

Merry Christmas



Curdrige Primary School

Newsletter 3 – Autumn Term

5th December 2017



Curdridge Primary School

Caring, Confident, Polite, Proud, Supportive, Successful

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Tuesday 5th December 2017

Dear Parents,

Update

How time flies... I can't believe that we are already into December and are planning for a really packed few weeks leading up to Christmas! This newsletter will bring you up to date with a number of things taking place over the next few weeks.

A big thank you!

- A big thank you for supporting our Children in Need Day on 17th November and to the Y6 Civic Awarders and School Council for their hard work in baking and selling cakes and biscuits. In total the children raised the fantastic sum of £230 – a superb effort!
- A big thank you to the CSA for their super organisation of the Christmas fair. The event seemed very busy indeed! Thank you to the parents who supported the fair through donations; offers of help and spending of money.



Posada – once more this year we would like to join St Peter's Church in what promises to be a lovely opportunity to celebrate the season of Advent.

What is Posada?

Posada is an old Mexican tradition where young people dressed as Mary and Joseph travel from house to house asking for a room for the night and telling people about the imminent arrival of Jesus in the weeks leading up to Christmas. On Christmas Eve they visit the local church to re-enact the nativity and place figures of Mary and Joseph in a crib. Modern day Posada uses nativity figures of Mary and Joseph who travel from place to place or house to house. This gives each 'host' the chance to create their own celebration in their home with the real message of Christmas being the focal point.

What is involved?

If you and your family would like to be 'host' for an evening, then you simply place your name on the Posada rota in the school entrance. For the evening you 'host' Mary & Joseph, you can choose to do whatever you like. You can put Mary and Joseph in the window, light a candle or say a prayer or discuss the meaning of Christmas with your family. The following day you bring Mary & Joseph to the entrance area in school ready for the next family to collect at the end of the school day. We like to hear about Mary and Joseph's journey around Curdridge and the local area; we simply ask that you complete a brief 'diary' entry for the time that you 'host' and a book is provided for this. It's as simple as that! Mary and Joseph's journey will start on 5th December and then they will join us for the Junior Carol Service on the evening of Wednesday 20th December. Taking part in Posada will give you the ideal opportunity to celebrate and talk about the true meaning of Christmas with your children. Please act quickly as there will be a limited number of days when we can send Mary and Joseph to their host families!

Christmas post box

From 5th December there will be a Christmas post box in the entrance hall. This gives children the chance to 'post' any cards they wish to send to people in school. Please make sure that names (first and surnames) along with classes are written clearly on envelopes so they can be delivered easily. (Please also make sure that Great Auntie Dot's card is not mixed up in the pile – it has happened in the past – honest!)

Other Christmas activities

Monday 4th – Wednesday 6th December – Christmas Shop during our lunch times.

Thursday 7th December 11.00am – singing at the Luncheon Club. Class 4 will be visiting the Luncheon Club at the Reading Rooms to sing Christmas carols.

Friday 8th December 9.10am – music assembly with Mrs Lewis' musicians and choir members.

Friday 8th December 10.45am – KS2 choir walk to The White House residential home to perform.

Friday 15th December 9.10am – music assembly (Mrs Staniforth's musicians).



Friday 15th December - Christmas Jumper Day. For a money donation children can wear a Christmas jumper to school; this is in aid of Save the Children. This can either be a Christmas jumper or add a picture or tinsel/decorations to a jumper that you already have! More information from www.christmasjumperday.org

Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th December - Infant Nativity. I would like to remind you that Class 1 and Class 2 will be performing our Nativity in the **school hall** on **Tuesday 19th December at 10.00am (doors open at 9.50am)** and **Wednesday 20th December at 2.30pm (doors open at 2.20pm)** Preschool children are welcome to join us at either performance but we would ask you to sit at the sides of the hall so that if your younger child becomes unsettled, you will be able to make an easy exit from the hall. Thank you.

We are more than happy for you to take your own photographs but please do this at the end of the performance as doing this during the Nativity can 'put children off.' Thank you for your support in this; we look forward to you joining us. (PS – we hope to have a photographer from 'The News' in school; the photograph should appear in the special nativity edition of the newspaper. If you do not wish your child to appear in this photograph, please let us know.)

At the end of both infant nativity performances we will be making a collection for charity.

Wednesday 20th December 6.00pm - Carol Service. Please come and join us for our Christmas Carol Service which will be held in St. Peter's Church. Although this is a junior service, infants will be most welcome but do not have to attend. We would like any infants who attend to arrive and sit with parents throughout the service. Please bring your junior child/ren to school at **5.30pm**; we will then walk to church together. At the end of the service, juniors will return to school and can be collected from the main school building. Children should be in school uniform - a white collared shirt/blouse and school tie. (If the weather is very cold perhaps they could wear a white tee shirt under their shirt/blouse.) A torch is also very useful in the dark churchyard!

