



PAYHEMBURY PRIMARY POST

Newsletter 14 – 15th December 2017
01404 841291 Website: www.fort.devon.sch.uk

The next few days

- Monday 18th December - Oak Class VE Celebration from 3pm
- Tuesday 19th December - Carol Service in the Church 5pm
- Wednesday 20th December - Christmas Lunch from 12pm followed by Christmas Party
Kid's Café (Beech Class hosting) from 3.15pm
- Thursday 21st December - Last Day of Term / 9.15am Celebration Assembly in the Church
-

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents

I know a lot of schools have broken up but we have a few days to go yet and in fact the final week should be less frantic. We are so grateful for the help preparing the children for the nativity production and I hope you enjoyed it as much we did.

The children did an incredible job of learning their lines and considering some of them were so young the whole performance was mesmerizing. It was a true night of talent. It has also given me another idea for an event in school in the future!!

The barn is always the most amazing place to carry out the production. Obviously it has its challenges but the overall effectiveness is so memorable. I must say a special thank you to John Somers for his endless assistance with the lighting. It is the cherry on the cake and his expertise is priceless. Another huge thank you goes to Rob Leach for the preparation and loaning of the barn/carpark. I know it always creates a number of extra jobs for him at this time of year.

Another thank you to FOPS for providing the refreshments, a welcomed mulled wine or hot chocolate was very much appreciated.

A special thank you to Dan Palmer who rescued both performances as our lighting and electrics were struggling in the barn this year. Luckily Dan was on hand. I think we will talk to him first next time we do it!!

Moving on to next week we have a few things going on. On Monday at 3pm Oak class will be having their VE celebration, please come along and join them if you would like to? It will take place in the classroom.

I hope you will come to church on Tuesday 19th December at 5pm for our carol service. It will be a traditional service and will only take about half an hour.

On Wednesday we have a busy day, traditional Christmas lunch in the hall with lots of help from FOPS. The children sing, pull crackers and have a wonderful time. After lunch the children continue to celebrate with their Christmas party and if they aren't completely full by 3.30pm its

Kids Café. So please come along to the hall to have a Christmas catch up before the holidays start. It is the turn of Beech class to donate the cakes.

Our last day will be Thursday 21st December. We will begin with a celebration assembly in the church at 9.15am. We will be presenting all the certificates to the children for their wonderful achievements this term.

The end of the day and pick up time will be the normal time of 3.30pm. We return to school on Monday 8th December.

So I hope this weekend isn't too busy with final preparations; it does feel like the last one before Christmas. Wishing you all the best,

Mrs Hammett

Star of the Week - Well Done To....

<u>Willow Class</u>	Pre-School	-	Emma Kiely	Reception	-	William Gibbins
<u>Ash Class</u>	Year 1	-	Henry Holding	Year 2	-	Thomas Knight
<u>Beech Class</u>	Year 3	-	Freddy Brauer	Year 4	-	Amaya Duggan-Jones
<u>Oak Class</u>	Year 5	-	Maddie Wooff	Year 6	-	Thomas Fenwick

Notices to Parents

Admission to Primary School 2018 for children born between 01/09/2013 & 31/09/2014 - The application facility opens on **15th November 2017** and closes at midnight on **15th January 2018**. Parents should receive a letter from the Admissions team shortly, providing a Unique Identifying Number which will facilitate that application. If you have any queries please contact The Education Helpline Advisers on 0345 155 1019.

Breakfast Club and After School Club Forms - Forms have been sent home this week to children who have used the clubs this half term. If you would like your child to attend one of the clubs and you don't have a form, please see the website to download a form or ask in the office.

School Meals - Please note there will be no meals available on an ad hoc basis next week as all orders have been placed.

Heights & Weights for Reception and Year 6 - Please make sure you have returned your completed slips to school as this will take place on the first day of term in January.

Theatre Trip - Please can any outstanding monies be settled before the end of term.

Lost Property - A pair of thick grey Mantaray gloves and a pink rose canvas bag were left in the barn after the nativity. They are available in the office for collection.

