

# Newsletter December 2017

## **Head of School Update**

December always promises to be the most magical and exciting month of the school year, and this year at Weston St Mary certainly hasn't disappointed so far. The hall is looking magical with a magnificent Christmas tree which was kindly donated by Baytree Garden Centre, and the children and staff are extremely grateful for the generosity Baytree have shown. It has helped to make our school feel truly Christmassy. The school has filled with the sound of our youngest children rehearsing their Christmas Performance and we are very excited to see the results of their hard work on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, when they perform in the Village Hall (2pm start). Other events to look forward to are our Christmas Party (Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December) and the Christmas Carol Service (Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December in church). We hope you will join us for the latter of these; the children have been working hard to prepare lots of things to share with you.

School Parliament have been working very hard this month, and part of their responsibilities has been to organise and lead our Christingle Service. They did an excellent job, sharing prayers, poems and facts, all inspired by Christingle. They have also been to church to decorate two Christmas trees with decorations made by the children during our Chill Out Club at lunchtime. Photos of this can be found on our school website, in the Pupil Voice section.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting our anti-bullying day by sending your children to school in odd socks and for your generous contributions to Children in Need. Our non-uniform day and cake stall raised an impressive £54.78. Thank you also to those who sent money in for the Poppy Appeal. The children observed a 2 minute silence on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00am and we were moved by their mature and respectful approach to the event.

## **Open Mornings**

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended our Open Mornings in November. We were very pleased with the positive feedback that we received and have scheduled more of these mornings for the Spring term. More details on this follow soon.

## **Special Needs Support**

As the school's SENDCo, Mrs Flack is available between 9.30 and 11.00am on Wednesday mornings should any parents or carers wish to discuss any concerns they may have regarding their child's special education needs. Please make contact with the office to make an appointment.

## **Reception Intake 2018**

If you, or anyone you know, has a child who is due to begin school in September 2018, please note that the online application process to choose your school place is now open on the Lincolnshire County Council website. The closing date for parents to apply for a school place is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at noon.

## **Updating Changes**

If your child has a change in medical circumstances, please notify the school office so that we can keep our records up to date and ensure that all staff are aware of each child's conditions.

Please also notify us if any of your contact details change.

## **Playground Safety**

Just a gentle reminder that riding bikes and scooters within the school grounds is not allowed by children or adults and we respectfully ask for your support in this matter.

## **School Parliament Fundraising**

The School Parliament have decided to support Save the Children by taking part in their Christmas Jumper day on 15<sup>th</sup> December. Children should wear their school uniform to school but may replace their jumper with a Christmas jumper or Christmas decorated top for a donation of £1

### **School Lunches**

Please ensure that when ordering school lunches online via A Country Kitchen, you checkout your choices. We have had some instances where parents have not checked out their choices therefore lunches have not been ordered.

If you would like to order school lunches for your child and do not have a user name or password, please contact the school office.

The deadline for ordering meals for week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> January is Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

### **Admission Policy 2019 Intake**

The admissions policy for 2019 intake is under consultation due to oversubscription criteria changing from driving distance to straight line distance. The policy can be found on the school website and any comments should be made to the school office.

### **Safeguarding**

We believe that safeguarding is an important part of the work with children and young adults so will keep this reminder in all of our newsletters. Please remember that safeguarding is the responsibility of all of us. If we are concerned about the safety of any child, we should let somebody know. Mrs Flack is the designated safeguarding person in school. In her absence, contact Mrs Palmer who has now also been trained as a designated safeguarding person.

### **Dates for your diary**

8<sup>th</sup> December KS1 Winter Wonderland Visit  
8<sup>th</sup> December Christingle at School  
13<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Performance (Y1-3)  
15<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Lunch  
15<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Jumper Day  
19<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Service at Church  
19<sup>th</sup> December End of Term

3<sup>rd</sup> January Term 3  
23<sup>rd</sup> January Open Mornings  
24<sup>th</sup> January Open Mornings

### **Term Dates**

#### **Term 2**

31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 to 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017

#### **Term 3**

3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 to 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018

#### **Term 4**

19<sup>th</sup> February 2018 to 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018

### **School Closures School Closures due to weather or emergencies.**

The decision to close the school is never taken lightly. We appreciate that many pupils live within walking distance of the school but we also have to take account of where our staff live and their ability to travel to and from school safely in order to ensure the safety of our pupils. Once the decision has been taken to close the school, the information will be broadcast on local radio

- Lincs FM (FM (VHF) 102.2 megahertz or [www.lincsfm.co.uk](http://www.lincsfm.co.uk))
- BBC Radio Lincolnshire FM(VHF) 94.9/MW 1368 kilohertz/219m or [www.bbc.co.uk/lincolnshire](http://www.bbc.co.uk/lincolnshire)
- [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures)
- [www.weston-st-mary.co.uk](http://www.weston-st-mary.co.uk)