



Dear Parents and Carers,

3rd December 2021

MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA: On Wednesday afternoon our talented musicians showcased their talents in our Musical Extravaganza. There was a good variety of instruments and the recitals ranged from rock to pop to classical. It was most enjoyable. I would like to thank Mrs Spearman for organising this event for the school.

CHRISTMAS ART AND CRAFT DAY: Today the school has been a hive of industry as we get ready for Christmas. Each class has been gluing, sticking, decorating, and having lots of fun. There has been such an interesting array of art and craft activities across the school and, once again, I am very impressed by the creativity of the staff.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE FUNDRAISER: Today we held our Christmas Cookie fundraiser, and I am pleased to announce that we have raised £234.50 for the school fund. My thanks go to all of you who supported this.

FSU NEWS: Reception have been busy with assessments this week. We are really pleased with the children's phonics progress, in particular. The stage has gone up and Nativity rehearsals are in full swing. We are really looking forward to performing to you on Monday and Tuesday next week. There won't be a dry eye in the hall. Today has been Christmas craft day and the children have had great fun making snowmen, bells, wreaths, stars, robins and many more crafts to decorate our classrooms during festive season. Sorry about the glitter when they come home at the end of term!

This week the Ducklings have been very inquisitive about the weather and have loved observing the water freeze then melt in the Nursery garden. We had our second and final Nativity practice in the hall, and we just need to work on the volume of speaking and singing now!

COVID UPDATE: One child has tested positive for Covid this week. There has also been one case amongst staff. In light of recent government guidance regarding coronavirus the school has:

- Reintroduced staff wearing masks in communal areas
- Reintroduced that hand sanitising and mask wearing for all visitors to the school
- Moved many of the Christmas Fair stalls outside

We have risk assessed the current situation and have decided to continue with our Christmas plans. Therefore, the Nativities, Christmas fair, Pantomime trip and Carol Concert will go ahead as planned. We are closely monitoring the situation and will keep you informed of any changes that may have to be made.

PANTOMIME TRIP: Next Friday we are going to the Waterside Theatre in Aylesbury to see 'Cinderella'. This is always a most enjoyable outing – especially when a member of staff is 'picked on' by one of the panto dames! I would like to thank Miss McGuire for organising this trip for the school – taking a group of around 450 out for the day is a bit of a logistical nightmare but she has coordinated it brilliantly.

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT: We will be holding our annual Carol Concert in school this year on the last day of term, Friday 17th December. You are warmly invited to join us in the Quad from 9am to sing some carols. Non-alcoholic mulled wine and mince pies will be served for which we respectfully ask you to make a donation for the school fund. I hope that many of you will be able to join us for what promises to be an uplifting event. The staff and pupils will be supporting Save the Children by wearing Christmas jumpers (for a £1 donation) and it would be great if you could wear yours too. I look forward to seeing you there.

PICK UP AT THE END OF THE DAY: Keeping your child safe is the most important part of our job. To enable us to do this effectively please let the school know if someone different is picking your child up at the end of the day. If consent has not been given, then the child will not be handed over to the 'new' adult until you have been contacted and permission granted. As you can appreciate this causes embarrassment and awkwardness all round and is best to be avoided. I thank you in advance for your support with this.

WALKING HOME ALONE: As the evenings are starting to get darker earlier, the school feels that it is not safe for primary aged children to walk home alone in the dark. Therefore, the decision has been made that children in Y5 or Y6, who have attended an after-school activity, will need to be collected from now on. This will be reviewed in the spring term. Thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: The last two weeks of term are very busy. Here are some reminders as to what is happening:

- Friday 3rd December – Christmas Art and Craft Day / Cookie fundraiser / PTA Christmas Fair
- Monday 6th December – Reception Nativity to school (live streamed to classes)
- Tuesday 7th December - Spelling Bee Y1- Y6 please see details below/Reception nativity to parents 1.30pm
- Wednesday 8th December – Maths Bee Y1- Y6 please see details below /Reception Nativity to parents 1.30pm
- Thursday 9th December – Nursery Nativity to parents 9.15am/ School Christmas lunch
- Friday 10th December – Whole school (not Nursery) trip to the Pantomime in Aylesbury am
- Monday 13th December – Mince Pie Monday for Sobell House / Y2 Nativity to school (live streamed to classes) / Reading and Maths Champions treat
- Tuesday 14th December – Y1 Nativity to school (live streamed to the classes) / Y2 Nativity to parents 1.30pm and 6pm
- Wednesday 15th December – Y1 Nativity to parents 1.30pm and 6pm
- Thursday 16th December – Headteacher's Celebration Afternoon Tea
- Friday 17th December – Christmas Jumper Day in support of Save the Children / Carol Concert in the Quad / End of term 1.30pm

