

FERNHURST PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Carers,

Time has flown so fast that, unbelievably, this is the final newsletter for the Autumn Term and for 2017! I would like to thank everyone, staff, children, parents, governors and the local community for making me feel most welcome. I have really enjoyed my first term at Fernhurst Primary School. That sense of partnership is particularly important as we all work together to ensure the best outcomes for every single one of our children.

The week started out rather snowy! Thank you for your understanding over the rescheduling of the Key Stage 1 performance of "A King is Born". The school does not like to cancel events at such short notice, however the safety of children and staff has to be the most important criteria in our thinking. The performance has been re-scheduled for 5.15pm on Monday 18 December, just before the KS2 Christmas concert. The production went ahead on Tuesday evening and we were really proud of the children, their singing was amazing, they had such loud clear voices and great stage presence – the audience thoroughly enjoyed it and were very complimentary on their way out. Thank you to every single member of staff who has worked hard and given their time to ensure that these productions are of such a high standard.

On Wednesday, we had the privilege of watching Squirrels class perform The Nativity at St. Margaret's Church. A big thank you to Eleanor, Lowri, Imogen and Lily, from Badgers, who narrated the story beautifully for the children to act out. It was a lovely experience for all who saw it (not a dry eye in the church!) or took part in it and a big thank you to Sue Gibbon for organising the event and Rev. Nick Haigh for hosting us at his church.

Last Friday was the FOFs Christmas party, thank you all so much for coming along and supporting this lovely community event. We had a very special guest in my office that evening and I know he was kept busy with lots of Christmas requests. It was lovely to see the school transformed into a Christmas wonderland. Thank you to all the parents and staff who helped out and to FOFs for making this evening a great success.

As always the week has been tremendously busy, as well as the Christmas productions, the children had their Christmas lunch today, served by the staff and this has certainly put us in the mood for Christmas. This afternoon Robins class, entertained us with a ukulele concert, showing off the skills they have learnt over this term; it was lovely to see their enjoyment and the progress they have made over this term.

It was very quiet around school this morning with Foxes and Badgers off to MRC to see their Christmas Pantomime, Red Kites and Robins went on their final swimming session and Deer went to Forest School.

There have been so many things to celebrate this term and build on the success of previous years and I am sure that working in partnership with you and your children, will see the school continue to grow from strength to strength. The Primary League tables were published yesterday and, although I do not think it is necessary to publish them nationally, I was pleased to see how well the school had done this year.

During the first week back we will be having a visit from the NSPCC, focusing on safeguarding and online safety, they would also like us to undertake some sponsored work to cover the cost of their support for schools. A letter is attached to the newsletter explaining all about this. Safeguarding is a very high government priority at the moment and it is vital that children are educated to keep themselves safe. There will be some information going home to you at the start of next term on how to keep your child safe online – please look out for this.

Finally, enjoy the holidays and I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mrs Richardson on behalf of the SLT.



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



SQUIRRELS

Lily Leat

DEER

CJ Van der Walt

OWLS

Jack-James Lewis

RED KITES

Isaac Cousins

ROBINS

Dylan Vass

FOXES

Sam Singleton

BADGERS

Zoe Riley

LUNCHTIME AWARD

Adelaide Elder

HEAD BOY & HEAD GIRL AWARD

Amy Orange

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STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Well done to Grace and Harry Conley Harper for giving up their weekend to do some sterling work clearing up Midhurst Common! They even found a Marathon bar wrapper (for those of you of a certain age you will know that they changed to the name Snickers nearly 30 years ago) so we saw first hand how long lasting plastic wrappers are!

Congratulations to Amelia Spear who has passed her level 7 with Excel Gymnastics!

Well done to Alex Melia for passing his drum exam with distinction!

Double congratulations to Elise Arnold for passing her Stage 6 swimming and her Bronze gymnastics award!

