

Burford Primary School Newsletter



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Head Teacher's Messages

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Our **Christmas performances** will be held in Burford Church next Tuesday 18th December, at 2.00 p.m. for **Warwick & Windrush** children and 6.00 p.m. for **Tolsey & Priory** children. All parents/carers/grandparents/relations welcome.

CHRISTMAS ROAST LUNCH

The children's Christmas lunch is on **Wednesday next week** - £2.20 payable on ParentPay (under lunches) for children in Nursery, Tolsey & Priory class. Please note if your child would prefer not to have a Roast dinner, please supply them with a nut free packed lunch from home. Any vegetarian requests, please let the office know by Monday. (See attached poster for menu).

CHRISTMAS 'MONEY' TREE

Burford Primary School continues to support the African Children's Fund. The children decorated a large picture of a Christmas tree with coins and **raised £51.11**.



The African Children's organization will use this money to buy books, toys and games for children aged between 2 and 15 years old who have been rescued off the streets of Kampala, Uganda. Many of these children have been abused or neglected before finding themselves homeless in the slums of the city.

The African Children's Fund works with a wonderful organisation called SAFE (Strategic Action for the Eradication of Child Abuse), who rescue these children and care for them in a safe house on the edge of Kampala until a permanent home can be found for them. The children stay at the home for an average of 9-12 months and are nurtured and cared for until they are ready to be placed back with a family. The home is a real haven, and the books, toys and games will be so appreciated by children, who come to the home with nothing.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAYRE

The recent Book Fayre proved very popular and it **raised £40.30 worth of free books for our school** – thank you to all those who made a purchase. Happy reading.

PARENTS OF NURSERY AGE CHILDREN

If your child was born on or between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015, you need to apply for a primary school place by 15th January 2019. Apply online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

TERM ENDS

We finish for the Christmas break on **Friday (21st) at 1.10 p.m.** (no afterschool club provision on this day) and recommence on **Monday 7th January**.

I hope you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all again in 2019.

Jenny Dyer, Head Teacher

AUTUMN TERM CLASS UPDATE

WARWICK CLASS

This term I have been so proud of Warwick Class. We have continued to learn new phonemes and digraphs and apply them in both our reading and writing. In maths we have continued to build upon our work on number as well as looking at and making patterns with 2d shapes.

We have celebrated Harvest and Diwali, enjoyed all weathers at Forest School and are now fully immersed in Christmas rehearsals for our show next Tuesday in Church. Father Christmas and Rudolph have even been writing to us!

I would like to thank all parents for your continued support in everything we do with your children and wish you all a very relaxing and fun filled Christmas.

WINDRUSH CLASS

In Windrush Class, we have had a very busy term working hard to improve our handwriting. The children have all been starting to use cursive handwriting and some are joining. We have also been writing stories, report writing and creating poetry and created some super stories about the texts 'Wombat goes Walkabout' and 'Wombat Stew'. The children enjoyed learning about 'Boy Soldiers' in the First World War and wrote reports. Now we are working on the text 'The Tale of Jack Frost' by David Melling. We are creating poetry and then will be writing the story.

In Maths, the focus has been on securing a good understanding of place value, addition and subtraction and shape and space. We have worked hard learning different methods for mental addition to make it more efficient.

WINDRUSH CLASS CONT/D...

In Science we learnt about animals and their habitats and what makes us healthy and how the body works. We also carried out simple investigations on how objects fall. Our topic work focussed on Global Explorers and we have travelled around the world finding out about different environments and comparing them to our own. We spent a long time in Australia and learnt about Captain Cook and created some lovely Aboriginal Art.

TOLSEY CLASS

This term 'kicked-off' with the children creating fantastic posters containing facts about World War Two. Whilst these were all great, a special mention must go to Lily O'Brien whose background was made of propaganda posters! We began this topic by learning about World War One: why it started; the consequences for Germany at its close and the importance of Remembrance Day.

To honour Remembrance Day, we studied the poem 'In Flanders Field' and wrote our own poppy poems. We followed this up by learning about the awful conditions of trenches and wrote a poem using personification to describe this. In our English lessons, we also wrote an information text about Boy Soldiers in World War One.

During our Topic work we discovered why children were evacuated and learnt about the Battle of Dunkirk. As this is a large topic with many areas the children would still like to cover, we will continue with this topic after the Christmas break.

In our Maths sessions, we have been learning how to add and subtract numbers with up to four digits, using formal written methods and how to multiply and divide by 10 and 100. Recently we learned/revise how to tell time using analogue clocks. This is an area that many are finding tricky; lots of revision and practise is needed over the Christmas holiday!

