



Headteacher Newsletter

Believe in yourself, Value others, Be proud of your achievements, Smile, Shine, Be happy.



I cannot believe that we are already at the end of our first term of the new academic year. It seems to have flown by without us even being able to blink!

As you all know, this month is one of my favourites with all of the preparations for Christmas. The children have been working so incredibly hard on all of their performances and I have to say a huge well done to everyone involved in making

them all so amazing. I think you will all agree that the children have all performed amazingly well and put a huge smile on everyone's faces. Well done everyone!

We have had a lot going on in the past few weeks which you can see to the side but I have to mention just a few. Our Christmas craft event took place earlier in December with lots of great craft, games and stalls for everyone to get involved with. It was once again very well attended and we thank everyone who came to take part. A special thank you also to everyone involved in making it such a great event from the staff to the PTA and parents who paid for their own stalls, you are all fantastic, we couldn't have done it without you all!

In early December the children have enjoyed a fantastic Panto production of Sleeping Beauty. I have been looking forward to reading some of their writing that they produced as a result of this wonderful addition. It really reminds me of this time of the year and I hope that all of the children came home and told you all about it.

Last week we made our way to the church for our annual Christingle Services. The Year 3, 5 and 6 children all went on Thursday followed by the Year 4 children on Friday with their parents. Both services were really lovely and I have to give a special thank you to Revd Anne Shorter for hosting us. I hope that all of the parents who attended on Friday, and there were quite a few of you, enjoyed the service with their children. It is one of my favourite services in the year and really reminds me that we are getting so close to Christmas Day.

So moving on to the last three days of school this week and I have heard from a magical fairy that there may be a visit by a special gentleman dressed in red next week. I wonder who it could be? If anybody sees this person hanging around the school, please let him know that we have all been extremely good boys and girls this year and we will leave out the reindeer food, carrot, mince pies and milk for someone special to enjoy on Christmas Eve.

Today we have our Reception children performing in both the morning and afternoon. I cannot wait to see what they all come up with.

On the last day of term we have got our usual Southfields has Talent Show, Christmas buffet day and disco for the children. As with last year school will provide the sandwiches and drinks and we ask that families donate an item each to share with their class mates. The teachers will be, if they haven't already, sending home a letter asking for particular items that the children have agreed. On this day the children can wear their best dress or Christmas attire to make us all feel more festive. There is no charge for this :)

Finally before we move on, as we get to the colder months can we remind you to ensure that all children have a warm coat and appropriate footwear in school. Gloves and hats are also appreciated to keep us tasty warm on the cold break/lunchtimes as we continue to go outside in most weathers. Later in this newsletter I will remind you about our Closer Procedures should we have mounds of snow over the coming weeks so please pay close attention to that part.



Highlights from the past few weeks

The Year 1, 2 and 5 children all performed on the stage for their Christmas productions. They were all amazing, well done everyone.

We had a very successful Parents Evenings, thank you once again for your kind comments.

We held another successful Christmas Craft event, thank you all for coming!

Sleeping Beauty visited the school...is that a spinning wheel?

All of the KS2 children took part in a Christingle Service at St John the Baptist Church. KS1 and EYFS will be having theirs in school this week.

The first set of Purple Light children had a magical visit to the Panto to watch Robin Hood.

We supported Children in Need with our PJ day and raised £740.00! Thank you to everyone who donated.

Hello's and Goodbye's

We have some sad news to share with you all. Our wonderful Mrs Paterson leaves us this week to take up her dream job as Inclusion Manager at another Peterborough school. Mrs Paterson has been with us for many years now and has worked in several year groups across the school sprinkling her glittery magic as she goes. We will be so sad to see her go but wish her all the best with her new role, please keep in contact and come and visit us all often.

But as we see someone leave we get the positive of seeing someone new come in. And I have some exciting news to share with you as we do not just welcome one new teacher to our team but two! Mrs Howlett joins us and will be taking over Mrs Paterson's class. She comes from another local Primary School and yes you may recognise her last name...she is married to our lovely IT Teacher Mr Howlett! Mrs Howlett is very enthusiastic and raring to get started, she will be popping in today to see the children before the Christmas break and I am sure will make a smooth transition into their teacher. Alongside Mrs Howlett we also welcome Mrs Davis. Mrs Davis joins us until the end of the Summer term supporting us with additional interventions in our Middle School base. She is a fantastic teacher and is a trained SENDCo so brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge so we are sure to see some fabulous progress with the children she will be working with.

As you will all be aware, Miss Maracine and Mrs Sutton are currently completing their Teacher Training year with us and a part of this includes a placement in another school. This will take place in the Spring Term and so we welcome in two other Trainee teachers who will be working with us instead. Into Year 3 RB we welcome Miss Evans and into Year 5 we welcome Miss Wright. They will both be in school this week to meet the children and spend some time getting to know them all in preparation for their placement in the Spring Term. Good luck to Miss Maracine and Mrs Sutton, we hope your placement goes well. We will miss you both while you are away but will see you soon!

