

Life continues to be extremely busy here, but it has been a very enjoyable time. From December 1<sup>st</sup>, there have been some very memorable events right up until the last moment! Here is our December diary!

**Christmas Fair** – An enormous thank you to our marvellous PTA, who yet again surpassed themselves, organising and running such a successful Christmas Fair. The children absolutely loved walking through the woods with their lantern, to visit Father Christmas it is still the talk of the school! Thank you also for your generosity in donating various items in the run up to the Fair.

**Carols around the Tree** – I would like to thank all families who were able to join us for this event, singing old and new carols. Special mentions and thanks go to the Junior Choir led by Miss Gaitantzi and the Infant Choir, led by Mrs Haughton and Mrs Hatton, who performed for the very first time. We particularly enjoyed listening to the song composed by the Infant Choir. We were also very impressed by the woodwind performances of two of our Year 5 pupils Naomi and Sophie!



Children and Parents singing Carols around the Tree



Infant choir singing their very own Carol!



Sophie and Naomi played beautifully!

**Circus Skills** - Our Year 5 & 6 children thoroughly enjoyed their circus day, practising juggling, walking the tightrope and balancing feathers and plates; this marked the ending of their core text "Rooftoppers," a text much enjoyed by all!



Tightrope walking!



Balancing a feather isn't easy!



They may need to practise juggling!



**Nativity** – Our Reception, Year 1 and 2 children were all involved in our Nativity performances, which were enjoyed by all. From our very youngest children at 4 years old to the oldest 7 year olds, all our wonderful children sang beautifully, acted with confidence, danced with gusto, narrated their lines cheerfully and clearly enjoyed every moment of their play “Prickly Hay.” I think it’s fair to say that all of the audiences thought the children were marvellous! Well done children and staff for your hard work.

**Pantomime** – Thank you to the PTA, who kindly paid for the Rainbow Theatre Group to perform “Cinderella” for all our children. The children enjoyed watching the magic of this old tale recreated in front of them!

**PTA Shopping Day** – Again a massive thank you to our PTA who organised, bought, wrapped and ran this very special day for our children. Thank you to the ladies who stayed to sell the items during the day. The children thoroughly enjoyed choosing presents for their families and pets. I think the selection of dog treats was more extensive than any pet store!

**House Treat** – Well done to Morpurgo House, who won the House Treat of Pizza and a movie. Our older children enjoyed watching “The Nativity” and our younger children “Arthur’s Christmas.” Morpurgo children tell me they are planning to win again next term, but I’m sure the children in Dahl, Rowling & Donaldson Houses will be determined that they won’t!

**Party Day** – Great excitement was in the air!! We had elves, reindeer, Father Christmas and lots of sparkles and Christmas jumpers in school! We even had a reindeer in the school office! Thank you for sending in donations of party food! The children enjoyed these festive treats and had no trouble finding room after their school lunch!



**Elder Class playing musical statues!**



**Chestnut Class enjoyed dancing!**



**Hawthorn treasure hunting in the woods!**



**Ash & Beech Classes having an “over / under race!**



**Juniper Class jumping for joy!**



**Damson Class creating their own Christmas cards and patterns**



**Pine Class guessing company logos from a small piece of the logo**



**Silver Birch eating for England!**



**Willow Class relaxing after a busy term!**



**Christingle** - We have completed our term with two beautiful Christingle Services at Holy Trinity Church. Both services were very moving and again the children sang, read their lines, prayers, poems and stories confidently. Thank you to Father Michael for leading our Services and to our PTA, who kindly funded battery candles for our younger children to use during the Reception & Key Stage 1 Christingle Service.

#### Key Stage 1 Christingle Service



#### Key Stage 2 Christingle Service



**Christmas Lunch** – Thank you to our wonderful kitchen staffs, who always cook lovely lunches for our children, but today managed to cook and serve Christmas lunch to over 312 children! Thank you also to our governors and Mr Cochran, who came to help our staff serve lunch to the children!



**School Uniform** – I would like to remind all parents of the uniform expectations for our school, which all children should be wearing. Black school shoes please – no trainers. Girls may wear grey skirts, grey pinafore dresses with tights or socks, or smart grey tailored school trousers – no leggings or jogging bottoms should be worn please. Thank you for your support.

