NEWSLETTER 14–17th December 2010

Dear Parents, Pupils & Governors,

<u>Challenge Award</u> – We are delighted to tell you that following a rigorous external assessment we have achieved the NACE Challenge Award. We are the 197th school nationally to achieve this prestigious award which is given for high quality work by the whole school, teachers and governors, in challenging all pupils, including those with high abilities, to achieve their best. The assessor was very impressed by our school's ambition to provide challenge that further encourages all pupils to think and be independent in their learning.

<u>Christingle and Church Service</u> – On Monday Rev Ruth Walker led our school Christingle Service. Christingle means 'Christ Light' and celebrates the light of Jesus coming into the world. On Wednesday we all went to St Laurence Church for our Nativity Carol Service.

<u>Reception & Nursery Nativity Performance</u> – Children from the Reception classes and Willow Tree Nursery told the story of the Nativity through songs. A big thank you to Mrs Griffiths for making the wonderful mince pies!

<u>Christmas Lunch</u> – Mrs Fisher and her team cooked and served over 300 Christmas lunches to pupils and staff on Wednesday. They were ably assisted by the House Captains who served the younger children.

<u>Reminders</u> – <u>Film Club</u> continues on Wednesday 5 January. <u>School lunches</u> will cost <u>**£1.80**</u> from January 2011.

Dates from St Laurence Church -

Torchlight Nativity Procession - Saturday 18th December at 3.30pm (from St Joseph's RC Church)
Crib Service - Christmas Eve 4.30pm

Adult Community Learning – We are hosting a numeracy course aimed at parents with no formal maths qualification to improve numeracy skills. The sessions are very informal and relaxed and will be held in school on a Friday morning between 9-11am starting 14th Jan to Easter. For further details contact Linda Baynes on 01926 413608 or email lindabaynes@warwickshire.gov.uk.

<u>Triple P Parenting Programme</u> - In January we are hosting 3 morning seminars aimed at parents of primary school children: The Power of Positive Parenting (Tues 11th), Raising Competent Children (Tues 18^{th)} and Raising Resilient Children (Tues 25th). Refreshments will be provided.

<u>Book of The Week</u> - Mrs Walsh's class have been reading 'The Night Before Christmas' by Clement C. Moore – the classic Christmas poem from 1822 describing the excitement surrounding the arrival of St Nicholas on Christmas Eve.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you on WEDNESDAY 5th January 2011.

Mr A Simms

Bidford School Association Newsletter 17th December 2010

Thank you to everyone for turning out to our Christmas Fayre on such a chilly evening! It was a fantastic night and we managed to raise £2680! Thank you to all who contributed prizes, and all that helped prior to the event with preparation; and everyone who volunteered their time on the day to help set up and man stalls! We couldn't do it without you.

Special thanks go to:

Nick Sheele, Thistle Fold Meat & Pie Co: Any orders for Christmas can still be made via Annie Perkins on 01789 490872/07816 877259.

Rose Hamson Flowers: 01789 490280
Ragley Estate Meats
Bungo's Barn, The Frog, The Bridge, The Golden Cross, Bordon Hill Nursery,
Langman Associates Dental Surgery, and many more.

We would also like to give special mention to Marie Birch who donated the Christmas wreaths for us to sell at the fayre, and also for her significant effort in obtaining many of the raffle prizes from local businesses for us! Many many thanks!

Christmas Cards

Many apologies for the lateness of the Christmas Cards, it was beyond our control and was due to machine failure. As a way of compensation the company have offered to give the BSA 25% of the sales back in cash. We hope that the delay has not caused too much of a problem for you.

Special Request

Please can I ask you to collect any washed plastic bottle tops you have over the Christmas period and bring them into school after the holidays. Gill Squires is collecting them to enable the child of a colleague to aquire a wheelchair. Daisy-May was born with a condition called Fibula Hemimelia, she is currently 6 months old and will require a specially adapted wheelchair to enable her to be mobile. Many thanks.

The next BSA meeting will be on January 12th at 7.30pm in the ICT suite. Please bring your ideas, and enjoy a glass of wine with us to plan the spring term events. All welcome!

Forthcoming events:

Valentines Disco: Friday 17th February 2011 **Kids on the Catwalk**: Saturday 9th April 2011

We wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year!