



Ancaster
Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 7 9th December 2016



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Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to Newsletter 7. I hope this communication finds you well. The school is now firmly in the grasp of Christmas and there is a wonderful festive spirit across the school. The sound of the Christmas songs, the creative crafts that are being made, the buzz around the corridors and of course, the glitter are evident for all to see! I absolutely love this time of year in school, as it is truly a wonderful time where the magic of Christmas, seen through a child's eyes, is of complete awe and wonder and an absolute pleasure to witness. On a separate note, the recent parent reading workshop was so well attended. We had 43 parents come into school and listen to Dr Jeannie Bulman, a visiting guest speaker, who discussed very helpful strategies for parents when reading at home and making the most of this very valuable time. If you missed the actual workshop and would like a copy of the slides, please feel free to ask as we have some spare copies and want to share these very important messages with as many parents as possible. For now, may I take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and I hope to see you over the course of the remainder of term to wish you this personally. Have a wonderful Christmas break and I look forward to seeing you in 2017. **Best Wishes, Mr Sam Eden**

Christmas Fayre **Friday 16th December** **1.30pm onwards**



Get in the Christmas spirit and purchase some of your gifts at our annual Christmas Fayre. Each class will be running their own stall plus we've invited local businesses too. We have crafts, gifts, decorations and so much more. You can join in the raffle to win a barrel of booze or a mountain of chocolate, play some games and indulge in some Christmas refreshments (mince pies)!

We are very lucky to have Santa agree to come and see us for the duration of the fayre. He will be delivering the presents from the PTFA to each class and then there will be a very special grotto in which children of all ages can pay to visit him and receive a gift.

Children can be collected from 1.10pm onwards from their classrooms and then at 1.30pm, any remaining children will be in Class Scotland. When collected, children will need to be signed out by an authorised adult who will then take full responsibility for them for the remaining time in school. Any child not collected before 3.30pm will either be helping on stalls or be supervised undertaking Christmas activities in class. ALL children must be collected by 3.30pm.

We are sure to have a wonderful Christmas Fayre and hope that you are able to join us and begin the festive celebrations.

Christmas Diary Dates

Monday 12th December at 2pm-Foundation Stage Christmas Spectacular in school. Parents, friends and family are welcome to attend this performance.

Tuesday 13th December at 2pm/Wednesday 14th December at 2pm -Key Stage 1 performance to parents. *Ticket Only-tickets available from the office.*

Wednesday 14th December-Christmas Dinner Day. *If you have ordered Christmas Lunch for your child this will be served today.*

Thursday 15th December-Christmas Parties in the afternoon. Children will be able to bring any items of food to contribute to the party as well as a change of clothes in a bag. Individual letters will be sent by each class with more information. Our wonderful PTFA have also given a donation to each class of £20 to pay for items for the party.

Friday 16th December-Key Stage 2 Performance in Church at 9.30am. *All welcome for some festive singing and performances.*

Friday 16th December-Christmas Fayre at 1.30pm (see additional information within newsletter).

Monday 19th December-Whole School Trip to see the pantomime at Grantham Guildhall. *We have now finalised the adults for this trip so will not need any additional help on this occasion-thank you for any offers of help.*

Tuesday 20th December-Last day of term.

Tuesday 3rd January 2017-School Closed for INSET.

Wednesday 4th January 2017-School Opens for Term 3.

Breakfast and After School Club



Please be reminded, if you are looking to access either of the clubs in January, remember that you will need to fill out the Nursery's own paperwork **prior** to children being able to utilise the Breakfast or After School Club. Please let us know if you need any help in accessing the forms or otherwise contact the nursery on 01400 231500.

Starting School in September 2017?

If your child, or someone you know is due to start school next September, please be aware that the application round is now open. Should your child have a sibling in school, make sure that this criteria is outlined in the application as this will strengthen the application and secure a place at the school. If someone you know is interested in sending their child to our school we would love to hear from them and will be happy to show them around. This year we have had a record number of enquiries for places and look forward to welcoming the newest intake of children into school ready for the next academic year.

Let's Investigate Curriculum Topic-Term 3/4



When we return in January, we will begin our new topic, which has the umbrella theme of 'Let's Investigate'. We are very excited about this science driven topic as there are many cross curricular links that can be made to bring learning to life for our pupils. Teaching staff have been busily planning the curriculum for next term and have also worked with Dr Jeannie Bulman, the English Consultant, who led the parent reading workshop, to enrich the topic further. In the new year, curriculum maps outlining the topic links as well as the termly letter will be sent to you with more class specific information.

Although this is last official newsletter before the Christmas break, there are plenty of opportunities to keep up to date with everything that is happening in and around school. Follow us on Twitter @ancasterprimary for real time updates from within the school, check the school website as this is also updated regularly. We will also continue to send out information via Parentmail for your attention.

Executive Headship-January 2017

The plans have all now all been finalised for January when the Executive Headship between Ancaster and Welbourn begins. Mrs Talbot is extremely excited to be able to further develop her Deputy Headteacher role and as a non-teaching Deputy Head, she will ensure that the day to day running of the school continues in the absence of Mr Eden whenever he is at Welbourn. Mrs Talbot will still be working with groups of children from across the school, over the course of the week, and will be working closely with every Class Teacher to ensure that the provision for all children is the best it can possibly be.

Mrs Moore, our School Business Leader, will maintain responsibility for the business element of school leadership focusing on the finances of the school and ensuring the school achieves best value in every element of our spending and securing the best possible resources for our pupils.

We are delighted that Mrs Owen will be joining the school's Senior Leadership Team and will have additional responsibilities as well as adequate release time from her class responsibilities to be able to achieve these without impacting on outcomes for her class.

Utilising this fantastic support from the school's Senior Leadership Team, Mr Eden, maintaining the role of Headteacher, will then be able to strategically plan for the continued development of the school, analyse the impact of the provision in place for each pupil and ensure that next steps are identified with relevant procedures and policies in place to offer the best possible education for pupils at Ancaster. The school continues to be supported by our very proactive and strategic Governing Body who offer excellent levels of support and challenge ensuring the school is the best it can be.

This strong leadership structure further increases the capacity of the school to deliver excellent outcomes to pupils and ensure that their right to an outstanding education is upheld. Should you have any questions about this leadership structure, please do not hesitate to ask.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from All Staff, Governors and PTFA!