**Staffing** – We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Raciti to our office team in January. She will be working in the office during the mornings and then supervising children at lunchtime. We also welcome Ms. Kilduff to our Learning Support Team. She will be working two days per week in classes.

**Interim Reports** – We have had one or two parents querying the meaning of the letters after a number, so we thought this may remind parents of the numbers and letters. The number will usually be the Year group your child is in e.g. 3b + = Band 3 = Year 3 etc.; the letters range from b, b+, w, w+, s, s+. At this time of year, if your child is in Year 4, the majority of children should be working at 4b or in a few cases 4b+. This shows they are at the beginning of the Year 4 curriculum. By the end of Spring term, we would hope a child would move from 4b, through to 4b+, then 4w (within) then at the end of the Summer term we would hope a child would move from 4w through 4w+, to 4s (secure) If a child reaches “s” of any Year group band, it means the child has met Age Related Expectations for that Year group. I hope this clarifies any questions you may have had regarding.

**My staff and I would like to thank all parents for their support this term. I wish you and all your families a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I think we will all enjoy a break with our families.**



**Mrs Tanner always has a smile for everyone!**



### **Achievement Leaves on the Tree:**

**8:12:17**

**Ash –Edie, Beech -Alice , Chestnut – Noah, Damson – Harriet, Elder - Grace, Hawthorn – Scarlett, Juniper –Imogen, Lime - Thomas, Maple –Oliver P, Oak –Jude, Pine –Evie, Silver Birch –Luke, Willow – Charlie**



**15:12:17**

**Ash –Euan, Beech -Charlie, Chestnut – Harry, Damson –Elizabeth, Hawthorn –Alfie E, Juniper –Ella, Lime –Cameron, Maple –Ted, Oak-Ty, Pine –Sophia, Silver Birch –Evie, Willow –Alice**



## **Congratulations:**

### **Mighty Multiples:**

**Silver – Chestnut – Max & Aaron, Damson – Amir & Jackson, Juniper – Freddie, Imogen, Raffi, Vincent, Heather, Tom, Megan & Daisy**

**Gold – Juniper – Oliver, Zeph**

### **Pen Licence:**

**Lime – Ellie, Aisling, Esme, Shiham, Louie, Juniper – Ellie Joseph, Herbie, Nate, Heather, Daisy**

## **Congratulations:**

**Chestnut – Ella Rae who won a swimming award**

**Lime - Kaylin who achieved her 50m swimming badge**

**Silver Birch – Archie who won a gold medal at boccia and helped his team qualify for Regional Finals**

**Pine – Grace who came 1<sup>st</sup> in the Locality Cross Country, Silver Birch -Grace 18<sup>th</sup>, Harry 25<sup>th</sup>, Willow – Olivia 25<sup>th</sup> & Arlo 23<sup>rd</sup> – all 5 have qualified to the next stage of the competition at East Grinstead. Congratulations also to Bea D, Poppy K, Ava G, Jennifer E, George A, Benji S, Ben M, Freddie P, Monty O, Dylan S who also ran extremely well for our school in the competition.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2017 – 2018 - correct at time of issue (may be subject to unavoidable changes)

**SPRING TERM 2018** (may be subject to unavoidable changes)

**INSET DAYS 2017 – 2018   Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February,   Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June,   Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Start of Term

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January – Lime Class starts swimming

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January – Year 6 SATs Meeting – 3.30pm

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Deadline for Reception 2018 Applications

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January – PTA Annual General Meeting at School 7.30pm

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January – Year 2 SATs Meeting

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February – PTA Race Night

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Instrumentalist Concert in the hall 3.30pm

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February – Year 3 trip to Butser Farm

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Mother's Day Worship

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day & dressing up as a book character

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March Sir Teach a Lot to visit Year 4

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Readathon Week

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Open Afternoon 2.15pm – 4.30pm (Normal Finish time 3.15pm )

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March – PTA Disco

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Interim Reports go home

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March -Parent Consultations

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Non Uniform in exchange for a chocolate Easter Egg (no nuts please)

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Reception, Year 1 & 2 Easter Bonnet Parade & Years 3 – 6, Eggs for Eggstravaganza Competition

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – End of Term (3.15pm)