DIARY DATES

DEC

Fri 15 Badgers & Foxes to MRC Pantomime

Fri 15 Red Kites & Robins final swimming lesson

Fri 15 Christmas Lunch

Mon 18 6pm Victorian Christmas Concert

Wed 20 Christmas Jumper Day

Wed 20 End of term

JAN 2018

Thurs 4 INSET DAY – school closed

Fri 5 INSET DAY – school closed

Mon 8 TRUST INSET DAY – school closed

Tues 9 First day of term

Wed 10 NSPCC Assemblies & workshops

Tues 16 Drop in time with the School Nurse

Tues 16 Rother Valley Orchestra Day

Fri 19 9am FOFS Meeting in Oscars

Mon 22 8.55am SATS Meeting for Owls' Parents

Tues 23 Red Kites to Haslemere Museum

Thurs 25 3.15pm SATS Meeting for Owls' Parents

FEB

Fri 2 9am Maths for Mums & Dads

Mon 5 Red Kites "Valentines" Cake Sale

MAR

Thur 1 Red Kites to RHS Wisley

Mon 5 Owls "Easter" Cake Sale

Fri 9 Badgers to "Voices Around the World"

Fri 9 Book Fair arrives

Tues 13 Class photographs

Wed 14 "Voice in a Million" at Wembley

Fri 16 Book Fair leaves



Dust off your festive knitwear, it's the end of term! On Wednesday 20 December as a celebration of Christmas and the end of a busy term, we are inviting the children to come to school in their uniform but instead of the school sweatshirts/cardigans they can wear Christmas jumpers!

REMINDERS & NOTICES

Not long until the end of term and we are sorry, we keep giving you more to remember and do!

Replies needed:

- If you haven't already, please hand your clubs and enrichment forms in as soon as possible. The deadline has now passed and spaces will be allocated on Monday.
- Voice in a Million—if your child is taking part in this event, please return the consent form and make payment for the t-shirt please.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE GOVERNORS

The long autumn term is coming to a close and the anticipation and excitement of the Christmas holidays is nearing its peak.

The governors recently had the opportunity to thank all the staff for their commitment and hard work by hosting a cream tea for them. I know many long days are put into ensuring that your children receive the best education possible. This is supported by comparing the performance of other schools in the area.

I would also like to wish Miss Laura Barnes all best wishes with the forthcoming addition to her family.

On behalf of all the governors I wish all parents, carers, staff and pupils a very merry Christmas and happy New Year.

Best wishes, Christopher Lloyd, Chair of Governors

MONDAY 18 DECEMBER—ARRANGEMENTS

4.55pm KS1 children in the production to be dropped off at the main school entrance

4.55pm FOFS serving refreshments in the main entrance

5.15pm KS1 production starts

5.45pm KS1 production finishes - children to go to classrooms to change, parents to exit production via the main entrance and collect children from the Oscars patio door

5.45pm KS2 children taking part in the concert to be dropped off at the Class 5 external door.

5.45pm FOFS serving refreshments in the library for KS2 parents arriving - entrance for this is via the main Oscars door

6pm KS2 concert starts

7pm KS2 concert finishes approximately, please collect children from the Class 5 external door

OSCARS—Due to the cross over between the two events, we will now be offering a late Oscars for those children in KS1 whose parents/carers are staying to watch the KS2 Concert. Please book spaces via the school office in advance. If children are staying for this, they will go down to Squirrels classroom, having got changed, where Mrs Woods and Irene will look after them until the concert is finished. As this situation has come about due to the inclement weather experienced earlier this week and as a gesture of goodwill, we will be offering this service free of charge.

Both events now have waiting lists so please can we ask that if you have tickets that you no longer require that you return these to us for reallocation.

CHICKENS

A massive thank you to all families who have helped out with the chickens so far - they have shown amazing commitment and care and it is much appreciated by our feathered friends! It is now time to create a new rota for the Spring term. If you would be willing to take on a volunteer role looking after the chickens on a regular basis, please see the school office or Hannah Corps for further information.

Over a weekend in February will also be holding a 'Chicken Coop DIY SOS' day to create a larger undercover area in the run. If you would be willing to help with this please let us know.

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