

Ravensworth CE Primary School Newsletter



Friday 4th December 2015

Dear all,

I must firstly open with a thank you to all the School Friends who put together a great Christmas disco for the children last Friday. They came in 'buzzing' about it, full of stories of congas and party games, and more food than you could shake a stick at... Sounds like a great evening was had by all.

Many thanks also to all who turned out last night in the dark and the damp for our Christingle service. This was a wonderful celebration, and a great way to start the Christmas season with a real focus on who it's all about. It was a lovely service, and my particular thanks to Rev. Antony, Sue Young and the Messy Church team, without whom it wouldn't have been possible! I trust everyone had as lovely a time as I did – I'm definitely in the Christmas spirit now!

The week here has been busy as always. Class 1 are putting together their Nativity play, it concerns me that Mrs. Jackson has lost her voice, although there are a few candidates in the class who will, I'm sure be more than capable of acting as 'prompter' should the need arise! Meanwhile, Class 2 have undertaken some really beautiful art work this week, drawing around pictures to 'complete' the image, as well as producing some excellent descriptive pieces in the English, and creating some great 3D shapes in Maths. Class 3 have continued to tinker with electricity (all quite safe I'm assured!) in their creation of light up Christmas decorations.



Air Ambulance Collection – yet another thank you to our School Friends – the GNAA bag collection raised a brilliant £154 for the school. Thanks to all who donated and collected!

Fundraising Photos – the professional photographer, who is based next to, and works with, the Georgian Theatre in Richmond is offering a 30 minute family photography sitting, complete with framed print, in exchange for donations of £15 to school funds. Should you wish to take advantage of this offer, please contact Mrs. Richmond and she will sort this out.

Plates and Bowls – we have a number of plates and bowls left from the school disco (along with a silver hoop earring), if one of them is yours, please do come in and collect!

Flu Jabs – we've been asked to advertise the 'Flu Jab Drop-in Clinic' to be held at Richmond Youth Centre, on Tuesday 8th December, 2:30-4:30pm. This is particularly for any children in Year 1 and 2 who may have been absent for their school jab in school. No appointment necessary.

Changes to School Meals, Milk and Juice – a few changes are coming to the pricing and payment methods for these, with effect from January. Please see below:

- The cost of school meals is rising from £2.10 to £2.20 (£11 per week). We try to minimize any increase in costs, and meals haven't gone up for a number of years. However, food costs etc. have risen and we have made this adjustment to bring our meal charges in line with a number of local schools (we remain cheaper than some). Children in receipt of Free School Meals / Universal Free School meals will, of course, not experience any changes.
- Milk / Juice payments will be made half termly via Parentpay. In addition, we will no longer be able to 'refund' the cost of missed days' milk / juice (e.g. if a child is absent for a day); this is not related to the switch to Parentpay, but the fact that drinks are purchased in advance, so costs are incurred whether or not pupils are in.

Please contact Mrs. Richmond in the office if you have any questions about the above.

Christmas Raffle – our wonderful cook, Mrs. Slack, has kindly donated a Christmas cake and a Marzipan Santa as a first and second prize for a mini-raffle to be drawn on the date of our Christmas lunch. Brenda is a wonderful (professional) baker, and all her creations are delicious (I speak from personal experience!). Tickets are 50p, to be paid to the office in a clearly marked envelope, and any money raised will go straight into school funds.

Teesdale Mercury – the photographer is coming in to take a picture of the pupils in Class 1 during their Nativity Dress rehearsal. If any parent has an objection to this, please let us know. Many thanks.

Christmas Jumper Day – the last day of term will be 'wear your Christmas jumper day' – come along dressed in festive knitwear and please bring a donation for 'Save the Children'.

Celebrating Pupil Achievement – firstly, to Edward Storrow who completed the Richmond Motor Club 'Small Wheels Trial' – great work Ted! Secondly, to Thomas Smith who was busy undertaking swim trials last night – achieving a new personal best in 50m and 100m freestyle, 50m backstroke, and knocking a massive 6 seconds off his time for 50m breaststroke. Well done Thomas!

Dates for the Diary:

[After School Club this half term: Hockey, Tuesdays, 3:15-4:15pm]

Tuesday 15th December – 5pm Class 1 Nativity, in school

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Lunch

Thursday 17th December – 11am, Carols on the Green

Friday 18th December – Wear your Christmas Jumper Day, school closes **1pm**



Edward receiving his trophy!

And Finally...

Mr. Roycroft got all excited the other day, telling me he had a brilliant 'and finally...' for the newsletter: "How about this... 'There's snow chance of bad weather!?'". I'll let you judge whether that's brilliant or just cringe-worthy!

Every blessing,

Rob Campbell