Letters sent home this week

- OSM School Sports Partnership Newsletter (KS2)
- Breakfast Club Forms for Jan/Feb
- After School Club Forms for Jan/Feb
- School Meals Order Forms (KS2 and Pre-School)

Dates for the Diary

2017/18 Academic Year

18 th December	- Oak Class VE Celebration from 3pm
19 th December	- Carol Service in the Church at 5pm
20 th December	- Christmas Lunch 12pm / Party pm / Kid's Café from 3.15pm
21 st December	- Last day of Term
5 th January	- Staff back to school
8 th January	- First day of Term / Heights & Weights Measurements Reception & Yr 6
24 th January	- Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting 6pm @ Payhembury
7 th February	- Resources Committee Meeting 6pm @ Awliscombe
12 th - 16 th Feb	- Half Term
21 st February	- Full Governing Board Meeting 6pm @ Payhembury
7 th March	- Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting 6pm @ Awliscombe
28 th March	- Resources Committee Meeting 6pm @ Payhembury
29 th March	- Last day of Term
16 th April	- First day of Term
18 th April	- Full Governing Board Meeting 6pm @ Awliscombe
2 nd May	- Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting 6pm @ Payhembury
16 th May	- Resources Committee Meeting 6pm @ Awliscombe
28 th May - 1 st June	- Half Term
4 th June	- Non-Pupil Day
6 th June	- Full Governing Board Meeting 6pm @ Payhembury
20 th June	- Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting 6pm @ Awliscombe
4 th July	- Resources Committee Meeting 6pm @ Payhembury
18 th July	- Full Governing Board Meeting 6pm @ Awliscombe
24 th July	- End of Term

Pre-School

Pre-school children are very welcome to come along to the Carol Service in the Church next Tuesday at 5pm but please can they sit with their parents/carers.

News From St. Mary's Church Payhembury

There will be a Christmas Carol Service in Church at 6:30. All are welcome. There will be refreshments after the Service.

A thought:

If we learn how to give ourselves, to forgive others, and to live with thanksgiving, we need not seek happiness. It will seek us.

Unknown

Governors

The autumn term is always extremely long and tiring, gathering momentum as it reaches its end with numerous Christmas celebrations and activities taking place in the last few days of term: Nativities, carol services, fetes, parties, theatre visits it is all very exciting and rather exhausting for children and staff alike. What a good job there is a Christmas holiday to look forward to!

May I take this opportunity, on behalf of the governors of this wonderful federation, to thank all the pupils for their hard work and enthusiasm to their learning; to all staff for their dedication and commitment to providing the very best education for all our pupils; and to you all for your support.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

F.O.P.S

Kids Cafe

Kids Cafe will be held on Wednesday 20th December (and not the last day of term), and is the turn of Beech Class.

Offerings for the cafe table from Beech Class parents gratefully received. Please leave in Reception on Wednesday morning, or bring along to the Cafe from 3.15pm, where you can enjoy a quiet cup of tea or coffee (and a moment to breath) before the festive mayhem begins!

Offers of help to set up & clear down also welcomed!

Community News

Cotley Christmas Tree Farm - Whimble

Please find attached a special voucher to use at Cotley Christmas Tree Farm in Whimble. We will donate £1 to your school for every tree purchased using the voucher

The farm, run by myself and my husband, Lester, has been open for over 14 years and, following the foot and mouth crisis, we began selling Christmas trees. We now have 25 acres of rolling fields dedicated to our growing business, with each tree taking between 6 - 10 years to be fully grown.

At the farm we have a really lovely log cabin packed full of festive delights, decorations and tempting West Country produce. We are also proud to host a number of gorgeous reindeer including new arrival, Willow, who recently celebrated her first birthday.

For those who can't make it down to the farm, we are also selling trees from our site at Parr's Farm County Store, which is next to the Devon Hotel and only 10 minutes from the centre of Exeter, so in the ideal location for parents and little ones on their way home from school.

We would love to welcome you to the farm this season and help support your school. Simply show your voucher when paying for a tree.

Helen Bowker
Cotley House
Woodhayes Lane
Whimble
Exeter EX5 2QR
01404 823193/07779 722421