

St Mary & St John CE Primary School

Headteacher: Elizabeth Burton



Newsletter 2: 17.10.17

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are fast approaching the end of a very busy first half term with, as ever, lots going on!

Our parent community has been working energetically with our children on the fabulous school calendar and Christmas cards, all in preparation for sale at our Winter Fair. Thank you!

This year the Winter Fair is on Saturday 25 November and it will be a superb occasion with lots to eat, drink and buy. Please look out for the posters around school.

- ❖ **We said goodbye to Julia Tilford, our PTA Chair**, at our Annual General Meeting on Monday 25 September. She has done a splendid job for the last four years and her final report was a true celebration of our remarkable PTA and its invaluable contribution to our school community. Anthony Larcombe is our new Vice Chair so the current post of Chair is still up for grabs if anyone is tempted! He is supported by a strong and highly capable committee whose photos are displayed on noticeboards around our school.
- ❖ **We had our first Harvest Festival Service** in St Mary and St John church on Monday 25 September with the usual warm welcome from father Phil and team. This worked much better than having it in our hall. Thank you to everyone for your donations for The Porch Day Centre. I took a full car load and to the centre. This will help to give vulnerable adults some decent food in the coming months.
- ❖ **Thank you to everyone** who attends our sharing assemblies on Fridays. The small hall is full of parents and friends enjoying our weekly celebration of children's work and achievements. The smiles are infectious and it is one of my favourite moments of the week. We had an excellent sharing assembly for the families of Key Stage 2 children on Friday 6 October where the Year 6 led with a range of work stimulated by their topic on World War 2 including an evacuee song and empathetic writing.
- ❖ **Health and Safety.** Please do not send your child to school with cakes, sweets or biscuits for their birthday as we have a number of children with allergies and it can be divisive. There are times when the teachers may hand out a treat e.g. Christmas, but they are fully aware of all their children's dietary needs. We are still celebratory as we give all children a birthday pencil and sing to them!
- ❖ **Any child who learns an instrument** is welcome to start music school on a Saturday morning at Bayards Hill Primary School. Please contact Jan.morter@oxfordshire.gov.uk for further details or call 01865 816990. There are still places for anyone who wants to learn the violin or cello in school so please ask in the Key Stage 2 office for further details if your child is interested.
- ❖ **Lost property** will need recycling at half term so please take a look at the ever increasing mound in the parents' area with some expensive jackets and coats amongst the socks and scruffy tee shirts!
- ❖ **We have an INSET day on Monday 30 October** so our first day back after half term is Tuesday 31 October. The teachers will be attending a conference with all the other schools in East Oxford on Monday 30 October at Oxford Spires Academy.

I hope you have a lovely break next week and thank you for all your support over the past six weeks.

Best wishes,

Liz Burton