CHRISTMAS TREES: I would like to thank Finders Keepers for donating the beautiful tree that is in The School Reception and Blue Diamond for presenting us with the fabulous tree that is in our Quad. Finders Keepers have also kindly given us a Fortnum and Mason Christmas Hamper to raffle – tickets will be available at today's Christmas Fayre! It is lovely to be part of such a generous community. I would also like to thank the staff who did a grand job of decorating both the trees.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH: On Thursday 9th December 2021, we will be having our annual Christmas Lunch. The deadline for booking this has now passed, if you have not ordered a Christmas Lunch for your child they will need to bring in a packed lunch. If your child will be having the Christmas Lunch and does not normally have a school meal, please ensure that you contact the office to discuss any allergies or special dietary requirements. Please note that in order to avoid serving a similar meal two days running, the school meal served on Wednesday 8th December has been altered, please see previous communication for details.

Y4 RESIDENTIAL MEETING: On Tuesday 7th December at 3.30pm we will be holding an information meeting for parents of children in Year 4 to provide information about the residential visit to Liddington. This will be held in Penguin class, please make every effort to attend if you have a child in Year 4.

SPRING TERM AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES: Next week we will be sending out details of the After School Activities that are planned to take place in the Spring Term. Bookings will go live on ParentPay in due course, please look out for full details which will be sent via ParentMail towards the end of next week.

FLU VACCINATIONS: As you will be aware, on Tuesday this week the School Health Nurse visited school and administered flu vaccinations to children where parental permission had been granted. If your child was absent on the day or they were unable to administer the vaccination you should now have received an e-mail from them confirming that your child did not receive the vaccine and providing information about the catch up clinics. If you did not give consent prior to the vaccination session and would still like your child to receive the flu vaccination you can still do so by booking on to one of the catch up sessions. A letter was sent yesterday providing information on how to arrange this. Should you have any questions regarding any matters about the vaccinations, please call the Immunisation Team directly on 07920 254 400.

SPELLING BEE: On Tuesday 7th December 2021 we will be holding our first termly Spelling Bee of the academic year. As last time, this event will be held virtually via Teams. The timings are as follows:

- 9.00am – Year 1
- 9.30am – Year 2
- 10.00am – Year 3
- 10.30am – Year 4
- 11.00 – Year 5
- 11.30 – Year 6

Parents of children who are participating will receive an e-mail invitation ahead of the event, please try to watch and support your child if you can. Please see below a list of the children that have qualified to participate:

YR	Avon		Derwent		Severn		Thames	
1	Noah S	Amelia K	Oakley E	Daniel O	Harley P	Ava H	Leo P	Ella T
2	Lyla D	Julian T	Christian M	Menaal K	Fatima S	Eddie-Ray J	Taylor T	Imogen G
3	Zac O	Riva B	Noah H	Etta G	Eyad M	Tiffany M	Raphael K	Ayra A
4	Tilda A	Ameya P	James T	Emmanuella P	Taome B	Lexi L	Alex G	Keavy W
5	Mia S	Abigail A	Mathew B	Jack S	Megan N	Yousef M	Molly J-L	Bethany F
6	Lilly H	Liv B	Charlie E	Jack F	Clinton M	Peter L	Jack T	Abby S

MATHS BEE: On Wednesday 8th December 2021 we will be holding our first termly Maths Bee of the academic year. As last time, this event will be held virtually via Teams. The timings are as follows:

- 9.00am – Year 1
- 9.30am – Year 2
- 10.00am – Year 3
- 10.30am – Year 4
- 11.00 – Year 5
- 11.30 – Year 6

Parents of children who are participating will receive an e-mail invitation ahead of the event, please try to watch and support your child if you can. Please see below a list of the children that have qualified to participate:

YR	Avon		Derwent		Severn		Thames	
1	Leo C	Ella H	Oakley E	Ella P	Chloe T	Alex H	Ella T	Aurora K
2	Dawid B	Sienna H	Maddy R	Christian M	Oscar P	Fatima S	Frankie W	Ashraf H
3	Gabby C	Zac O	Eva G	Noah H	Owen L	Eyad M	Leo S	Raphael K
4	Jack B	Gabriel J	James T	Finley H	Lexi L	Abigail A	Keavy W	Lexi-Mae W
5	Mia S	William C	Jacob J	Eddie H	Luke P	Yousef M	Tyger T	Bethany F
6	Liv B	Amy C	Bianca D	Charlie E	Peter L	Clinton M	Jack T	Sammy S

MINCE PIE MONDAY: To celebrate the last week before Christmas, we will be hosting an event called **Mince Pie Monday** to raise money for **Sobell House**, a hospice located at The Churchill hospital in Oxford. Like all charities, its fundraising opportunities have been severely hit by the COVID restrictions. On Monday 13th December, the children will be able to buy a **mince pie or Christmas biscuit for £1**, please send your children to school with £1 on the day if they would like to purchase a treat.

Have a lovely weekend.



Mrs L Daulton
Headteacher