

CLINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Autumn Newsletter No. 15 21st December 2017

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Dear Parents,

We're almost at the end of the Autumn term – one which has, as usual, been packed full of exciting activities – from the Year 4 camp, to the Year 5 Red Ridge trip and Year 6 visit to France; from brilliant class assemblies to fantastic Christmas shows, it's been great to see the children thrive.

FRIDAY ASSEMBLIES AT 9.00 AM

Tomorrow we have our Record of Achievement and Good Neighbour assembly – join us if you can!

FUNDRAISING FOR THE SCIENCE HUB

By the time you read this you should have received a separate email about another way you could help us boost the fundraising. We have had pledges in from Leyes Lane Pharmacy, Saxon Hill Recruitment, Robert Welch, MS Johnson Structural Engineers and have a total of £300 coming in. There have been a couple of enquiries about personal donations which would be very gratefully received. It would be great if we could keep notching this up – let us know if you've succeeded in raising anything through the company you work for.

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS

Since this time last week, we have seen some amazing Christmas shows. Our infant production was excellent last Friday and the Year 3 and 4 show was truly amazing. Year 5 and 6's version of Peter Pan this morning was brilliant (parents watched; the whole school will have a chance to see the production tomorrow afternoon). We are extremely grateful to Sam Harris for leading the whole project, to James Harris for his technical expertise, and to Sharon Sully for her support with rehearsals, costumes and props. The children thoroughly enjoyed it, showing a lot of commitment making it here in the dark mornings for rehearsals. And all that work certainly paid off!

We are going to be refreshing all the pictures in the entrance hall in the new year and would love to put a picture of one of the Christmas shows up there. If you took a photo you thought captured the action well, please do send it in. We don't have great photography equipment, so ours are very grainy! Photos of the year 5/6 morning play participants would be equally good!

CAROL SERVICE TODAY

It was really good to have so many helpers, walking the children to and from the church. It's always great to have a carol service together as a (nearly) final act before Christmas. We're grateful to the Methodist Church for hosting us.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We all celebrated Christmas lunch together yesterday, again, supported by lots of festively dressed volunteers. The meal was fantastic and the crackers and music got us all in the festive mood. Well done to the kitchen staff for 177 children's meals and 23 for adults!

CLUBS IN JANUARY – STILL SPACES

All children have places; still some left – ask the office!

CLINTON STEEL PANS AT WAITROSE LAST WEEK!

Thanks to Diana Hancox and those parents who helped us get 20 children to Waitrose last Friday despite the icy conditions! The children had a great time and raised just over £140, which will be split between Clinton and 'Helping Hands', a local charity. Well done all!

READING

The amount you read with your child makes all the difference to their learning. Children who read 4 or 5 times a week make **great** progress. Those who read less will clearly get left behind. Please keep them reading over Christmas – even short sessions will help them keep up the momentum they've gained. The children will have 16 days off school altogether. Hopefully accelerated reader will motivate some of the older ones.

SWIMMING FOR Y3 AND Y5/Y6 IN JANUARY

We have no volunteers to walk to and from the pool with these groups – could you help even if it's not every week? Please let the office know. Thank you.

OUR NEWSPAPER – THE CLINTON TIMES

Another fantastic edition has rolled off the presses – look out for it tomorrow! Well done to all involved!

CHRISTINGLE CANDLES

We didn't have quite enough of these to go round, but most children were able to have one (flat-pack self-assembly candles!). If you'd like to make a donation for the work of the Children's Society – with or without the candle! – there's still time. Even just loose change will make a difference to children for whom life isn't easy.

PTA NEWS FROM SAM HARRIS

Firstly, huge thanks to everyone who has helped out with PTA events over the past term. Your efforts are hugely appreciated!

On **Friday 12th January from 5.30pm-7pm** we will be having a back to school disco. We'll be selling pizza and refreshments so parents are welcome to stay for the evening as well. Volunteers to help on the night would be very welcome so please get in touch if you can.

All that remains for me to say is have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

BOXING DAY AT THE CASTLE

There's a poster attached about the Mayor's invitation to a relaxed morning at Kenilworth Castle between 10.00 and 12.00 on 26th December. Entry is free and you can buy a hot drink and bacon roll for £3.50!

Finally, I hope you and your families have a very happy Christmas. We'll look forward to seeing the children again on Monday 8th January.

Yours sincerely,

Sam Pater

**SAM PATER
HEADTEACHER**