

Your Weekly Newsletter

Issue 128 Week Ending Friday 8th December 2017



Dates remaining for this term:

Little Chicks' and Ducklings' Nativities ~ Tuesday 12th December at 09:30, 14:00 and Wednesday 13th December at 09:30

Years One and Two Christmas Productions ~ Thursday 14th December at 14:00, 18:00 and Friday 15th December at 09:30.

Christmas Lunch will take place on the 19th December.

Christmas Candlelit Carol Service ~ 19th December from 18:00 at Rossall Chapel. Please bring your children at 17:30 even if you are unable to stay. Every child has a part to play.

Thursday 21st December Non-uniform day with a Christmas Jumper .Christmas Market ~ at 15:00 - 17:00 in our large playground or hall if raining.

End of Term Friday 22nd December at 14:30.

Please keep looking at the dates section as we will be adding information.

Any amendments will be highlighted in red.

As you can see from the details listed above we are almost at the end of our Autumn Term. For some this will be the end of their first term at Big School! We are very impressed by how well our youngest learners have settled into life at Carleton Green. Next week is our 'showing off' week where we are assessing the learning that has taken place so far. We will then look at how well your child is attaining in their work and will send home our interim reports with next steps detailed on them. These should be coming home on the 20th.

Little Chicks and our Ducklings are working hard on their Nativity which is being performed on Tuesday and Wednesday. The KS1 team are also industriously rehearsing so that they are ready for an audience on Thursday and Friday. We provide an evening performance for our infants so that working parents can get to enjoy seeing their child on stage. Every child plays a part and therefore it is very important that all children come back to school for 17:30. The same applies to the carol service at Rossall. The more children attending; the more magical the evening. The cold, candles and organ resonating through the chapel make for a very special evening. It is the only venue where we can come together as a whole school to celebrate.

We held our second parent forum on Monday evening. Sadly, it was not as well supported as with our first event. We discussed our arrangements of classes to explain our rationale behind the mixed aged classes. It was concluded that due to our being a one and a half form entry school the way we structure our classes means that we provide the very best scenario for meeting your child's needs. Mixed aged classes are harder work for the teachers and for us to organise

Your Weekly Newsletter

Issue 128 Week Ending Friday 8th December 2017



effectively. However, we believe in providing the best outcomes for our pupils, so they can fly high and soar. The benefits of the way we structure our school are:

- Individualised teaching to meet the needs of the learners
- Curriculum design and content that matches the needs of our learners
- Greater potential for differentiation and challenge.
- Increased flexibility for placing pupils where they are best suited for learning
- Avoidance of friendship groups being disrupted.
- Avoidance of summer born always being the youngest in the class.
- Increased nurturing opportunities of the pupils

We did discuss the possibility of increasing our school to become a two-form entry school by increasing our intake of pupils from 45 per year to 60 pupils per year. This information will be shared with the Local Authority and we will see if this is something that they would support.

We also talked about the provision of music in our school. We currently provide recorder lessons for our Year One and Two children, Ukulele lessons for the Year Three and Four pupils with our Year Five and Six pupils having the opportunity to learn keyboard skills.



The children had an assembly yesterday concerned with learning an instrument. They were most interested in being given the opportunity to learn the flute, guitar and keyboard. We are going to look at increasing the peripatetic teacher opportunities and will share with you the details of costings and availability. It seems that the costs are reduced if there are more that sign up for an instrument.

After school activities were also discussed as it was felt that you would prefer to know about the coming term's choices before starting back along with details for how long it is planned to run. This is certainly something we can do and will be providing details next week for the Spring term's choices. Every teacher provides something to enrich your child's Primary School experience at either the start or the end of the school day. If you have a skill you would like to share with our children please, please let the office know so that we can offer even greater variety.

Trip money (or lack of) was also on the agenda. Those that attended the forum could not believe that we have families that have opted out of contributing towards the enhanced opportunities we have planned for each class. If you are experiencing a difficulty with making this payment, simply let Mrs Farnworth know otherwise, please note that the deadline for paying is the end of this month.

Understandably school cannot fund the full amount needed and we therefore will have to discuss if these trips can go ahead in the future.

Your Weekly Newsletter

Issue 128 Week Ending Friday 8th December 2017



Life in school this week:



We had some busy Elves in Parrots class this week learning how to use data collated as a tally. They produced some wonderful graphs.



Elf antics in school! The cheeky Elf in Kestrels Class has clearly been naughty and has upset Elsa so much she has cast her spell and placed him in a block of ice!

We enjoyed a wonderful assembly led by our most able writers in school after they had worked with our local author Dan Worsely. He and the children enjoyed their sessions together.

Dear Parents

Last week Mrs Crooks and I completed the Kidsafe Cyber Bullying workshop with the Y5/6 classes.

The workshop was quite intense and was completed over two 1-hour sessions. As with the previous Kidsafe sessions the children were incredibly mature dealing with and discussing the subject matter and they were tolerant and respectful of each other, Mrs Crooks and I were very proud of their attitudes and honesty.

Your Weekly Newsletter

Issue 128 Week Ending Friday 8th December 2017



Areas we covered;

Online profiles and how to keep them safe, please regularly check your privacy settings. What is cyber bullying and what technology can be used to cyber bully. (we discussed nasty texts, emails, inappropriate or mean comments on social media, hate groups, exclusions from chat groups, fake profiles, Instagram, snapchat, happy slapping, chain mail, online gaming, chat rooms and webcams)

We discussed the effect of cyber bullying on the victim.

The effect on the bully (legal aspects, cyber trail, long term prospects – be careful what you post online)

We talked in detail about how do we really know who we are talking to online. It appears a lot of our children are talking to/ playing games with people they don't actually know in real life so we discussed in detail how people could pretend to be someone else (voice changers, fake profiles, remote access webcams, talking/texting like an 11 year old) and we all agreed that we would never, ever arrange to meet someone we met online.

All the children agreed that if they were bullied or experienced yukky feelings they would speak to a trusted grown up.

In the spring term we have invited the NSPCC into school and they will be running a parent workshop on cyber bullying and internet safety. More details on this will be available after the Christmas break.

Thank you Mrs Jones

This week I along with a colleague had to wait to reverse into our car park to get into our place of work while a parent vacated their space. Many used our parking for the PTFA disco too, parking badly or driving off too fast without due regard for the safety of children. I am going to have to seek some guidance from the police as I am so concerned about the safety of pedestrians on our school site. We could use £6000 of our school budget to place a barrier to prevent this unauthorised access but I would rather spend our funds to support the learning opportunities for your children.

Please do not use our carpark for dropping off or collection purposes.

Your Weekly Newsletter

Issue 128 Week Ending Friday 8th December 2017



Yellow Ducklings 99% with 0 lates	Brown Ducklings 94% with 0 lates	Parrots 90% with 0 lates
Hérons 99% with 0 lates	Robins 90% with 1 late	Owls 99% with 1 late
Kestrels 96% with 1 late	Doves 98% with 1 late	Falcons 97% with 1 late
Hawks 93% with 4 lates	Eagles 99% with 2 lates	Well done to those for making it to school every day on time!

Thank you for all your continued support for all that takes place inside and beyond school.
Susan McGrath Headteacher.