Please will you also let us know, as soon as possible, if your junior child is unable to attend.

Pre-school children and babies; the Carol Service lasts for about 45 minutes. We appreciate that this is a very long time for small children and babies to sit still and remain quiet, particularly in the late evening towards bedtime. If it is **at all possible**, could you please not bring small children or babies to the service, so that the juniors can concentrate on their performance, readings and singing.

At the end of the Carol Service we will be making a collection for charity.

Thursday 21st December – Christmas lunch. For all infants there is no payment if your child chooses a lunch on this day. For juniors who usually have a school meal, payment will be added to your account. If your junior child usually has a packed lunch but would like a Christmas meal, please send in £2.15.

Starting school in September 2018?

Do you have a child who will be 4 years old between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018? From 1st November 2017, you can apply for a place at the school either online at www.hants.gov.uk/admissions. The deadline for any application is **15th January 2018**.

We want to share with you...

Whilst we were obviously delighted with the OFSTED outcome in the summer, we are determined to make Curdridge Primary School the best it can be and therefore our journey of self-improvement continues.

In November we had our first Early Years moderation visit and I would like to share some of the comments made by the moderator:

- *The school has embraced a wide range of training and development opportunities they have been part of and together with the Headteacher have developed a really strong Early Years pedagogy that is reflected in their daily provision and the learning opportunities provided for the children.*
- *The school have been able to take all that they have learnt and applied this to reflect the strong ethos and values within the school.*
- *The staff all have an in-depth knowledge and the learning is personalised for all children; this is a strength of the team.*

Last week we were visited by a member of county's English team to work alongside and support staff. Again this was a very worthwhile activity with the following comments being made:

- *The teaching of phonics is active with children fully engaged.*
- *Staff show good subject knowledge in their teaching and this is shown by children using technical language from YR to Y6.*
- *Writing and reading activities are exciting and include a range of resources to 'hook' children into their learning.*
- *Staff have high expectations of children.*
- *Lessons have 'pace' with staff questioning and challenging children in their learning.*
- *Reading and writing are interlinked well.*

We are obviously delighted with the comments made!

E- Safety

During anti-bullying week in November we spoke to the children about ways to keep themselves safe on the internet. Below are some very useful links for parents:

Think you know www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Childnet International www.childnet.com/resources/know-it-all-for-parents

www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers

Kidsmart www.kidsmart.org.uk/parents

CEOP www.ceop.police.uk/ (A CEOP link is also on our website)

Report Abuse www.ceop.police.uk/Ceop-Report/

Report Illegal Content www.iwf.org.uk

E-Safety www.whoishostingthis.com/resources/e-safety/

Get Safe Online www.getsafeonline.org

Windows Safe Set Up account.microsoft.com/family/about

Facebook Safety www.facebook.com/safety

Instagram Tips for Parents help.instagram.com/154475974694511/

Vodafone www.vodafone.com/content/parents.html/

NHS services

The NHS has recently launched a special website promoting their services. This website will give you top tips and advice on common illnesses and minor ailments. More information can be found at <http://hereforyouhampshire.nhs.uk>

Parking

Please take extra care and consideration when parking. A number of parents have recently commented on the difficulty parking in the car park due to lack of space between cars.

Day closures for 2017-2018

The remaining day closures for this year have been agreed as follows:

Monday 19th February 2018

Monday 16th April 2018

Monday 23rd July 2018

Diary dates:

4th – 6th December

Thursday 7th December

Friday 15th December

Tuesday 19th December 10.00am

Wednesday 20th December 2.30pm

Wednesday 20th December 6pm

Thursday 21st December

Thursday 4th January

Friday 19th January

Friday 2nd February

Monday 5th February pm

Friday 9th February

Monday 19th February

Tuesday 20th February

Wednesday 28th February pm

Monday 5th March pm

Friday 9th March

Tuesday 13th March pm

Friday 16th March

Wednesday 21st March

Thursday 22nd March

Monday 26th March pm

Thursday 29th April 9.30am

Thursday 29th April

Monday 16th April

Tuesday 17th April

Week beginning Monday 14th May 2018

Week beginning Monday 5th June 2018

CSA Christmas Shop

Children to sing at the Luncheon Club

Christmas Jumper day

Lower school Nativity to parents

Lower school Nativity to parents

KS2 Carol Concert

School closes for Christmas break

School reopens

Messy Church @ CPS

CSA Valentine disco

Girls' Football Tournament

School closes for half term

Day closure

School reopens

Cross Country

Netball Tournament

Mothers' Day tea

Tag Rugby tournament

Messy Church @ Botley

Parents' evening

Parents' evening

Football tournament

Easter Service @ St Peter's Church

School closes for Easter break

Day closure

School reopens

KS2 SATs week

East Dene, IOW residential visit for class 4

Finally I would like to wish you and your family a very happy, healthy and restful Christmas. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Sally Wood

Mrs Sally Wood, Headteacher