A Christmas Story to share

Joseph was a carpenter who lived in Nazareth. He was engaged to be married to a young woman named Mary. One night, he had a dream. In this dream, an angel of the Lord came and stood beside him. The angel said to him, "Joseph, son of David, I have a message for you. Mary is going to have a son, sent by the Lord. You are to name him Jesus, because he will save people from their sins."

Joseph and Mary were married in Nazareth. Soon, a command was given from the emperor Augustus Caesar through all the lands of the Roman empire. This order said that all the people had to return to the cities and towns from which their families had come. Their names would be written down on a list, for the emperor wanted a list of all the people under his rule. This was called a census.

Both Joseph and Mary had come from the family of David the king. So they started the trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem, to have their names recorded.

It was a long journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. They had to travel down the mountains to the river Jordan. They then followed the Jordan almost to its end. After that, they still had to climb the mountains of Judah to the town of Bethlehem.

But when they arrived in Bethlehem, they found that the city was full of people, who, like themselves, had come for the census. They looked for a place to stay, but the inn was full. There was no room for them.

The best they could do was to go to a stable where the cattle were kept. There, the baby was born, and Mary laid him in a manger where the cattle were fed.

On that night, in a field near Bethlehem, some shepherds were tending their sheep. Suddenly, a great light shone on them, and they saw an angel of the Lord standing before them. They were filled with fear, but the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid, for I bring you wonderful news for all people. Today in Bethlehem, the city of David, a Saviour is born. He is Jesus Christ the Lord. Here is how you will know. You will find him wrapped in cloths, lying in a manger."

And then they saw that the air around the sky above them were filled with angels, praising God and singing:

"Glory to God in the highest. And of earth peace among men in whom God is well pleased."

While they looked with wonder, and listened, the angels went out of sight as suddenly as they had come. Then the shepherds said to one another:

"Let us go at once to Bethlehem, and see this wonderful thing that has come to pass, and which the Lord has made known to us."

Then, quickly, they rushed to Bethlehem. There, just as the angels had said, they found Joseph and Mary and the baby lying in a manger. They told Mary and Joseph how they had seen the angels, and what the angels had told them. They spread the word everywhere, and everyone who heard was amazed. Mary thought deeply about these things, and treasured them in her heart.



After their visit, the shepherds went back to their flocks, praising God for the good news that he had sent to them.

When the little one was eight days old, they gave him a name; and the name given was "Jesus," a word that means "salvation," as the angels had told both Mary and Joseph that he should be named. So the very name of this child told what he should do for men; for he was to bring salvation to the world.

Snow Closures

With the colder weather approaching, please could I take a little time to explain the school's weather closure procedures.

If in the event that the school needs to close we will parent pay in the first instance, update the school website, teachers will send a Class Dojo message and parents can listen to 'Heart FM' on 102.7 where all of the Peterborough school closure announcements will be made. This can also be found on their web site www.heartpeterborough.co.uk.

Posters will then also be put on the external gates by the caretaker.

We try not to close the school as we are very aware that child care arrangements can be very difficult at short notice and unless the weather is very severe the school will endeavour to stay open (also I love playing in the snow with the children!). This is also very dependent on staff being able to arrive at school as we have many staff who drive as long as an hour to reach us.

If we are able to remain open, please could children bring extra clothes, (warm jumpers, wellies, socks and trousers or snow gear if you have any, warm hats and gloves...oh and a carrot for the snow man's nose...we always run out!) two lots if they love being outside and then they will have a change if they get wet.



What does a good night sleep do?

I came across an article this month with lots of facts about sleep and it really made me think about our children so I thought I would share it with you all.

Some of the facts include:

Children aged 6-12 years old usually need between 10 and 11 hours sleep every night (some may need more or less). To wake up at 7am in time for school, a good time to go to bed is before 9pm.

Doing something relaxing in the hour before going to sleep can really help. This could be things like reading a book or listening to a story being read, having a bath, cuddling a pet, talking to someone in your family about your day, or playing a board game or puzzle.

Spending time outside during the day and exercising can help someone fall asleep and help them to sleep well.

Keeping to the same routine is a good idea, such as going to bed and waking up at the same time every day, even at weekends.

Check out the poster at the back of this newsletter for some of the reasons why sleep is so good for you. It can make a real difference to children in school so please try to make sure children are receiving enough sleep each week.



BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

Harleigh, Alexander, Archie, Henna, Macy, Evan, Kaden, Leo, Reuben, Kallum, Temidayo, Jakob, Reuben, Eduardo, Malakhy, Edward, Marta, Brennan, Malachi, Blake, Alek, Aryan, Hollie, Alexis, Ruby, Paige, Patricija, Ali, Poppy-Rose, Laura, Heela, Nevaeh, Charlotte, Kian, Ashton, Daniel, Sofia, Tiana, James, Thomas, Vienna, Dawn, Eviee, Sophie Youssef, Jakub, Erin, Henry, Mollie, Marcel, Alfie, Gemma, Oliver, Tobius, Dylan, Amelia, Callen, Abolaji, Thomas, Ajay, Amber, Mason, Oskar, Daniel, McKenzie, Lucas, Mea, Neo, Eliza, Malou, Gracie, Melissa, Oscar, Lewis, Oscar, Jessie, Shanelle, Leo, Fatimah, Alexandra, Dexter, Giovanni, Leonie, Nattalia, Hope, Natala, Mia, Keira, Marlie, Julia, Niamh, Mylie, Alexias, Maisie, Teigan, Amber, Freddie, Jamie, Lena, Rosie, Leo, Dennis, Jayden and Grace.

HOUSE WINNERS

House Point Results are as follows:

1 st Kingfishers	522
2 nd Robbins	469
3 rd Parrots	448
4 th Canaries	415





IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January

Tuesday 8th-School Nurse drop in
 Wednesday 9th-Aylmerton 2020
 Parents Evening
 15th-22nd - Book Fair
 Thursday 17th-Year 6 Growth
 Mindset Workshops
 Monday 21st-Year 6 Evacuee Day
 at Stibbington
 Wednesday 23rd-Year 6 Evacuee
 Day at Stibbington
 Wednesday 30th-Horstead
 Residential 2020 Parents Evening

2018-2019 TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2018

Ends - Wednesday 19th
 December

Spring Term 2019

Opens Friday 4th January
 Half term - Monday 18th to Friday
 22nd February
 End - Friday 5th April

Summer Term 2019

Opens - Tuesday 23rd April
 May Day - Monday 6th May
 Half term - 27th to 31st May



PARENT'S COMMENTS TO THE HEAD

As always we really value your opinions about our school. Please add your comments here for the Headteacher. You can return them in the 'Comments Box' located in the main school office.

This month I am particularly interested in your views about the Christmas events that take place through December. We would like to have some feedback about the elements the children love and you would like to see continue in the future and the things you think are less important. Please

score 1-10 on the following.

1 = not important



10 = very important

December 2018

1. The Pantomime being purchased for all children to watch ____
2. The Family Christmas Crafts Event ____
3. The Christmas Productions ____
4. Visit from Santa ____
5. Christmas Buffet purchased for all children ____
6. Christmas Disco ____
7. Christmas Talent Show ____
8. Christmas Class Card for parents to purchase ____

Moving into 2019

What things would you like and feel are important:

1. Breakfast sessions, meet the teacher and spend time in class ____
2. Workshops ____
3. Clubs ____
4. School Nurse 'Drop ins' ____
5. Mid year report ____
6. E Safety - for parents at home ____
7. Food for Life family event (food growing ideas) ____

Please use the remaining space to make any further comments about things you like, the things you think we need to develop or any ideas you may have and we will try to use them in school.



Merry Christmas Everyone
Love from Mrs Martin and all the Southfields team xxx
See you all on Friday 4th January 2019

Exciting Opportunity!

As a school we think providing opportunities for our children is extremely important. A part of this is taking the children on residential visits to see places and experience activities that they may not always get the opportunity to do or to enhance units of work in their curriculum.

We have come across an exciting potential opportunity that we would like to share with you.

We would like to take the children skiing in France! After many conversations and looking at the best ways to do this we have secured a weeks break (7 nights and 8 days) for a group of 30 children in KS2. They would be accompanied by 4 key members of staff including Mrs Martin and Mrs King. This would take place in January 2020. The cost of the visit is £799.00 per child and includes:

- Return flights from London
- Coach to the airport in the UK and transfers to accommodation in France
- Full Medical and Travel Insurance Cover
- 7 nights full board accommodation
- 3 hot meals daily
- 6 day hire of skis, boots, poles and helmets
- 6 days of x 4 hour ski tuition
- 3 x Ski instructors
- 6 day local lift pass

All of this would usually come to £1395.00 so we have managed to secure a fantastic deal for this visit, should it take place. There are only 30 spaces available for this but with the price we are offering this to all of KS2 as it would only be available for those able to fund the visit, school unfortunately are unable to contribute on this occasion.

We will be holding an interest meeting in January for those who are interested in signing up for this visit. Depending on numbers we will know whether this is something that we are able to do or not. If you are interested in being one of the first to get your name down, please send a Class Dojo message to Mrs King who will log your interest. If we get more that 30 children interested we will look at ways to make it fair as we are limited on this occasion. If we are successful at going we will then look to booking a yearly trip to enable more children to take advantage of the offer available.



SLEEP

**FEEL
happy**

People who get good quality sleep are more likely to...

**MAKE
GOOD
decisions**

PERFORM
better at sports



GET BETTER
scores in exams

**AVOID
illness**

**LEARN
better**

BE MORE
creative



**REMEMBER
more**

FEEL
healthier

**HEAL FASTER
from an injury**