



The Federation of Winklebury Infant and Junior Schools

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Friday 4th November 2016

Newsletter no. 5

Dear Parents

Our new Admin Manager

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Helen Wood to the role of Admin Manager. Mrs Wood started with us on Monday and has had a very busy week learning a great many new things! We welcome her to the federation and hope she soon settles into life at the schools. You will find her based in the Federation Admin Office.

The Poppy Appeal

In support of Remembrance, we are taking poppies round to the classes from **Monday 7th November to Friday 11th November inclusive**. If you wish your child to make a donation to this annual appeal run by The Royal British Legion, please send the donation in an envelope marked for the purpose. Please be aware we do not talk to the children about 'buying' a poppy, we refer to 'making a donation to the appeal'.

In response to questions from parents last year, your child may wear a remembrance charity wristband for the week Monday 7th November to Friday 11th November inclusive. Please note we are not providing these in school in return for a donation to the appeal.

For your information, on Friday 11th November at 11.00am we will be marking the nations' two minutes silence in remembrance. Please be assured this will be done in context appropriate to the age of the children.

Children in Need

We will once again, across both schools, be supporting Children in Need on **Friday 18th November**. The theme this year is 'Spotacular'. In support of the day, the children (and staff if they wish!) can dress up in clothes with spots on and we will be focusing our assemblies that week on the theme of this year's appeal.

In return for dressing up, each child is asked to bring in a money donation for the appeal. Please send the donation to school in an envelope marked for the purpose. If you wish to make a donation yourself please pop it into the Federation Admin Office.

Please remember the children have to get through a normal school day, so if they are dressing up please make sure footwear and clothing is suitable for playing outside at break times and lunchtime – thank you.

In answer to questions from parents in previous years, the children can wear face paint on this occasion and hair accessories are permitted, but please make sure your child understands the face paint has to stay on all day and can transfer to clothing and school work, which will not be appropriate!

Please note, if your child decides to wear non-uniform that day he/she is expected to make a donation to the appeal. Children who do not wish to take part and make a donation must wear school uniform as usual.

Tescos – Bags of Help scheme – please support the schools!

As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, we have been very fortunate to be selected by Tescos to be included in their Bags of Help Scheme. Shoppers are given tokens for their purchases in local Tesco stores, including Chineham, The Malls and Hook. Shoppers then select one of the three local causes and place their token

accordingly. We are included for our project to continue our grounds development, namely the installation of an outdoor bandstand structure which will be used for outdoor performance, an outdoor learning area and seating for children when on the field. **Please shop in Tesco's and use your tokens for our cause – and encourage family members, work colleagues, friends and neighbours to do the same!** Thank you.

Reminder - Bring a Bulb to School Week – continuing through week beginning 7th November

This will be the sixth year of a 'Winklebury tradition' – 'Bring a Bulb to School Week'. In order to continue our work to improve the school grounds for the children, we would like to encourage more colour and flowers through planting bulbs across the site. If every child and member of staff brought two or three bulbs to school we'd have a lot to plant in the grounds and hopefully a good show in the spring! Last year's donations all came up but we need lots more bulbs to create a really good 'show'. Please consider supporting us in this and send your child to school with some bulbs any time from now up to Friday 11th November. The bulbs will be collected at the Federation Admin Office. Thank you in advance for your support.

Reminder - Operation Christmas Child

We are once again supporting the 'Operation Christmas Child' project. Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project and delivers shoeboxes of Christmas gifts to children around the world who would otherwise not have a present to open on Christmas morning.

If you would like to donate a Christmas Shoebox, you need to wrap an average sized shoe box in bright Christmas paper and then fill it with gifts suitable for a child, for example a doll, a football with a pump, a cuddly toy, hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, bar of soap, flannel, comb) and school supplies (pencils, pens, notebooks, colouring books). You then need to attach an Operation Christmas Child label for either a girl or a boy and indicate the age your box is aimed at (available on website or from the Federation Admin Office). Finally, you need to include a £3 shipping donation to cover transportation costs. Further details of how to pack your shoe box and ideas for what to include are available in the leaflet 'How to Pack Your Shoebox Gift', available in the Federation Admin Office or online at www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ.

Each class will also be making a class shoebox, so if you are unable to help your child fill a shoebox, but would like to send in an item or two, we will use these in our class shoeboxes.

Please bring all shoebox donations into school **by Friday 11th November** and we will arrange to transport all the shoeboxes to a local collection point.

What's been happening at the schools?

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

* Our Head Boy and Head Girl will be representing the federation by laying a wreath at the annual Remembrance Day service in Basingstoke on Sunday November 13th. Please go along to the War Memorial to support them.

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:

* There are no new opportunities to tell you about since my last newsletter!

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.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C.A.Clayton
Head of Federation

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ON REQUEST TO EITHER SCHOOL**