



Oakwood Junior School December 2010

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Dear Parent/Carers

As I'm writing this I can't believe that we're fast approaching December. We'll be pleased to welcome back Miss Winslow and Mrs Civval who will be returning from their maternity leave just before we break up. Miss Winslow will be taking over from Miss Baldi who starts her maternity leave in the new year. Mrs Civval will be working mainly in lower school.

The Christmas tree has been ordered for school, so I must remember to get the decorations out of the loft and the teachers have already started their planning for our winter festival. Christmas dinner has been sorted. The choir have started practicing Christmas carols and the children have been telling me about the presents they're looking forward to receiving, so preparations are well underway. Before things get too hectic, now is a good time to write to you about events in school.

Children in Need

Thanks to the efforts of the school council, who organised our 'Funky Friday' event and to Jill (our cook) who baked biscuits; we managed to raise £395.46 for this worthy cause. The children always enjoy our non uniform day and this year we had some very imaginative outfits!

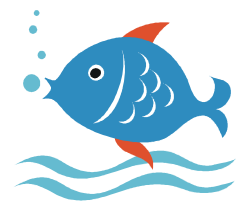


Donation

We have received a donation of £200.00 from a member of the public who used to be involved with our parents association a number of years ago. We are currently constructing a 'quiet play zone' on the playground for children to have the opportunity to participate in board games in a more relaxed atmosphere. We are very grateful for this donation, and would like to say a huge thank you to the family & friends of the late gentleman.

School Visits

Earlier on in the term our Year 5's visited the Sea Life Centre in Birmingham. The visit was linked to a book they have been studying. The children came back really excited by what they had seen - the 4D cinema experience where they'd been sprayed with water was particularly popular! The children's behaviour was impeccable and members of the public commented on their politeness which was really pleasing to hear. Our children always do us proud both in and out of school.



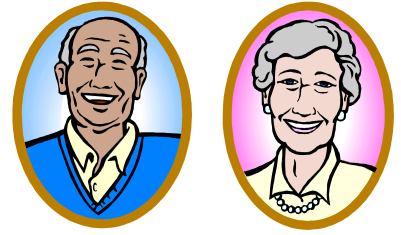
The year 3's are really looking forward to seeing Cinderella ballet in a couple of week's time. They are in for a treat! All the year 3 children have been working with Jenny Hinton, our specialist dance teacher. They have been devising their own dances to the music and I know they will proudly want to show you these at the winter festival performance.

Coming events in school

- A group of children will be taking part in a bulb planting event next week around the estate, providing the weather is suitable. I hope we'll be able to plant any left over bulbs around school!
- Our L2L stickers are an important way in which we enable to children to learn about how to become a successful learner. As well as awarding our L2L badges we have decided to reward the children who have gained the most L2L stickers over the term

with a special treat. The stickers will be counted and the 4 children with the most in each class will be able to take part in a special visit for an afternoon. This has just really motivated the children and we'll let you know just before the February $\frac{1}{2}$ term who the treat winners are.

- Our Older Peoples events are always popular and well attended as it's a really good opportunity for grandparents to come into school and work alongside their grandchildren. We have organised a Christmas arts and craft afternoon on December 10th with refreshments. A letter will be going out with more details. As places are limited please make sure that you return the slip to book your place.



Quick Reminders

- Make sure you check our school website on a regular basis. You will find lots of activities that you can do with your child at home together, recent letters (in case yours didn't arrive home!) and school dinner menus.
- Could I remind parents that it is important for the children to have the correct PE kit. Indoor kit consists of black shorts and a plain white t shirt. Tracksuit bottoms can be worn for the outdoor PE for when the weather is cold. We discourage the children from wearing trainers in school and would prefer them to wear black school shoes. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.
- A number of children have been arriving to school very early - sometimes at 8.15. Would you please ensure that your child comes into school from 8.40 onwards. There is no adult supervision on the playground before this time.



Crossing Patrol Vacancy

After parents put together a petition requesting a school crossing patrol on Boulton Lane, we have been informed that this will be going ahead in the new year, which is really good news. This is the first new post to be established in the last 10 years. As a result there is a vacancy for a crossing patrol person. If you are interested please contact Linda Harrington on 255306.

Kind Regards

Nancy Elks
Head Teacher

Dates for your diary

- 29.11.10 Bulb planting around the Estate
- 03.12.10 pamper afternoon with learning mentors and invited parents & children
- 09.12.10 Year 3 & 4 visit to the ballet in Birmingham
- 10.12.10 Lower School Achievement assembly
Older People's event (pm)
- 16.12.10 Year 6 Winter Festival Performance for parents 10.00 am start
Year 5 Winter Festival Performance for parents 1.30 pm start
- 17.12.10 Year 4 Winter Festival Performance for parents 10.00 am start
Year 3 Winter Festival Performance for parents 1.30 pm start
- 20.12.10 Christmas dinner
- 21.12.10 Church service (all welcome) St Mary's 10.00 am start
Break up
- 04.01.11 **Return to school**

