



The Federation of Winklebury Infant and Junior Schools

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Friday 2nd December 2016

Newsletter no. 6

Dear Parents

Health and safety matter

Could I please remind everyone that riding bikes, scooters and other wheeled toys is NOT permitted on the school site by any adult or child. This week one of our junior children was hit in the leg by a pre-school aged child on the playground and sustained bruising to his leg. Please ensure any adults bringing your child to school, or collecting them, know about this. Thank you.

A lost coat

A child in Rabbit Class lost his coat over three weeks ago and it has not turned up. The coat is named. If you have this coat at home or have seen it anywhere, please could you let the Federation Admin Office know. Thank you.

PAWS Christmas Fayre

We are looking forward to seeing you on Saturday 3rd December between 10.30am and 1.00pm for the annual PAWS Christmas Fayre. I know many of you have already brought items in for the fayre, but any last minute donations on Saturday morning are very welcome, including cakes and home-made crackers for the cracker stall. We are unable to provide parking on site, but if you have a disabled badge please buzz at the gate (the Finance and Personnel Office button) and we will let you in.

Thank you!

Children in Need – thank you for helping the children to support this annual appeal - we raised an amazing £395.00.

Operation Christmas Child - thank you for support of this appeal – we were able to send 36 shoeboxes from the federation this year

Bag2School – thank you for having a good clearout – we raised £120 and all ended up with more space which we'll fill at Christmas!

Stand Up To Cancer – we raised £520 for the appeal – thank you.

No Stay and Read sessions week beginning 5th December

At the infant school there will be no Stay and Read sessions week beginning 5th December due to Christmas performances and other events. They will run the last week of term.

Christmas Jumper Day

We will be supporting Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day on **Friday 16th December**. Children (and adults!) may wear a Christmas jumper (or other top) to school in return for a donation to the appeal. *All other uniform is expected to be worn – the jumper or top will replace only the usual school sweatshirt or cardigan and/or the school polo shirt.*

Christmas events

Christmas post boxes will be available from **Monday 5th December** in each school's reception area for school use only please! The children can use the post boxes for their Christmas cards to adults and children in school. Cards will be sorted and delivered by children on a daily basis up to the end of term. *Please help the children by making sure envelopes are clearly labelled with the receiving child's full name, including surname, year group and class.*

PLEASE NOTE - due to our safeguarding duty we will not be able to provide lists of children's names for class Christmas cards. I know this can cause a problem, especially for infant aged children, but we have children with specific safeguarding requirements and it is my duty to ensure I am honouring my legal responsibilities.

Christmas lunch is on Friday 9th December. All the children will take part in their respective schools, regardless of whether they are having a packed lunch or a hot school dinner. We will try to make the occasion special by decorating the halls, providing crackers, playing Christmas music and the staff will serve lunch.

Christmas presentation for parents of children in the infant school and Years 3/4 – you have received a lot of information previously about the performances but *we ask that you leave younger siblings at home or make use of our crèche facility* so that the children's performance is not interrupted and you can enjoy it. Thank you. Please be reminded there is no crèche facility for the two Year 3/4 evening performances and **tickets will be collected on the door at all the Year 3/4 performances.**

All the children will get to see the performances in each school as we have planned for the infants to see the junior school dress rehearsal and vice versa.

This year we are having collection buckets at each performance to try and raise some more funds for IT resources. Thank you in advance for your donations.

I am sorry but we are not able to invite you to join us for coffee and mince pies following each performance this year. Our link with Sainsbury's (who donated the mince pies last year) has now come to an end. We were lucky that the planned year-long link extended beyond the year, but it is now finished. Perhaps we can find another supplier for next year!

Christmas raffle - we will once again be holding our annual raffle for two Christmas hampers which have been put together through staff donations. Tickets will be sold at the performances and Carols Around the Tree and the draw will be held at Carols Around the Tree.

Federation Carols Around the Tree for children and parents from both schools – Thursday 15th December 6.00pm to 7.00pm in the junior school hall. Please come and join us to sing carols and listen to the choir, music groups and children performing readings. Refreshments will be available. *Please be aware children must be accompanied by an adult.* No child should come on his/her own as staff will be busy helping to run the event.

Christmas parties for the children – junior school – Years 3 and 4 Thursday 15th December / Years 5 and 6 Wednesday 14th December. **Infant school** – Wednesday 14th December.

In both schools children may bring clothes to change into for their parties – in a named carrier bag on the day of the party. Please make sure the clothes and shoes are suitable for party games – no high heeled shoes please.

Filming Christmas performances - infant school and Year 3/4 junior school

I am very pleased to tell you that we have once again secured the services of a professional video company to film our Christmas performances this year. The company is run by one of our parents, Mr Clarke, who is once again offering this service at no charge to the schools. Mr Clarke has worked in the video industry since 1988 and from 2005 to 2011 worked exclusively on TV programmes and films. His work continues to include projects for the BBC and commercial companies such as Honda and Sainsbury's. Please be assured we will have taken the required safeguarding checks as we do when we employ someone to work in school.

The performances will be filmed and produced on one DVD so that you only have to buy one DVD if you have children in different classes across the federation. We will charge £8.00 for each DVD to cover the filming and production costs, with £1.00 being donated to P.A.W.S for each DVD sold. We will send out an order form on Monday next week and ask that this is returned to school promptly. Mr Clarke is hoping to have the DVDs ready for the last day of term, but please be aware this will depend on the number ordered and thereby his capacity to produce the number in a very short timescale.

M and M Productions

M and M productions once again visited this week and their performance of 'Cinderella' was enjoyed by the children from both schools. I am very grateful to P.A.W.S for funding these performances for the children with no charge to yourselves. Thank you!

Clubs

The last session for all clubs is next week, week beginning December 5th. There will be no clubs week beginning December 12th except for karate which will still be held. The application forms for clubs for the spring term will be sent out soon.

An additional uniform item

Michael Hope are now stocking hooded sweatshirts which can be used for P.E. – they are being supplied in red for infants and blue for juniors. The hooded sweatshirts are not a required item of uniform – the requirement for P.E kit has not changed, the hooded sweatshirts are there in case you would like them. Please note these are NOT replacing the required school sweatshirt or cardigan – they are only for use for outdoor P.E. and other sporting events such as competitions the children attend. If you are unable to see them online please ask the Federation Admin Team to help you.

Sending in treats for children's birthdays

Please be reminded we do not allow children to bring in sweets or other treats for their birthdays. We have a number of children with food allergies and therefore cannot accept sweets and although you may send in something other than sweets, it can become difficult when some families can afford to do this and others can't. We used to say that parents could give out birthday treats outside the classroom but we are having to stop this now as we have had some issues around children who attend clubs and who are not picked up by their parent.

So, in summary and to prevent any further confusion, we are not able to accept any birthday treats on the federation site for a child to give out on his/her birthday.

What's been happening at the schools?

The regular 'slot' in the newsletters designed to keep you up-to-date!

*The choir will be performing at the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 3rd December.

Opportunities

We have the following information in the schools – if you would like a leaflet please pop in to collect one from the Federation Admin Office or ask us to send one home with your child:

*Spotlight Saturday Theatre School - £3.50 per week – book at admin@spotlight.org or call 01256 325420 for further details

Dates

Remaining inset days 2016-2017 when school is closed to the children:

*Monday 27th February 2017

*Tuesday 28th February 2017

*Friday 7th April 2017

This term ends on Friday 16th December at the normal time of 3.00pm.

The children return to school on Tuesday 3rd January 2017.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C.A.Clayton
Head of Federation

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ON REQUEST TO EITHER SCHOOL**