

Wildmoor Heath School

Newsletter

9th December 2016

PTA Christmas Fayre

Thanks to your amazing support, the PTA is happy to confirm the Christmas Fayre raised a staggering £1,700 profit! The money will continue to be used to subsidise the many trips and enrichment opportunities the school provides as well as support improvement projects across the school. Thanks are due to all those who helped on the day and in particular to Mrs Field-Maziere, who was the chief organiser this year.



Toilet Refurbishment

We recently wrote to you to tell you that the Local Authority has agreed to pay for the children's toilets to be refurbished during the Summer break. This is something we have been pushing for some time and I now the children will be pleased about! In particular, we've wanted the 'outdoor' toilets at the back of Year 3 to be converted into separate boys and girls facilities and it looks like this will now happen. The bad news is that significant problems have been found in the boys' toilets by the Year 4 / 5 cloakrooms. The LA surveyor believes that water is being trapped in the bricks by the large mural on the outside of the wall and that this causing the wall to degrade (and a rotting smell). Further investigation will be carried out shortly, but there is a strong possibility that urgent remedial work will be needed. Unfortunately, this will mean the permanent removal of the mural (shown) and we have been warned that because of the way it was mounted on the wall, it is highly unlikely to survive the work.



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Christmas Angels

We have been overwhelmed by your generosity. Thank you to everyone who has donated. Your gifts have been distributed and we know they were gratefully received. Our thanks to Mrs Talbot and Mrs Norwood who organised the collection this year.



REACHING for our BEST

Parents will be aware that there were significant changes last year to the statutory assessments at the end of Year 2 and Year 6. There have also been changes to the way we assess other years too and we have been working with colleagues across Bracknell Forest and in 'PiXL Primary' (Partners in Excellence - a national network of over 300 schools that share resources and good practice to support school improvement and raise standards) to make sure that we are both accurate and have a common understanding of what 'expected standard' looks like in each year. Another way we have done this is through more formal assessments in Years 3-5 (which the children sat last May / June). We have used the results of these tests, along with the data published about Year 2 and 6 to undertake a Question Level Analysis (QLA). This has allowed us to identify whole school and cohort trends, particularly in maths, reading and writing. This information has been used to make changes – to planning; to resources; to interventions and to approaches. For example, the reading target cards were updated to emphasise stamina, vocabulary development and inference and deduction skills. In maths we found that across the school, the children did less well in questions relating to properties of shape, position and direction, measure and 'reasoning'. In response, the staff has had professional development and we've changed the way we plan maths. We've also had plenty of training to update the way we teach spelling and grammar and have introduced a new scheme to ensure we have a consistent approach. We are already seeing an impact and we are sure that we will see this reflected in our results in the coming year.



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Bikeability

A big well done to the Year 6s who passed their Level 2 'Bikeability' award this week. Level 2 takes place on local streets, giving trainees a real cycling experience. They learn how to deal with traffic on short journeys such as cycling to school or the local shops. At Level 2 the children can prepare for on-road cycling; start and finish an on-road journey; recognise typical hazards; let others know what you are about to do; know where to ride on the road and pass parked vehicles and side roads.



Christmas Activities

Tue 13 Dec: Christmas Concert (9.30am)
Wed 14 Dec: Reindeers Visiting (AM)
Wed 14 Dec: Christmas Concert (6.30pm)
Thu 15 Dec: Year 6 French Market (2.00pm)
Fri 16 Dec: Year R Nativity Play (9.30am)
Fri 16 Dec: Christmas Dinner (Christmas Jumper Day!)
Mon 19 Dec: Class Christmas Parties
Tue 20 Dec: Year R / Year 1 visiting the Pantomime

Our thanks, as ever, for the PTA's financial support with the reindeer visit and trip to the pantomime.



The School Council have chosen to support Save the Children's [Christmas Jumper Day](#) for this year's Charity appeal. We hope children (and staff) will wear festive clothing for Christmas Lunch on Friday 16th December and donate at least £1.00 for doing so.

Bracknell Forest Carol Concert

Well done to the choir for singing so well at the Bracknell Forest Carol Concert last Sunday. It was a lovely evening and as ever, the children did the school proud. My thanks to Mrs Loffhagen for preparing them so well and to Miss Leadbeatter and Mr Peale for giving up their Sundays to attend the event.

Staff Changes

We say a sad farewell to Marie Ratcliffe in the office today. Marie has made a big difference in a short time and we are very sad to see her go. Her replacement, Sarah Webb, starts in January and we look forward to welcoming her to the team.

Dates for Your Diary

(Please check website / School Comms for updates)
20 Dec 16 – Last Day of Autumn Term (usual finish time)
4 Jan 17 – First Day of Spring Term (usual start time)
18-19 Jan 17 – Parent Consultations
20 Jan 17 – Young Voices (London)
6 Feb 17 – International Mindedness Week
9-10 Feb 17 – INSET (School Development Conference)



REACHING for our BEST

Respect - Everyone - Achievement - Courage - Helpful & Caring - Individuality - Never Give Up - Go for It!

