

Cringleford CE VA Primary School

Autumn Term 2018-2019

Newsletter 7

30th November 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

The countdown to Christmas really does feel like it has started once Father Christmas has visited the children and the Christmas Fair preparations are underway. I hope many of you will be able to come along tomorrow (11 a.m. – 2 p.m.) and support the event. The small group of PTA committee members have worked incredibly hard over the last few weeks and there should be something for everybody, including the chance to win an amazing trolley full of Christmas products!

Recent events

- Every class had a visit from the NHS dental health team so the children could learn all about good dental hygiene practice and healthy eating.
- The school had a variety of animal visitors last week, with The Dogs' Trust visiting Years 1 and 3 and two Tawny owls, Betty and Arthur, spending some time in the Reception classes.
- Year 1 pupils and parents enjoyed their recent Reading Cafes, based on a Julia Donaldson book, and Year 2 pupils had the opportunity to develop their PE skills when they attended a multi-skills event at Easton College.
- The school received a certificate thanking us for the £268 raised for the **British Legion** from the sale of poppies. The Year 6s raised £434 from their **Children in Need** cake sale. This sum, combined with the non-uniform donations, meant that we were able to send off a cheque for £815 – a great effort. At the moment we are collecting bags of sugar for the **BEFA** charity and the deadline for donations is December 12th. This year our retiring collections from the Christmas assemblies and nativity plays will go towards **Street Child's Christmas Appeal**. They have launched a 'Schools for Tomorrow Campaign', with the aim of building or revitalising schools in Sierra Leone. Our local cluster of schools (Hethersett, Mulbarton and Little Melton) are joining forces this Christmas to try to raise £1,000 in total from Christmas collections. This would be enough to provide our schools with a direct link to a newly built school in Sierra Leone. As a result, we would then receive personalised updates and information about that school and community. Street Child has just been granted UK Aid Match (UKAM) by the Department for International Development, which means that every £1 raised will be matched by the UK government. Please click on the following link to find out more about the charity: <https://www.street-child.co.uk/>
- Our annual sponsored Christmas card design competition was very well supported this year, with over 90 entries handed in. Congratulations to the prize winners: Annabelle, Tanay and Izzie. These children received their prizes in today's Celebration Assembly from a representative from the sponsor of the competition, RJL (Smith and Pinching's Eaton office). Every child who took part will be receiving a small chocolate prize next week.
- Shortlisting has taken place for the Reception maternity post and Year 3 post in Swifts. I will let parents know as soon as possible about the appointments following interviews next week.
- You will have read about Bishop Graham James' recent retirement. The school has fond memories of his visit to the school when it was first opened and we wish him well with all his retirement plans in Cornwall.
- Thank you to Father Christmas who visited every class this afternoon – and to the elves busily working behind the scenes to provide each child with a present!

Christmas events

The table below shows times and dates of Christmas assemblies or nativity plays. Please note the following section from the school's On-line Safety policy relating to taking photographs / films during performances:

*Parents and carers may wish to photograph or film their child taking part in school events (e.g. Sports Day, class assemblies and performances etc.) as these images are an enduring part of each family's record of their child's progress and a celebration of success and achievement. In these situations it is virtually impossible to prevent other pupils from being included in the shots. Such photos, if taken, should only be used for the family's own album. The school advises parents **not** to upload pictures that include other people's children, onto social media platforms (e.g. Facebook).*

As you can imagine, every class needs to be able to access the hall for rehearsals and this means that most PE lessons will have to take place outside over the next two weeks. Please make sure your child has appropriate kit for playground lessons.

Please note that on the Christmas lunch days, only one Key Stage will be having the main meal as the other pupils have been asked to bring in a packed lunch or will have pre ordered a school packed lunch. It is important to remember that there are children in the school with severe nut allergies, so please make sure that all items brought into school are nut free. For a reminder of the Christmas lunch arrangements, please refer to the school website where you will find copies of the original letter sent out to parents.

Menu change

On the final day of term, Tuesday 18th December, there will be a menu change. Instead of pasta bolognese as the main choice, the children can choose sausages (or Quorn vegetarian sausages) with mashed potatoes and baked beans. There will still be the baked potato option and an assortment of desserts.

Forest School funding

The school successfully bid for funding from the Tesco Bags of Help grant scheme for additional Forest School sessions for the children in our Language Group. This means that from 1st January to 28th February customers in a large number of Tesco stores will be able to vote for a selection of projects, including our school's bid. Please help us by participating! I am very grateful to Mrs Bushell and Mrs Muggridge for putting the bid together.

Prayer for the school community

One of our parents, Debs Yau, has sent in the following message:

Advent is just around the corner and it can be a special time in the Christian calendar and for our school. With this in mind I thought it may be a good time to get people together who would like to pray for our school community. If you are interested in this please get in touch and I will try and coordinate a time that is suitable for us all. Email Debs Yau at debs.yau@gmail.com

Attachments

- Kiddy Cook workshops taking place next term.
- Klezmer Dance on 14th December – run by Mrs Boreham, one of our peripatetic music teachers.

Future diary dates

1 st December	PTA Christmas Fair in the hall – 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
7 th December	Christmas celebration assembly (Year 2) in school hall (9.15 a.m.)

11 th December	Christmas celebration assembly (Years 5 & 6) in school hall (9.15 a.m.)
12 th December	Christmas nativity (Year 1) at St Peter's Church (9.15 a.m.)
13 th December	Christmas Christingle Service (Years 3 & 4) in school hall (2.30 p.m.)
13 th December	Christmas nativity (Reception) in school hall (9.15 a.m.)
14 th December	Orchestra performance (9.15 a.m.)
14 th December	Christmas lunch for children in Reception, Years 1 and 2
17 th December	Christmas lunch for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
18 th December	Last day of school this term

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Christmas Fair tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Neil Henery
Headteacher