



22nd November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

This term seems to be flying by and we are rapidly heading towards December and all the fun and excitement that the month brings. We have begun to prepare our Christmas performances and it is lovely to hear the singing that this brings. At the end of this newsletter will be a list of dates which includes when the different shows will be taking place. We will be sending out information about how to obtain tickets for these at some point in the next couple of weeks.

Harvest thanks

Helen from Arnold Food Bank visited school and spoke to the children in assembly about the important work that they do. **Thank you** to all of you who sent in any donations towards this important local service – we know that your donations will make a difference in the lives of others.

Attendance

It is fantastic to see that our attendance figures are so high this term – our attendance is higher than the national average which we are really pleased about. One of our weekly assemblies has a focus on attendance and the class with the best attendance from the previous week receives a special mention and they get to keep one of our attendance teddies in their classroom for the week. The children are pleased to share with me when their class has 100% attendance.

Remembrance Day

We were so proud of all the children who all demonstrated our school value of respect during a 2-minute silence that we held on the playground on Friday 11th. All children stood in silence in recognition of this important annual event which was ended by Mrs Farrell playing 'The Last Post' on her cornet. A group of children were chosen to attend the Arnold Methodist Church service of Remembrance where they proved themselves to be outstanding ambassadors for our school. They represented our school and their families in a mature and respectful way and laid a wreath which had been made in school.

Parent Fundraisers

I would like to thank the Parent Fundraisers for their fantastic efforts in putting on a really successful Glow Party. This was enjoyed by all the children who were able to attend. We are looking forward to the next event which is the **Christmas Market** which will take place after school on **Thursday 1st December**. We hope that you will be able to join us to support this event.



Holidays and INSET days

You will have heard the news that there will be an additional Bank Holiday next year. This will be on Monday 8th May. School will be closed on this day. Parents of children in Year 6 may be aware that this is SATs week and we would normally expect there to be a test on the Monday of this week. We have yet to be informed of how the timetable for the SATs will change to incorporate this day.

Below is the list of holiday dates and INSET days planned for the remainder of the year.

Wednesday 21 st December	Break up for Christmas
Wednesday 4 th January	Return to school
Thursday 9 th February	Break up for half term (Friday 10 th February is an INSET day)
Monday 20 th February	Return to school
Friday 31 st March	Break up for Easter
Monday 17 th April	Return to school
Monday 1 st May	Bank Holiday
Monday 8 th May	Bank Holiday
Friday 26 th May	Break up for half term
Monday 5 th June	Return to school
Friday 30 th June	INSET Day
Monday 3 rd July	INSET Day
Tuesday 25 th July	Break up for Summer

Christmas performances

These will take place in the last couple of weeks of term. We are hoping that you will be able to join us to support your children as they take part in these important annual opportunities to perform. The dates and times for the shows are as follows;

Little Herons	Friday 16th December – 9:15am
F2	Tuesday 20th December - 2pm
Key Stage 1 (Year 1&2)	Wednesday 14th December - 9:30am Friday 16th December - 2:00pm
Key Stage 2 (Years 3,4,5&6)	Wednesday 14th December – 2:00pm Thursday 15th December – 9:15am and 2:00pm

We will be making tickets available for these performances soon. Please look out for a further letter about this.

We look forward to seeing you in school over the next few weeks.

Warm regards
Mrs Essex



