

Friday 1 December 2017 Newsletter



Christmas has arrived at Somersetford Primary!

Yesterday we had a special assembly to learn about what exciting things will be happening in school over the Christmas period. We will also be learning about the Christmas story in our RE lessons and assemblies. Watch our Nativity scene growing in Reception as we learn more of the story.

Mrs Matthews and Mrs Frampton

This week's challenge...

In one of our assemblies this week we learnt about the Jewish festival of Hannukah.

We talked about how we could act like a light, bringing joy to someone's day. The children were challenged to think of kind things they could do to make someone's day better. We hope they are doing this at home too!

After school clubs

Please note that next week is the last week for after school clubs this half term. Clubs will start back the week beginning 8th January. There are still some spaces available in some clubs so please sign up with Hannah in Reception if you are interested.

Due to popular demand, Mrs Rosam will be running a second Minecraft Club on a Monday night.

Miss Ramos is also opening her Portuguese club up to Y5 and 6 children.

Christmas

This year we have two post boxes in school for children to post their Christmas cards to their friends; one in KS1 and one in KS2. If your child is bringing cards in to hand out, please make sure they have written the child's name and class on the envelope before popping them in the post box. Cards will be delivered on a daily basis to classes.

Each day in assembly, our giant Advent Box will be opened and there will be a gift that can be used by the whole school. Today's gift was books for the library and playground equipment.

And finally, we have all been very excited to learn that we have been sent a very special visitor. Each day our school elf will hide somewhere around the school. Whichever child finds him will be allowed to take him home for the evening. He has brought a special book with him so if you are lucky enough to have the elf for the night, please encourage your child to write or draw about their adventures with him and remember to bring him back the next day!

Address:

Draper Road, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 3AS

Tel: (01202) 485436

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Email: office@somerford.dorset.sch.uk

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Executive Headteacher : Sandra Matthews

Head of School : Helen Frampton

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Advent Fair

A huge thank you to the PTA who have been in school all of today (and many days before!) preparing for the Advent Fair this evening. We are sure it will be a fantastic event and look forward to telling you how much we have raised on the next newsletter.

This year the PTA are raising money for books and computing equipment and we appreciate all of your support.

New Governor

We would like to welcome Reverend Paul O'Connor to our Governing Body. He is based at High Cross Church and is keen to become more involved in the school and local community. We are really pleased he has joined our team!

In January, the Governors will be holding elections for a new Parent Governor. If you are interested in finding out more about this role, please ask to speak to Mrs Frampton.

Complaints

Please can we remind you that the school has a Complaints Policy that is available from the school website or as a paper copy from Reception. In the policy it states that the first step in registering a complaint is to talk to the school. If you do not feel you can do this, then you may put your complaint formally in writing.

The school is keen to work with parents to resolve any issues they may have. However, these issues cannot be resolved via social media. We have been saddened to hear of the negative posts on Facebook but would like to thank the numerous parents who came in to school over the last couple of days to offer their support to the school. All of the staff work incredibly hard to support the children and families at our school and it has upset everyone to hear what has been posted about the school. Advice has been sought from the Local Authority's legal team and the police, as individuals were named on posts that are seen by large numbers of people. The Governors will then consider if action is necessary.

Once again, thank you to those parents who have supported our hard working staff.

On 15th December Mrs Doherty and Mr Walsh will be holding our next parents' coffee morning at 9.00am. Please come along for a drink and festive treats and share your views.

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Rocket Fund

The school currently has a live 'Rocket Fund' fundraising campaign to raise money for computing equipment in school.

Please would you share the link with your family and friends, and if you could spare a £1 or two to help us reach our target that would be much appreciated too.

You can find the fund at:

<https://rocket.fund/p/Somerfordneedsyourhelp/>

Priory Carol Concert

On Monday, ALL Junior children will be performing in the Priory at our annual Christmas Service. This is a magical event and certainly puts everyone in a Christmas mood! The children have been working extremely hard to learn our songs, and this year we will also be performing a joint carol with The Grange. Please come along and support your child. The children need to arrive at 5.30pm in smart school uniform. The service starts at 6pm and will be finished within an hour.

See you there!

Mrs Hinz-James and Mrs Cook

Nativity Performances

If you haven't already collected your tickets for the Infant nativities, please do so from the main Reception. Each family will be allocated two tickets for each performance. If you do not want all of these tickets, please return them to the office. Any spare tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis on the day.

Please note that no tickets are required for the Gosling performance.

Christmas Lunch

Please note that the deadline for ordering Christmas lunch has passed.

All children will be offered a cracker on the day of their special lunch. If you do not want your child to have a cracker, please inform your child's class teacher in advance.

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Staffing update

Phase Leaders:
 YN and YR – Mrs Hinz-James
 Y1 and Y2 – Mrs Semple
 Y3 and Y4 – Mrs Cook
 Y5 and Y6 – Mrs Hudson

If you have a concern, please raise it with your child's class teacher in the first instance. If you feel it has not been resolved or you would like to speak to someone else, the Phase Leaders will be able to help you.

Swimming

Year 4 will swim for their last session on Monday. In January, Year 3 will start swimming lessons. A letter has been sent out with more details. Please remember payments for swimming can be made on Agora.

Flu Vaccination

On Tuesday 5th December children from Year 1 to Year 4 will be receiving their flu nasal spray. If you wish your child to have the immunisation, please make sure you have returned the consent form completed in full. If you need a new form, please speak to Miss Miles or Hannah.

News from our community

Matt Fiddes Martial Arts

Every Monday:
 4.15-4.45 Mighty Matt's classes for 3-6 year olds
 5.00-5.45 Junior classes for 7-12 year olds
 6.00-7.00 Ladies only kick boxing classes
 1st session and uniform is free. For more information or to book a free trial call 07585 211627
 Burton Community Centre, Sandy Plot, Burton, BH23 7NQ

BIC Pantomime

Please see the attached flyer for details of this year's pantomime at the BIC, Jack and the Beanstalk.

The next newsletter will be on Friday 15th December 2017 which is the last day of term. School closes at the normal time.

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