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**Newsletter 15 – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024**



Dear Parents,



We loved welcoming Father Christmas to school today. Max, the school dog, loved helping!

Wow, what a week in the life of St Ives Primary School! Firstly I would like to say as the headteacher how proud I am of all the children for taking part in some spectacular Christmas productions. The KS2 children far surpassed our expectations of them in 'What a Knight!' panto at the Merryfield Theatre, Verwood Hub this week. All the children really were quite spectacular with incredible talent on show and what an experience for our young people to have, performing in a professional theatre, a memory they will never forget! KS1 were amazing and our very youngest children deserve the biggest cheer, Nursery got up on stage, sang, danced and smiled through their song! It was lovely to see such joy, fun and happiness amongst our children, something I am sure you would all agree all our children deserve and need for their positive and emotional wellbeing.

As I look back over the term, I cannot believe what we have achieved in such a short space of time! The highlights have been:

- New Reception and Nursery children starting
- Remembrance Art Exhibition
- A wealth of sporting & music achievements
- Happy and healthy children
- Children's Christmas Performances – what super performances and such talent! I hope you all enjoyed these!
- Children's progress and learning – every child has moved forward in their learning

I know at this time of the year there is pressure to create a perfect 'magical' Christmas. I know that as parents you want to give your children the magic of Christmas and ensure he brings the best presents and sometimes that means a bit (or a lot in some cases!) of stress for you. As a Headteacher I want to share something with you:

When your child/children arrive back to school in January they tell us all about the Christmas holidays. They tell us about the days when the whole family stayed indoors and watched TV or went for a walk in the freezing cold. They tell us about being with Grandparents and then being excited when you come back from work. They tell us about how you let them snuggle in bed, how you played cards and took them swimming one day and forgot their towel! They tell us about New Year's Eve and how they stayed up until midnight, how they loved staying in their PJ's some days and about a trip out another day. They mention their gifts, but for them Christmas is you and your love, time and routines and feeling safe. Time with you is their favourite present. Wishing you a merry Christmas!

**Hot Meals ordering deadline**

Please note that the deadline for orders for the first week back is **Christmas Day** and for the 2<sup>nd</sup> week back is **New Year's Day**. We have been advised that if you do not receive an email receipt, your order will not be confirmed.

## Key Stage 2 Reading Books

In the new term, the KS2 year groups will be reading the following texts during their group read sessions. Please can you ensure your child has a copy ready for the first day back so they can participate fully in their lessons. Many thanks.

Year 3 - Iron Man by Ted Hughes  
Year 4 - Podkin One Ear by Kieran Larwood  
Year 5 - Wonder by R J Palacio  
Year 6 - Rooftoppers by Katherine Rundell

## WOW Days for the Spring term – some pre-warning for costumes!

- YR - WOW Day on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January. Our theme is 'Amazing Africa'. The children can come dressed as African animals
- Y1 - WOW Day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. Our theme is Paws, Claws and Whiskers, the children can dress as an animal of their choice, more information on SeeSaw
- Y2 - WOW Day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. Theme is "What's your super power?" The children are invited to dress as Superheroes!
- Y3 - WOW Day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. Our theme will be Heroes and Villains, Please come dressed as a hero or villain, they can be fictional or real, Florence Nightingale, Robin Hood, Batman or Darth Vader etc.
- Y4 - WOW Day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. Theme is "I'm in the Rainforest, get me out of here!" The children are invited To dress as explorers or Rainforest animals.
- Y5 - WOW day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. 'May the force be with you!' is our theme in January, can the children please dress as scientists or Star Wars themed and in trainers please
- Y6 - WOW Day on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January. Theme is "Darwin's Delights" and teaches the children about Charles Darwin and his work on The Theory of Evolution and Natural Selection. The children will be invited to come into school dressed in clothing appropriate to the theme; explorers, scientists, animals linked to Darwin's theories such a monkeys or finches.

## PE Days

For the new Spring Term there will be a change to PE Days. Please note the **NEW PE Days**:

- YR – Tuesday & Wednesday  
Y1 – Monday & Wednesday  
Y2 – Monday & Wednesday  
Y3 – Wednesday & Thursday  
Y4 – Wednesday & Thursday  
Y5 – Monday & Thursday  
Y6 – Monday & Thursday

## Drop off bay

Please be aware the bus bay outside school is to be used as a drop off bay both at the beginning and end of school. Don't forget the zone is open from 3.05pm for parents and children to wait for KS2 children. Please refrain from standing in the bus bay.

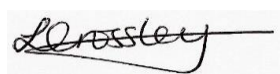
## Dates for Diary

### January 2025

6th Back to school

On behalf of Governors and Staff I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Crossley  
Headteacher

