewrite our Behaviour Policy. You will be receiving a letter and copy of the policy outlining the changes. These will impact on every child so I ask you to read this to understand the changes to our policy, rewards and sanctions which will be implemented in January 2019.

Adverse Weather Conditions Statement

This is a reminder about how we make decisions on whether or not to close the school when the weather is extreme enough to merit it. Firstly, it is always our intention to remain open. However, our primary concern is for the health and safety of your children and, without correct numbers of staff, we could not guarantee this. This is the main reason we would have for closing. It is always extremely difficult making decisions about whether or not we should close the school and we take advice from the County. Some of our teaching staff have a long way to travel into work and their local roads are not always safe enough to drive on. We know you will also share with us a duty of care towards their safety.

In the event of adverse weather conditions overnight, our team accepts phone calls from the Headteacher at 6:00 am in the morning to report on conditions in their areas. If these are too dangerous for a significant number of our staff, and it is necessary for us to close the school, we then follow the County procedure by putting out our own information, via our email system, on Twitter and on our school website (<http://www.itchenabbasprimary.co.uk>) in our latest news section. Our aim is to ensure you receive news by 7.15 am. The same procedure would be followed to reopen the school.

If the school opens, as normal, in the morning but conditions deteriorate during the day and we need to close the school, you will be informed via Twitter and telephone. We will try not to do this unless absolutely necessary. Hopefully, we will not need to follow these procedures but if this does occur we would like to thank you all for your support.

And finally...

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. We look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday 7th January 2019 and remind you that our next INSET day is on Friday 25th January.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Aimée Dear', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Aimée Dear