

Ravensworth CE Primary School Newsletter



Friday 29th November 2013

Dear all,

Firstly, apologies for the lack of a newsletter last week, I spent all of Friday in a meeting and there wasn't a moment to breathe! So, there's plenty to catch up on today.

The latest updates from the world of the mantle came last week, when the company discovered that the acting troupe who had been booked to film our battle scenes had gone on strike. This crisis precipitated in our affairs necessitated immediate action on behalf of the company – we discussed the merits of cancelling filming, but decided, on reflection, that we could recreate the battle ourselves! To that end, the children developed gymnastic sequences in PE mirroring the elements of battle; explosive jumps, silent balances, vigorous charges and creeping movements. Meanwhile, the Red Dragons have been working on forces this week; paint was blown, smeared and pushed in all directions! They've also been busy learning about the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, and writing about the Giant and Jack's adventures!

Yesterday, we were host to the Working Space Theatre company, who came and delivered a brilliant play of 'The Snow Queen'. Ask your child about Hobby and Gobby the Hobgoblins, Ronald (or was it Roland? – there's some debate amongst us) the Red Hot Raven, Kay and Girda, and the Finnish Woman! There were excellent cameo appearances made by Isobel Brooks (the frightened angel), and Benny Cooke and Ethan Dodds (the naughty roses!). It was a great production and the children really enjoyed the story.



Open Morning – next Thursday morning, we would like to invite you to come into school 8:30-11:30am – just to see what goes on! We won't be running any special events or doing anything differently, but I'm aware that sometimes, children can be a bit elusive about the goings on in school (!), so you are welcome to call in for a slot at any time in the morning to watch lessons, work alongside your children, look at their files or just see 'school in action'. No need to stay for hours, if you want to pop by for 5 minutes, that's fine! See you then...

Race Night Update – I am delighted to inform you that the School Friends' 'Race Night' raised a massive £900 for the school. We are so grateful to everyone who was involved: for Mrs. Storrow's organisational skills, the race sponsors, the support team of volunteers (some excellent pints were pulled by our 'bar staff', the pie servers were exemplary, and our 'bookies' were flawless!), and to everyone who placed their bets and bought the horses. Particular thanks again to Mainsgill Farm for the delicious pies which arrived piping hot (I've still got the blisters!) to fortify us during the night. These events couldn't happen without your support, and the money raised makes a real difference to the pupils. Many thanks.

Homes for Hens! – our fair ladies (Raven, Pearl and Louise) normally holiday on Mrs. Stanwix's farm during the breaks. However, the barn which is their 'home from home' will be full of cattle this holiday, and therefore we are looking for someone who might be able to look after the chickens for the Christmas break. They are low maintenance – a sprinkling of corn every 2 or 3 days, and water top ups! This could either be someone based in the village happy to check in on them in school, or someone able to take them home. Please don't feel under any pressure, we will find a way to manage if need be, but I think that a number of the children would enjoy having 'guests' for Christmas, so, if you can provide a 'home for hens in the holiday' (can you guess I was doing alliteration with Blue class yesterday?), that'd be great. Please contact the office.

Children in Need – another resounding example of the generosity of our school community is seen in the amount raised for Children in Need. Altogether, through the 'pyjama donations', the monies raised from stalls, and the donations made from Race Night (the winning syndicate kindly gave half their pay-out to charity), we raised £249. Thanks to all!

Christmas Lunch – historically, we've invited various members of our school community to the Christmas dinner – governors, school friends, volunteers etc. This year, we are going to extend this more widely to include parents. Mrs. Whittaker has kindly agreed to try this – and we ask for your patience on the day, we've never cooked for this many before! However, following the success of the Harvest lunch, we're going to try! If you would like to join us for Christmas lunch on the last day of term (20th), please let us know by Friday 6th December using the slip below. Extra meals are £2.10 for children, or £2.80 for adults.

Football Victories! – I'm proud and delighted to tell you that, at last week's football tournament at Brompton on Swale, our team was *undefeated* in their 3 games – Josh Whittaker scoring a goal, Jack Dean gaining 3, and we lost count of Bailey Proudlock's! Congratulations to all – behaviour was superb and the team spirit was excellent!

And Finally...

Last night, I drove to Northallerton, to be greeted by Christmas lights. This perplexed and confused me, convinced (as I then was), that Christmas was ages away, and not, in truth, due to spring upon us any moment. How wrong I was.

Dates for the Diary:

Wednesday 4th December – 3:15-4pm – Science Club
Thursday 5th December – 8:30-11:30am – Open Morning
Thursday 5th December – 3:15-4:15pm – Sports and Games Club
Friday 6th December - 4:15pm – Football Tournament, Brompton on Swale
Tuesday 10th December - 3:15-5pm – Messy Church, Christingle
Wednesday 11th December – 3:15-4:15pm – Sports and Games Club
Tuesday 17th December – 5:30pm (TBC) – Nativity Play
Friday 20th December – 12:00pm – Christmas Lunch, Break up 1:30pm.

Every blessing,



Rob Campbell

Christmas Meal Request:

I would like to order ____ adult school meals on 20th December & enclose payment of ____
Vegetarian Option? _____