

POTTEN END C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

21 December 2016

I cannot believe I have written the final newsletter for 2016 and after such a busy December!

The past fortnight at Potten End has been exciting, festive and extremely entertaining. The children's shows were absolutely incredible and I was blown away by their confidence, courage and excellent performances. Since the performances we have enjoyed lots of Christmas treats in school; ranging from a visit from a theatre group who performed Dick Whittington (so nice to see smiling faces from children from Nursery to Year 6), to our fantastic Christmas dinner last week. It is such a fantastic school to be part of, that even Father Christmas managed a visit. It has been lovely spending time with the children during this exciting period; I have enjoyed going around the classrooms looking at the lovely cards and activities that the children have been working on.

I would like to thank you, the parents, for all that you do for your children and for Potten End Primary School; you are a special group of people and your support for the education of the children is amazing. Furthermore, a special thank you to the FOS team for their amazing fundraising throughout 2016 and of course this hectic Christmas season.

I would also like to publically thank all of my fantastic staff. I genuinely believe I have the best staff of any primary school and I can assure you they work tirelessly to ensure your children have the best education and are cared for, as you would care for your own child.

Charity donations

We believe that around £10,000 was raised by Friends of school this term alone! This is as a result of their hard work and their hugely successful Autumn Fair, Film Nights and Yummy

Mummies. Thank you also, for your donations to DENS at the end of the Christmas performances. We were able to send DENS a cheque for £372.20 and I am sure that this will be put to good use supporting people who find themselves in difficult circumstances. Earlier on this year we also supported Stand up for Cancer and Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children Charity). In addition to this we also sent 80 shoe boxes for the Christmas appeal. Thank you for this. It is wonderful that we, as a school, manage to support so many worthwhile charities.

Parking

As you may recall, I asked for volunteers to help support me in ensuring the area around the school is safe for all the children. We will be organising a meeting for these volunteers in the New Year to talk through how this will work. Please also be aware that traffic wardens will once again be in Potten End to help support safer parking around the school.

Keeping Healthy

We continue to strive to keep the school a healthy place. I know it is difficult to get children to drink water, but it really is the healthiest option. I would also like to remind you that if you wish to bring a treat in for your child's class when it is their birthday please make this a fruit treat.

Club opportunities

We have additional clubs starting in the Spring Term such as breakfast basketball club (Years 3-6) and our new coding club (Years 4-6). Please check your emails for information (previously distributed).

Staff news

We are pleased to announce that we have secured an excellent teacher to cover Mrs

Stroud's maternity cover. Mrs Packard will be joining us officially from February half term, but will be making several visits before this date to ensure a smooth transition. Mrs Packard has previously taught at St Clement Danes as a secondary science teacher and has more recently taught at St Pauls school in Chipperfield. We also have an additional TA joining us to work in EYFS. Mrs Hayes will be joining our team as an MSA and afternoon TA from January. I am sure you would like to join me in welcoming them to the Potten End staff team where I am sure they will settle in well and enjoy their new roles.

In my concluding paragraph I would like to thank all of you for your generosity in the gifts that you have given to myself and the staff in the school. It is extremely kind and we are all very grateful. Thank you. To finish, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas; I hope that this Christmas and the New Year bring you all much hope, good health and happiness and I look forward to seeing you all in January. I am confident 2017 is going to be another fantastic year at Potten End C of E Primary School.