



Dear Parents,

I am sure that all of you who were able to attend the Christmas performances this week enjoyed them hugely. My thanks to the staff for the hours of preparation and rehearsal they put in to achieve such fantastic end-results and, of course, to the children themselves.

I am delighted to say that the charity collections after the performances raised an impressive £263.30. This will be split between the Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary and Bromley Shelter, a local charity for the homeless.

Thank you from Mrs Davall, Mrs Suckling and myself for the very generous assortment of lovely Christmas gifts – we shall look forward to indulging over Christmas before coming back in January and going almost straight into Health Week!

There are, of course, the usual end of term thank you's to say: to our community volunteers and parent helpers, to David Cook for his much-appreciated piano-playing, to the Biedermans for their continued chicken-sitting, to Mr Sterry for looking after the school so well, Rachel and Claire and the PTA team; to Claire, Kathryn and Angela for the Uniform Shop, and to everyone else I've omitted to mention who contributes to the life of our school!

I have attached a poem which has been penned by our very own Mrs Turner who was persuaded to read it to the school in today's Assembly. I think it absolutely sums up the spirit of Christmas; I hope you agree.

### Future Dates:

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January**-Inset Day School closed to children.

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January**-First day of term.

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> -Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January**-Health Week

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup>**-Clubs start

### Awards

**The Spike Trophy** (for attendance and punctuality) went to Y1. Well done!

**The Music Trophy** was awarded to all the children for their amazing performances during the week.

**Silver Awards** were presented to Adi, Aiden, Mason M, Ronnie, Owen, Evan, Paige and Ava (Y2), Kyle, Riya, Isla, Isabella, James and Natalie (Y3), Annabelle, Indi, Chloe and Arabella (Y4), Taylor, Joe and Frankie (Y5) and Oliver, Bonnie, Lily, Dolcie and Lewis (Y6). Well done!

### School News

#### 100% Attendance

The following children have achieved 100% attendance this term. This is 26% of the school. Well done!

Jack, Harry S, Lucia (R), Ada, Harry, Arthur, LJ, Miguel, Mollie, Dario, Lolly, Rosie (Y1), Evelyn, Emma, Emi, Freddie, Adi, Mason M, Owen, Paige, Pearl-Bleu (Y2), Kyle, Luca, Riya, Vinnie, Harrison, Max, Evan, James, Evie, Natalie (Y3), Oliver, Holly, Gabriella, Ralphia, Piers, Arabella, Indi, Maisie, Florence, Annabelle, Sam (Y4), Adhya, George, Isabella, Joe (Y5) and Oliver, Max, Keaton, Lewis, Aquila and Eddie (Y6).

The whole school attendance figure this term was 95.9%, just below our target of 96%.

#### Head Lice

We have reported cases of head lice in school. Please check your child and family members during the holiday and treat any cases.

#### RWI Assessments

I have finished RWI assessments for children in YR and Y1. A "Happy Phonics" revision sheet will be coming home via the children. Please ensure your child looks at this every day during the holidays.

#### Drama Club Performance

Mrs Turner would like to congratulate her drama club for their performance yesterday. They worked really hard and I'm sure the rest of the school and parents/family members enjoyed the production.

#### New electronic gates

You will have noticed that we are having new electronic gates fitted. This will make the school site even more secure. The pedestrian gate will close at 8.55am every morning and will open again at 3pm.

#### Health Week 14th-18th January

I have now finalised the majority of the activities for Health Week in January. I shan't give too much away as I'd like the children to have some surprises but I can guarantee that they will have a busy and an

enjoyable week with, amongst other things, yoga, Life Bus and first aid workshops. I'm very grateful to the parents who sign up to gift aid as without your contributions, Health Week would not be possible.

### Clubs

Bookings are still open for next term. Rhythm and Beat Music Club is now full. **Please note that no bookings will be taken after 6<sup>th</sup> January – you have been warned!**

### Nourish Spring Menu

A new Nourish Menu will start in January. Menus have been sent home via book bags. Please encourage your child to try the school dinners which are both tasty and nutritious. Free to all children in R, Y1 and 2. KS2 £2.20 per pay.

### Dangerous Parking



This car was parked in the bay outside school on the yellow zig zags. This is both illegal and very dangerous as children could be walking past whilst the driver is reversing out of the space.

### Jeans for Genes Charity

We raised a fantastic £158.10 for this very worthy charity earlier this term. Well done and thank you for your support.

### Lunch Accounts

We have a number of outstanding lunch accounts. Please ensure they are settled by the time we return in January. If accounts are not cleared your child will be asked to bring in a packed lunch.

### Community News

**Tenacity Sports**-SEN Sports at Darrick Sports Centre Fridays 5-6pm

Please see attached flyer.

### BYMT Strings Open Day

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January 19

2.30-4.30pm

Please see attached flyer

### Buzzers Christmas Holiday Camp

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December 10-4pm

St Mark's Primary School, BR2 0QR

Please see attached flyer

### Keston Parish Church

December 23<sup>rd</sup> 6.30pm: A festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (followed by mince pies and mulled wine!)

December 24<sup>th</sup> 4pm: Christingle Service (3.30pm to come and make your own Christingle)

December 24<sup>th</sup> 11.30pm: Midnight Communion

December 25<sup>th</sup> 10am: Holy Communion

All are warmly invited.

### For Sale

Renault Clio 1.2, 3 door. 37,000 miles, perfect condition and ideal for a beginner. £3,200. Please contact me for further details.

With best wishes for a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!