



Christmas is coming and life in school is busier than ever!

**Parent's evenings** were as usual well attended – although I know some scheduled meetings are yet to happen. If for whatever reason you did not get to a meeting please contact the class teacher via the school office. If there is anything you want to discuss with me please let me know when you are 'free' for a catch up.

**BIG thanks** to our Head Girl for representing the school so brilliantly at the War memorial. It is quite something to be so composed in front of such a large 'audience' and at such a special event. Well done!



**FoYPS** have once more done a spectacular job for our children! The funds raised at the recent Christmas Fayre means we can move forward with our plans for the STEM curriculum in the New Year – we will invite you in on an Open Door Friday to see the outcomes. Thank you to everyone who came along to the event – we hope you had a great time and of course to the FoYPS team for their dedication and hard work.

Unfortunately the planned relaunch of the main **library** has been delayed – some of the new resources are not being delivered until the 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. – The hard working team from Y6 have made a great start and we look forward to sharing their work with you in the New Year.

**Mrs Laughton** has decided to leave us at the end of the school term after a VERY long period of service. We cannot calculate the number of children and families she has engaged with and helped along the start of their learning journey. We say a huge THANK YOU and wish her a wonderful retirement.

You should have received a number of **posters** alerting you to things happening in school:

- Tree decorating – 6<sup>th</sup> December – children to bring along their decorations to make the trees look their best ever!
- Open door Friday – 9<sup>th</sup> December – 3.30 – 4.30 – we hope to see you then.
- Foodbank Christmas appeal – **CHANGE OF DATE** – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December – your support would be hugely appreciated.

Welcome to **Mr Fox**, who has joined us as a class teacher as part of the Y3 Team. The children are working well and we look forward to working with this new team (Mr Fox & Y3PF) as the year progresses.

Please find attached a document from the local authority – **Cost of Living support 2022** – we hope it is useful for you.

FYI - We have had a communication from the DFE about changes to the **SATs dates at KS2**, to pay regard to the extra bank holiday of 8<sup>th</sup> May linked to the Kings coronation. Therefore the new dates are Tuesday 9 May – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Thank you for your support in the recent **Children in Need** fund raiser – your generosity means that £427 will be sent to the charity shortly. Thank you for Y2 for leading on this.

**Retrieval practice** - Retrieval practice is a teaching and learning strategy that can be used inside or outside of the classroom to help children learn. Retrieval practice focuses on getting information out of the memory. Through the act of retrieval, which involves recalling information through writing or verbally, that memory is then strengthened. Retrieval practice helps memory and therefore helps to improve learning. In lessons teachers will regularly quiz their classes on what they have studied previously. This is not a high stakes test or assessment, but instead a way to check what students can or cannot remember and to also help improve their memory, knowledge and confidence. There has been a lot of research published that tells us this is an effective strategy for all learners of all ages. The more children practice recalling information from memory, the easier that information will become to recall in the future. Please find attached some slides which explain a little more about what your child will be involved with and why.

**Timetable of events:**

2nd & 5th December – School is closed to pupils for PD Days

6th December - Christmas Tree decorating

9<sup>th</sup> December – Open Door Friday – 3.30 – 4.30pm

14th December - Y1 – Y6 performance – Winter Song – tickets still available

15th December - EY Christmas performance – tickets still available

16<sup>th</sup> December - Foodbank Friday – **CHANGE OF DATE**

Christmas Parties – 15th, 16th & 19th December - teams will contact parents separately

Tuesday 20th December - Christmas Jumper day & Christmas lunch

School closes at 3.30pm Tuesday 20th December and reopens Wednesday 4th January 2023

Yours as ever  
Mrs Wood

