



Slaley First School



Friday 15th December 2023

Dear Parents,

Here we are with only one week left to go before school closes for our Christmas break!

We very much hope that you enjoyed our nativity performances this week and we were extremely proud of our children who we think are amazing! We have taken some photographs of the children beside the Christmas tree in their costumes and we will send these home next week.

Don't forget that we have our usual 'Carols By Candlelight' performance on Tuesday next week and ideally we need as many children as possible back at school (we do understand that it may be a little too tiring for our nursery children however.) FoSS will be organising mince pies and mulled wine and it will be a chance for us all to have a Christmas sing along together! Santa will be arriving in the village at approximately 5.30pm so we aim to be finished by then.

Reading Den

As you know, Sarah Fae came to school last week to open our new reading den and this week we have begun using it. Our Reading Ambassadors will be working on making a big book with some of the children in there next week which will be lovely; it is a great resource and a little warm sanctuary on cold lunchtimes.

School Library

Our lady from the Library Service has been into school again today and she has been continuing to organise our library for us. This will be completed in the holidays which will mean the children can start using the library again in January (apologies, as they haven't been going to the library whilst there have been improvements taking place.) We have our topic boxes on order and we are also looking forward to receiving these in January.

Anaphylaxis

You may remember a little while ago we carried out some lessons with the children (at an age appropriate level) in order to raise awareness of anaphylaxis. We have now almost achieved the **AllergyWise@** award, as all staff (including Mr Charlton, our Caretaker) have also completed the required training. We are just waiting for acknowledgement from Anaphylaxis UK and then we will let you know!

Fund Raising

Christmas Hampers - Thank you to those of you who donated items and purchased raffle tickets for the hampers at our shopping night. Once I have the total amount raised confirmed I will let you know how much money we have to buy maths manipulatives to support our new maths curriculum.

FoSS Treats - Money raised from FoSS treats sold at the shopping night and after the nativity will go towards the cost of the Image Theatre who will be visiting us again on Friday 15th March 2024. (The cost for this has increased again this year, and is now £450.)

Christmas Jumper Day

As shared on our last few newsletters, we will be holding our Christmas Jumper Day on Wednesday 20th December. The children are more than welcome to come to school with a Christmas jumper on (or simply non-school uniform only if they wish.) Mrs Seymour will also be making Christmas lunch on this day and we are also expecting a special visitor to arrive!

Photographs

We are looking for ways of sharing photographs on mass of children who have been on local outings and/or trips etc. We have researched the use of the one drive, but it seems that everyone who is given access can see the email addresses of others who can also view the file. As you know, this is not ideal! We were thinking that we could maybe share photographs on ClassDojo instead, however, we would not do this without permission to do so. Next week we will be sending home a consultation letter regarding this, so please look out for this!

Curriculum Meeting

Last half term we held curriculum meetings for Larch and Pine classes. Mrs O'Neill will hold her curriculum meeting as promised after Christmas when we will also be organising a trip for Spruce Class. Please watch this space for both of these dates!

Online Safety Working Group

As part of the recommendations in the new Keeping Children safe in Education document (KCSIE 23), we have formed an online safety group. We would like to share recommendations re keeping your children safe online with you in a parents meeting after Christmas. Again, watch this space for an upcoming date.

Second Hand Uniform

Please don't forget that we do have a small stock of second hand uniform in the clubroom. We open up this facility on Friday nights, straight after school. Please just ask if you would like to have a little look; all items are free of charge.

Last day - Friday 22nd December

Please don't forget that we finish school at 1.30pm on Friday. Children can be collected from the yard at the back of the school in the usual way..

Have a lovely weekend everyone,

Mrs Hayward 😊

Dates for your Diary

Christmas Events

Tuesday 19th December – Carols By Candlelight – time to be confirmed early next week.

Wednesday 20th December (All day) – Christmas Jumper and Lunch Day

Friday 22nd December at 1.30pm – Last Day of Term

Monday 8th January 2024 – Spring Term begins

January 2024

Monday 8th January – Return to school

Monday 15th January – Pippa Wild Dance workshop