The Year 4s took part in a Hakka dance held by Burford Secondary School; they spent the morning learning two different Hakkas and their importance. I was really pleased at how well they represented our school and their enthusiasm.

PRIORY CLASS

Priory children have worked to a very high standard throughout the term, exemplified in their writing which covers biographies, narratives and chronological reports. Cross-curricular work has incorporated History, Geography, Mathematics and Science with the children, for example, using data from the 19th century Cholera Epidemic to construct accurate line graphs.

Number work, including fractions, decimals and percentages has been a real focus this term, with children confidently carrying out some very complex calculations alongside the learning of the times tables.

There has been a real drive to improve the fluency of handwriting and the children should feel very proud of their achievements – presentation in books is exemplary. Well done Priory!

Gold Book Certificates

Awarded Thursday 20th December @ 9.00 a.m.

Frederick Howard for being amazing learning his sounds and having such a fabulous imagination when playing with his friends.

Sophia Wilkins for great progress with number work. Keep up the hard work.

Corey Walker for making excellent progress in Maths. Keep up that super attitude towards your learning. What a super star!

Konrad Harrison for making excellent progress in reading and for becoming more independent when writing. You always sit and listen beautifully and are a pleasure to teach.

Ruby Agg for making Mrs Gibbs and I super proud of you during your swimming lessons. At the beginning of the term, you were nervous about swimming in the big pool. But by the end of the term, you were happily swimming lengths! Great job.

Selina Khan for making great progress in your swimming lessons. You are now confidently swimming up and down the pool. You have made your adults really proud of you. Excellent work.

Thomas Elvidge for being very well behaved and focusing on his work at all times.

Madison McDowall-Gilbert for concentrating hard to ensure she always produces her best work.

Golden Post Box

Awarded Thursday 20th December @ 9.00 a.m.

A big Well Done to **Kian Hickman-Duffy** for writing his own Christmas song using his own lyrics, composing the music on drums and guitar and then recording the song onto a CD, whilst playing the drums and singing at the same time. He performed on Saturday 1st December at the Langdale Hall in Witney to 100 + people - congratulations Kian for cutting your first CD. We are all so proud of you – such an achievement – well done 'Rockstar'.

Congratulations to **Siân Lewis** for being awarded The Chief Scouts Bronze Award. Well done.

GOVERNOR UPDATE - SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Burford Primary is an ambitious school, with high expectations for all children and staff, aiming to provide excellence in education. Our values 'Respect, Aspire, Achieve' underpin the work of the school and through the School Improvement Plan (SIP), strategic priorities are agreed and monitored by the Governing Body, Head Teacher and staff. It is informed by the school's rigorous self-evaluation system, monitoring by the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust and moderation by the Local Authority; areas for improvement, as identified in the most recent Ofsted Report, September 2018, are also incorporated.

The SIP, which can be found on the school website, is categorised into six main areas and each area is monitored by a Governor throughout the academic year, working in partnership with school, to ensure it delivers the best education for its pupils. So far this year the following visits have taken place:

- 08/11/2018 - the Lead Governor for monitoring pupil behaviour, safety and attendance visited school. This included a playground and classroom learning walk, attendance at an assembly and looking through data for any patterns of absence and interventions in place to support families. The overall outcome of this visit in all areas was very positive and fed back and discussed at the Local Governing Body meeting on 19 November 2018.
- 29/11/2018 – the Lead Governor for raising attainment in Science carried out a learning walk and spoke with pupils in all classes in order to obtain 'pupil voice'. The outcome was very positive and fed back and discussed at the Local Governing Body meeting on 10/12/2018.
- 06/12/2018 – the Lead Governor for monitoring pupil behaviour, safety and attendance recently visited school. Since the start of the academic year there have only been 2 reported incidents that have resulted in behaviour forms and the attendance of pupils is above national average (96.69%). The outcome of this visit was positive and fed back and discussed at the Local Governing Body meeting on 10/12/2018.

Following a monitoring visit, governors identify a focus for their next visit and questions to ask for clarification. Our last Local Governing Body this academic year took place on Monday 10/12/2018. We will continue to meet monthly throughout the academic year with our next meeting on 31/01/2019.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Zoey Khan, Chair of Governors.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.





CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Wednesday 19th December

ROAST TURKEY
CHIPOLATA SAUSAGE
STUFFING
ROAST POTATOES
PEAS CARROTS
SPROUTS
GRAVY

VEGETARIAN OPTION

CHRISTMAS SPONGE & CUSTARD

£2.20 for Nursery, Tolsey & Priory children
(payable via ParentPay – lunches)

(Please note there will be no school packed lunch or jacket
potato provision on this day)