

Newsletter 10 – 15.12.2023

'Be the Light!'

You are the light of the world – like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden – Matthew 5:14



Willow Park
C of E Primary School



Wow... there we have it.... We have reached the end of term 2 and we are about to start the Christmas break. I just wanted to say a huge thank you to all you parents and carers who have really strengthened our small community. Your support so far this year has been so appreciated. Please do keep working with us in 2024 – there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved in school life!

We have finished this week with so much Christmas cheer and it has been a pleasure sharing this with you all.

EYFS and key stage 1 Nativity

This was a joy to behold and I thank all of the team for ensuring how well this all came together.... I will however be singing 'big caravan' for a long time to come! Well done to all the children for being such amazing actors, readers and singers! What a wonderful performance!

Winter workshop

Thank you to all the parents in Robin class and Starling class who made this event special.

We were so impressed with how many of you attended and got involved in the activities! We hope you managed to have lots of fun!

Carols by Candlelight

We completed the week with our special Christmas carol service that so many of you were able to attend again! Thank you for joining in and hopefully you enjoyed the mince pies!

This term has been all about parental engagement and you have all delivered! I hope you have a wonderful break.

Best wishes for the New Year!

Mr Phillips
Headteacher

Attendance this week....

A good week for attendance but I know we can do better! Let's aim for our target in the New Year!

Our School Target is 96%

Attendance this week: 94.3%

Class	Attendance
Starling	96.5%
Kingfisher	96.3%
Owl	94.9%
Robin	94.1%
Sparrow	92.2%
Goldfinch	91.8%

Attendance matters

Please remember that all children are expected back to school on Wednesday 3rd January 2024.

I appreciate and understand that many of you will be visiting families in other countries over the festive period.

Please remember that holidays during term time will not be authorised and will incur a fine of £60 per parent per child.

If you have any questions or queries around this, please do speak to a member of staff so that we can help where we can.

Thank you for helping us all to raise the attendance of children in school. It really does make a huge difference!

INSET DAY

Please remember we are closed for children on 2nd January 2024.

ALL children are back to school on 3rd January 2024 at 8:45am

'In all we do and all we say, let's all be the Light today!'

This term Sparrow Class took part in our annual, 'Christmas in a box' afternoon, delivered by Sally Martin, a member of the Parish that supports us on a weekly basis. Children learn about the meaning of Christmas and what it means to many people around the world



Finally, as you would've read in the newsletter Starling and Robin class opened their doors to the parents for their Winter Workshop. So many of you got involved. Thank you to Miss Miller and Mrs Leaker for organising such a successful event.



As you would've seen the children in key stage 1 and the Early Years produced a wonderful production of 'Follow the Star'. The children and staff worked so hard for 6 weeks, depicting the story of the day that Jesus was born. Here are just a selection of some of the photos that were taken on rehearsal day!



House points so far this term....

Red team	Yellow team
282	290
Green team	Blue team
366	371

House treat

Well done to the **BLUE** team who have won the house treat of 30 minutes extra playtime at the beginning of next term.

You have all been the light through your behaviour and Learning!



Dates for the diary

Here are some dates for your diary... we will continue to add to these dates as the year goes on.

Here are the term dates for this academic year:

2023 to 2024

- **Term 1:** Friday 1 September 2023 to Friday 20 October 2023
 - **Term 2:** Monday 30 October 2023 to Friday 15 December 2023
 - **Term 3:** Tuesday 2 January 2024 to Friday 9 February 2024
 - **Term 4:** Monday 19 February 2024 to Thursday 28 March 2024
 - **Term 5:** Monday 15 April 2024 to Friday 24 May 2024
 - **Term 6:** Monday 3 June 2024 to Tuesday 23 July 2024
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- **2nd January 2024 – INSET day, school closed for children**
 - **3rd January 2024 – School reopens for children at 8:45am**
 - **10th January 2024 – Julian Trust to visit Kingfisher class**
 - **12th January 2024 – Final tours for Reception 2024 @ 9:30am**
 - **15th January 2024 – Closing date to apply for Reception places for 2024**
 - **8th February 2024 – Last day of term for children**
 - **9th February 2024 – INSET day, school closed for children**
 - **19th February 2024 – First day of term 4 for children**