

Ravensworth CE Primary School Newsletter



Friday 12th December 2014

Dear all,

We're creeping, ever closer, to the Christmas break...many of our celebrations have already happened, and there are more to come!

I must take a quick look back to last week before continuing however – to Class 2 and 3's brilliant Museum exhibition which was held on Friday. The children worked so hard in the lead up to this, and it really became the culmination of our mantle work. On display were replica Roman pots and coins, model chariots, digital presentations, filmed plays, elegant writing, Roman road cross-sections, pomegranate drinks and even personal audio guides. I do hope you enjoyed seeing all that the pupils have achieved, and perhaps that you learned something about the Romans too! Many thanks to all who were able to come, I know it means a lot to the children.



We had another brilliant Messy Church on Tuesday this week – it's great that so many of our children come along, as well as past pupils, younger siblings and family members. Our particular thanks, as we draw to the end of 2014, to all the Messy Church team who help – producing all the brilliant crafts and activities, never mind the amazing food! Also to the staff members who stay and help out. Much appreciated. Here's to Messy Church 2015!

Last night, we celebrated our Christingle Service up at Kirby Hill. It was fantastic to have such a good turn-out, and everyone I've spoken to (children and parents alike) seem to have really enjoyed it. Again, thank you to everyone who came and to our helpers, particularly Rev. John for co-ordinating the service. I have to admit, the candlelight, the message and the carols even began to melt my Scrooge-like heart! Rev. John has just phoned to say that the donations made to the Children's Society have been counted and come to a very generous £112. Many thanks.



Scholastic Books – a note from Mrs. Richmond, any child waiting for books from the book fair should have them in their hands by next week – they're on their way!

Chickens! – the wonderful Mrs. Stanwix normally looks after our 3 girls (Pearl, Louise and Raven) in the holidays. However, in winter, the barn she usually uses is full of cattle, so this is somewhat less practical! We are looking for volunteers who might be able to either a) take the chickens away for the fortnight, or b) folk in the village who could pop down a few times to check that the water isn't frozen and that the food is refilled. If there were 3 or 4 families willing to do this, then each person could just do one 'visit'. If you're happy to help, please let Mrs. Richmond know, and we might even be able to set up a quick rota. It's not hard, and you don't even need to clean them out! Thank you.

Free School Meals – just a reminder to parents that even if your child is in Reception, Y1, or Y2 and is receiving the 'universal free school meal', they may still be entitled to extra funding (the Pupil Premium). This used to be called 'Free School Meals', and parents still need to apply for this. This might be relevant if you, for example, receive: income support, jobseeker's allowance, child tax credit (if you're not entitled to working tax credit) etc. There is a significant amount of extra money available to schools for pupils in receipt of pupil premium (FSM), and we can use this to help your child, if you apply for the funding. For full details, please ask for a form from the office.

Start of Day Access – now that the icy winter weather is here, we are going to have to alter our school access from the hall doors back to the front door. It's not possible to grit the whole playground and we obviously don't want children to take a slip whilst 'roaming' before the start of the day. The main office door will therefore be used during the winter weather until further notice, opening at 8:25am. If you arrive earlier than this, do bear in mind that there are cars entering the car park around this time, so please supervise your children carefully. Many thanks.

Music Lessons – guitar lessons will start again on 15th January. For those who applied for cello lessons, I was contacted by Andy Wardale (cello teacher) recently and he intends to start in the new year. He sends apologies for the delay, but has been touring with Alfie Boe!

Payment please – another plea from the office, could all outstanding payments for milk, juice and dinners be made by Monday please, so that we can get money banked. Thanks.

Dates for the Diary:

Tuesday Dec 16th – Nativity Play (Class 1), Ravensworth School, 6pm

Thursday Dec 18th – Carols on the Green 11am (note change of time from last newsletter!)

Friday Dec 19th – Christmas Lunch 12pm, School Closes 1:30pm

Tuesday Dec 6th – 8:30am, School Returns for 2015!

And Finally...

I must say that there is a breath-taking number of festive woollies on display in school today. The staff too are superbly seasonal - Mrs. Richmond is a rosy robin, Miss Shazell a soft snowman, Miss Crisp a pretty penguin and Mr. Roycroft a plump pudding... I don't own a Christmas jumper, but am sporting a rather jaunty Rudolph tie. This is about as wild as headteachers get methinks...

Every blessing,



Rob Campbell

