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SIS News

Sitwell Infant School

Message from Mrs Peart

We have had a lovely first few weeks back in school after the half term holiday. The last couple of weeks have been particularly busy – with Odd Sock day, Respect workshops and Children in Need celebrations and then Parents Evening and our PTA Disco as well! We have been such busy bees!

We hope you also enjoyed our Reading Stay & Play sessions. Thank you so much for getting involved as much as you do; it is so important for the children to see that we work together. Further dates will be added for sessions after the holidays.

The next few weeks are also going to be very busy too. Please take some time to read through the upcoming dates and key events in this newsletter – we don't want you to miss out on anything!

Upcoming diary dates

We have lots of important and exciting things planned for the rest of this half term! Please find below key dates:

Friday 29th November – INSET Day – School closed for children

Monday 2nd December – Online Safety meeting for parents at 3.15pm, led by Mrs FJ (letter sent home this week)

Tuesday 3rd December – Choir Christmas performance at Rotherham Minster

Monday 9th December – Y1 Christmas performance @ 2pm

Tuesday 10th December – F2 Christmas performance @ 2pm

Wednesday 11th December – NHS Coffee Morning @ 9am

Wednesday 11th December – Y2 Christmas performance @ 2pm
School will close for the Christmas holiday on Friday 20th December
and we reopen on Monday 6th January 2025.

Christmas Parties

Each year group will join together in the final week of term to have a special Christmas party. Children can come to school in their party clothes on their party day. The dates for these are below:

Monday 16th December – Year 2 children (Rose, Tulip & Bluebell Class)

Tuesday 17th December – F2 children (Sunflower, Buttercup & Daisy Class)

Thursday 19th December – Year 1 children (Bluebell, Poppy & Snowdrop Class)

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day

We are going to be sharing our annual Christmas dinner together in school on **Wednesday 18th December**. All children are welcome to come to school in their Christmas jumper/outfit on this day. As shared on the recent letter, please ensure if your child would like a school Christmas dinner, it must be ordered by Tuesday 10th December at the latest. Any orders received after this date will be cancelled and you will have to send a packed lunch to school on this day.

Nursery consultation - now open!

As shared, earlier on in the term, we are consulting with the wider community about opening a nursery class within our school. We feel this will be a welcome addition to our Early Years Foundation Stage provision, which we know lots of parents have been asking for! Please do share your views!

The consultation is now open on the RMBC website and you can access this by clicking on the link [here](#). We have also added a form on the website to register interest [here](#).

English as an Additional Language (EAL) Survey

Mrs Razaq is our school EAL champion and she is seeking the views of parents about how we support children who are learning English as a second language. We know that many of our families speak a range of languages within the home. Mrs Razaq has put together a short survey to gather your views on how we support children and allow you to give suggestions if you feel there is anything else we could do. Please do complete this to let us know what you think. You can access the survey [here](#).

Staffing update

We are sad to let you know that Mrs Richmond, our Pastoral Lead, and Mrs Sawyer, our Receptionist, will be leaving school on Friday 20th December. Although Mrs Sawyer has only worked in Reception for a short time, she was a Teaching Assistant in school for many years before this and has been a wonderful colleague to all staff in school. Mrs Richmond has worked in school since 2000 and has been a fantastic Learning Mentor, HLTA and Pastoral Lead during her time with us. She has made an amazing contribution to so many of our children's lives and we are very sad to see her move on.

Mrs Richmond and Mrs Sawyer have been amazing members of staff and we are very sorry to see them leave. I am sure you will join us in wishing them the very best in their next adventures!

We are currently advertising for both of their positions on Rotherham Jobs and our school website. You can find out more [here](#).

Curriculum Information Meetings

We have planned several key curriculum meetings for parents over the past few weeks. Thank you so much if you have been able to attend any of these sessions. We hope you have found them useful.

We are in the process of planning further meetings for parents which will be held in the spring term. Please see below dates for your diaries for the planned meetings:

Wednesday 8th January – RWI information meeting @ 2.15pm
(For parents of children in Sunflower, Buttercup & Daisy classes)

Wednesday 26th February – Y1 Parents Phonics Screen meeting @ 2.15pm

Letters will be sent out shortly for you to register your interest in attending these events.

Google Classroom

Thank you to those of you who have already logged into Google Classroom and are accessing our Home Learning activities each week. It is lovely to see some of the things you are getting up to at home as well! We still have a small amount of families who have not yet logged on. **If you need support with this, please come and speak to us. We don't want your child to be missing out on important learning and information from their class!**

Names in clothes/Lost Property

We have had many of the children's belongings in the Lost Property box this term, and some do not have children's names on so we cannot return them to their rightful owner. **Please ensure your child's name is written in the labels of all their clothing.**

We will be putting lost property out in the outdoor classroom on Friday morning – please check if your child has lost an item of uniform this term. Any items not claimed by the end of the term will be added to our Pre-Loved Uniform rail.

Coffee Mornings

We will continue to hold joint coffee mornings with the Junior School and our School Nurse will be attending to offer support and guidance to parents. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 11th December at 9am** in the Junior School hall.

After School Provision

We are now in the process of organising provision for next terms after school clubs. There will be new clubs available which we hope will be interesting and exciting for the children to attend. The letter about this will be sent home next week. As with this term, please return the slip from the letter as soon as you can and we will organise everything else. If your child gains a place at a club, we will add payment to your School Money account for you.

Wraparound Care

We are continuing to work on getting wrap around care in place and we are hoping to be able to offer a 'Tea Club' which will run like Breakfast Club each day after school until 5.45pm. We know many parents have showed interest in this. We are looking to appoint new staff to run this provision in the new year and we will keep you posted with developments. If you have any questions in the meantime or want to register your interest, please speak to Mrs Peart, or staff in the office.

Road Safety

Sadly, we have continued to have some incidents happening on the roads outside of school due to careless driving and inappropriate parking. We ask that parents report any incidents that they observe to the police and the team at the Local Authority so they are aware of the continued issues.

Please try to drive and park sensibly outside of school to keep our children safe.

Parent Questionnaire results

We are very grateful to those of you who were able to give your time to complete our questionnaire. Lots of the results were positive, which we are very proud of! You can access an overview of the results [here](#). We are going to be working on your suggestions for what we can improve over the coming weeks and will share our responses after the Christmas holidays.