

School Newsletter

Thursday 30th November 2023

Christmas at Scarcliffe

Just in case you haven't noticed, Christmas is well on its way and we are busy getting lots planned to make it fun and memorable in school.

Christmas Plays



You should now all have received tickets for the Christmas performances and we look forward to seeing you there.

As previously mentioned, the tickets are limited for the lower school performance due to a lack of space and to ensure everyone who goes gets a good view of the show. Ideally, we would have loved to be able to open it up to more people but this isn't possible. There will be plenty of opportunities to take photos and videos to share with family though.

For the upper school show, we will be performing at The Bolsover School. This gives us chance to invite more people along. Please note that siblings of our performers will be allowed to come along and watch without a ticket.

Raffle

I recently updated you on Class Dojo with a range of prizes we have already managed to get for the Christmas raffle. These



include a range of gift vouchers, family experiences alcohol and a range of gift sets. Once again, thank you for the kind donations we have received. Ticket sales have been a little slow up to now, but there is still plenty of time to return the money and ticket stubs before the draw on 18th December.

Festive Food Bank



This year we are hoping to be able to give to those people who need support around this time of year. We are hoping that people might be able to

donate some items to our festive food bank so we can pass them on to The Freedom Foodbank. Items can be brought in to school on Friday 15th December. Please see the Class Dojo post for details of suggested items.

Christmas Parties and Christmas Dinner

Our pupils will have the chance to enjoy one of Louise's amazing Christmas Dinners on Wednesday 20th December. If children usually have sandwiches, they are more than welcome to switch on to school dinners for the day!

The class Christmas parties will be held on the afternoon of Friday 22nd December. To get pupils in the party mood, we have planned to have a Christmas party dinner that day. More information will follow soon.

Sports Events



It has been a very busy half term for sports and as always, our teams have represented us amazingly well!

Events have included a Key Stage 2 Sports Festival at Stonebroom, a boccia tournament – which we won meaning we qualified for the district finals, a 'learn to play boccia festival and a football tournament following successful qualification in the last round.

We have been delighted with the uptake we have had for the Qualitas dance and gym sessions on Thursday evenings. The children seem to be really enjoying them! Next half term, we move on to Dance and are offering the sessions to Class 1 and 2 again. If your child previously had a place at the club, we will assume they will attend after half term.

Homework

We have given lots of thought to homework in school over the years and have weighed up the pros and cons of setting lots of homework. Ultimately, we decided that children need time to relax and enjoy their childhood and that sometimes settings lots of work can be very challenging at home – for children and their grown-ups to fit in! As a result, we made the decision to keep homework to a minimum and only set tasks that we think are essential.

We do notice that the children who regularly complete **reading at home and regular maths activities – including TTR and NumberBots** do make better progress than those children who don't.

Please continue to encourage your child to complete these tasks as regularly as your child's class teacher has set them. It really will make a big difference!

PSHE Topic

This term the children have been learning about money and finances in a whole school PSHE topic called Money Matters. In this topic, we aim to teach children to understand

how much things cost and how people have to manage their income and spending. Higher up in school, children learn about debt, mortgages, loans, credit and interest rates. I'm sure your child will be able to let you know what they have been learning in class.

Lantern Parade

Here is one more reminder that the lantern parade will be taking place this Saturday (2nd December). As our school have made lanterns this year, we will have a place in the parade. Anyone wishing to take part should meet at Bolsover Castle at 4:45pm. Children are encouraged to bring their lanterns with them for the parade.

New Communication Emails

Next calendar year we aim to reduce the number of physical letters we send out to parents and carers. Instead, some letters - including future newsletters – will be sent to the email addresses provided in your school contact details form. If you think Ms Rich might not have your most up-to-date email address, please get in touch with her to provide the best one. Any letters requiring a reply slip will continue to be sent out on paper.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

With approximately 1 in 4 people in the UK experiencing mental health problems each year, it is clear that we need to support and educate children in school. We do this through our whole school approach and ethos, PSHE lessons, reading materials and whole school topics. We also know that it is likely that members of our school community are in need of support. I have been made aware of a fantastic website that signposts people to a wide range of local support. The website is called the Hub of Hope and is well worth a visit. If you are ever in need of any support, please don't hesitate to get in touch!



Hub of Hope

Find support close to you