

NEWSLETTER 14 – 16th December 2016

Dear Parents, Pupils & Governors,

Church Service – On Wednesday we all walked to St Laurence Church, for our Christmas Carol service. The House Captains narrated the Christmas story, and we all sang a selection of carols. Year 2 children took part in the Nativity tableaux. Thank you to our helpers who escorted the children and to Rev Peter for leading the service.

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

E-Safety –

- It is 'that' time of year again and parents may be glad to have a reminder that they can make devices given as presents safer by putting age related restrictions on them before they wrap them up for Christmas. Internet Matters has an excellent website with an interactive house, which takes you step by step through what to press and what that looks like on the device. This is the link - <http://www.internetmatters.org/controls/interactive-guide/>
- Another useful set of leaflets you can print can be found on the Safer Internet website - <http://www.saferinternet.org.uk> and the www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents website has a suite of articles and guidance on all aspects of child internet safety. Families can also use the website to access the CEOP Safety Centre (www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre) where they can report abuse and exploitation direct to CEOP.

Young Enterprise – Congratulations to Young Enterprise (Year 6) who raised £ 54 for the BSA at the Christmas Fayre last Friday with their home made Gingerbread Men.

Truffle Making - Year 3 & Year 4 have been making truffles as part of their D T Project, they have taken them home for their family to sample.

Uniform - Please name all clothing (including shoes) and check that you do not have any items belonging to another child. Please remember if you are buying school uniform over the holidays our P.E. kit is plain black jersey jogging bottoms, plain royal blue shorts, white t shirt with or without school logo, optional hoodie only available from school wear shops and black trainers.

Reading Books – Children will be keeping their reading books over the holidays, please encourage them to read and remember to bring the books back to school in the New Year.

Clubs – Tchoukball (Y3 & Y4), Athletics (invited) & Performance Club start w/c 2nd Jan. Girls Football, Forrester (group 2), Artbase, Cooking Club (group 3) and Arts and Crafts restart w/c 9th Jan.

Admissions for Sept 2017 - To secure a school place for children born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 you need to apply online at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/admissions by 16th January 2017.

Violin Lessons – There is currently space for pupils to have violin lessons in school, termly cost is approximately £60. Please see the office for more details.

Term Time Holidays – We would like to remind parents that we are not able to grant a leave of absence during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Parents are asked to respect the regulations under which the school must work and if there is a need to take a child out of school during term-time, an application or request must be made in advance and make clear how the circumstances are exceptional. Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s). **Please Note - all unauthorised Leave of Absence applications will be referred to the Attendance Compliance and Enforcement Service.**

Dates for your Diary –

- Bidford Village Pantomime presents Aladdin on Sun 1st and Monday 2nd Jan. Tickets available from Judith Harrison on 773742/07730765621 at a cost of £5 each.

Messages from St Laurence Church –

- Torchlight Nativity procession start at 3.00 for 3.30pm on Sat 19th Dec from St Joseph's Roman Catholic car park in Bidford finishes at St Laurence's with carols and refreshments. Come dressed as shepherds, angels, kings... or yourself!
- Christmas Party Church is on Mon 19th Dec between 10 - 11.30am - refreshments and carols with plenty of space for excited children!
- Crib Service is 4.00pm on Christmas Eve.
- Midnight Communion at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve

For more information contact Rev Peter 772217.

Book of the Week – We always enjoy 'The Night before Christmas' by Clement Moore. This traditional poem from 1822 is a lovely story that captures the wonder and excitement of waiting for St Nicholas.

On behalf of all our staff and governors I would like to say a big thank you to all our volunteer helpers for all their support this year. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and I look forward to seeing you on TUES 3rd January 2017.

Mr A Simms

The latest from Bidford School Association...

EXCITING NEWS!

On Friday, 6th January, **the panto is coming to school!**

As a special treat, Reamba Productions will be bringing their magical touring pantomime, “**Jack and the Beanstalk**”, to Bidford Primary! All the children will be able to watch the show in the school hall on Friday afternoon. School will finish at normal time.

We hope you will all really enjoy the performance and bring your loudest voices to join in the singing!

The BSA have been able to fully fund this event thanks to the generosity of cashmatching parents working at companies such as HSBC, Co-Operative and Mondelez. A huge thank you for your time and efforts volunteering this year!

You can find out more about the panto at reamba.co.uk

A very merry Christmas from your BSA Committee xxx

The BSA Committee:

Emily, Glenda, Laura and Sue

Emily Lee – Chair (07989323997)

Glenda Vassie – Vice-Chair (07928656855)

Laura Simpson – Secretary (07712166158)

Sue Woodward – Treasurer