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Newsletter 14 – 15th December 2023



Dear Parents,

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 'Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits' 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
- Make & Take and 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 2nd 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.

We have a vacancy! Are you interested? Do you know anyone?

We are seeking an Afterschool Club Leader and also an Assistant Cook to join our friendly team. For further details, please email the office.

After School Club leader – 2.30pm – 6.00pm

£20.00 per hour

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

- YR - WOW Day on Thursday 4th January. Our theme is 'Amazing Africa'. The children can come dressed as African animals
- Y1 - WOW Day on Friday 5th 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 5th January. Theme is "What's your super power?" The children are invited to dress as Superheroes!
- Y3 - WOW Day on Friday 5th 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 5th 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 5th 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 4th 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 & Friday
Y1 – Tuesday & Friday
Y2 – Tuesday & Friday
Y3 – Thursday & Friday
Y4 – Thursday & Friday
Y5 – Monday & Thursday
Y6 – Monday & Thursday

Max – The School Dog

We are very proud to introduce Max, the St Ives School dog. Max has been very carefully chosen to ensure he is calm, responsive and nurturing in the presence of children and adults. He will grow up in the school environment becoming fully accustomed to the routines of the day and supportive of children within the school. Max is enrolled on the PAWS Therapy School Dog training. Further info will come out in January.



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.

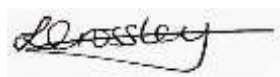
Dates for Diary

January

2nd 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

