



29th Nov 06

Dear Parents,

As November draws to an end and December fast approaching we felt a further update would be useful. Over the last few weeks of term the children in KS2 participate in Christmas activity afternoons on a Tuesday. These sessions will replace the enrichment activities, which have been a great success. Next term the children will once again choose an activity for the enrichment sessions which will re-start in January.

We are also taking advantage of an opportunity to work with the children in Y4. We have planned a range of small group sessions, with cross curricular links, for small groups. We will be working in this way with children in Y4 until the end of the current term. These sessions will run alongside the curriculum and enable us to meet individual needs even more effectively.

Value

Our value for December is sharing, and with Christmas coming we will have a wealth of opportunity to explore this in detail through PSHE, assemblies, the Christmas Story and activities.

Christmas Performances

Wed	6 th Dec	9.30am - Mrs Willis/Mrs Mozley & Mr Orr's class
Thurs	7 th Dec	9.30am - Mrs Dove & Mrs Bates class
Fri	8 th Dec	9.30pm - Foundation Stage

Christmas Disco

Fri	8 th Dec	5.00 – 6.30pm Foundation Stage, Y1 & Y2 7.00 – 8.30pm Y3 & Y4
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Christmas Parties

Tues	12 th Dec	Y2
Wed	13 th Dec	Y4
Thurs	14 th Dec	Y3
Fri	15 th Dec	Y1
Mon	18 th Dec	Foundation Stage

Diary

Dec	Mon	11 th	2.00pm - New Parents meeting in Foundation Unit (Jan intake)
	Wed	13 th	9.30am – KS2 Choir Performance
	Fri	15 th	Christmas Dinner (all dinners should now have been booked - unable to take orders on the day).
	Mon	18 th	1.45pm KS2 visit Flitwick Baptist Church
	Wed	20 th	End of Term

CHILDREN IN NEED

A big thank you from 'Pudsey' the school raised £145 from the sale of Pudsey badges. The grand total from sales of Pudsey badges in the area was £1.548.53. A thank you letter is on the Parents notice board. Mufti Day raised a further £122.92 bringing the school total to £267.92

Christmas Fayre and Poplars Grotto

The PTA would like to thank everyone who was involved in the above fundraising events, setting up, donations, helping on the day and especially attending. Together, we have raised an amazing £900 for the school! WELL DONE!

Raffle tickets for the Christmas Draw are still available from Mrs Inskip along with the last few bags of REINDEER FOOD (50p per bag). The prizes are detailed on the Parent Notice board and the draw will take place during assembly on Friday 15th December.

School Disco – Friday 8th December

Tickets are selling fast for both disco's so don't delay in buying your ticket to avoid disappointment.

Anti-Bullying Week

Following our successful Anti-Bullying Week we thought it would be helpful to parents to clarify the processes established in school when such issues occur.

Definition of Bullying (Policy).

- In our school we believe bullying is a deliberately hurtful behaviour or act, either as a single or repeated incident. Victims of bullying may feel physical and/or emotional threat or pain.

Definition of Bullying (Children's views over the last week).

- "Bullying is deliberate, it happens more than once and it is unfair".

Steps taken to address issues around Bullying.

Children are:

- encouraged to tell an adult – Class teacher, Ark staff, Head teacher, Lunchtime support staff, learning support staff, Parents.
- Worry Box – write a message and post in worry box.
- If they see an incident they are encouraged to tell an adult.

Staff:

- Always take such issues seriously.
- Listen carefully and issues are initially dealt with by class teacher
- The majority of incidents are dealt with quickly, effectively by class teacher in conjunction with other staff as appropriate.

If an incident recurs:

- Referred to Ark staff

Further investigation takes place and outcome dealt with by class teacher and/or headteacher (issues that arise may be complex, and for that reason it may be necessary to conduct an investigation over a period of time).

- Keep parents informed of progress of investigation and that of their child (either by discussion in school or a telephone call)
- Respect confidentiality
- To work in partnership with parents to address issues

Parents:

- To inform school of any concerns
- Respect confidentiality
- Work in partnership with staff to address issue

As parents and staff we recognise that Bullying is a complex issue, and we endeavour to identify and address the needs of all children involved in these incidents.

While Anti-bullying raises the profile of such issues, this is ongoing work within the school, and is addressed through Values and PSHE throughout the year.

Any parent wishing further clarification may find the school policy on the parents notice board.

As ever, the next few weeks will simply fly by. If you have any cause for concern regarding your child in school please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or staff in the Ark in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Lynne Birch



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE