

## Newsletter - 24th October

### Dates for your Diaries

- Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October—Half term holiday
- Monday 3rd November—children return to school
- Tuesday 4th November -
  - Reception trip to Sycamore Green Adventure
  - Key Stage 2 trip to cinema
- Thursday 6th November—
  - Year 2 trip to Safari Park
  - Football team match (at home)
- Friday 7th November—
  - Year 4 Roman day
- Saturday 8th November— Friends of Highfields Auction
- Tuesday 11th November—Nursery PM trip to Haden Hill Park
- Wednesday 12th November—
  - Nursery AM trip to Haden Hill Park
  - Parents' Evening
- Thursday 13th November—
  - Parents' Evening
- Friday 14th November—
  - Children in Need
  - Year 5 trip to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
- Tuesday 18th November—Year 1 & 2 trip to cinema
- Friday 21st November—
  - Year 4 trip to Roman Fort
  - 3K class assembly
- Saturday 22nd November—School Band at Blackheath Lights Switch On
- Friday 28th November—5R class assembly
- Monday 1st December—Christmas gift sales
- Tuesday 2nd December—trip to Nutcracker
- Wednesday 3rd December—Christmas gift sales
- Friday 5th December—Y3 trumpet assembly
- Monday 8th December—School Band at Salvation Army PM
- Tuesday 9th December—Reception Christmas Production at 2.15pm
- Wednesday 10th December—Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
- Thursday 11th December—
  - AM Nursery Christmas production at 11am
  - PM Nursery Christmas production at 3pm
- Friday 12th December—Christmas Fayre
- Tuesday 16th December—KS1 Christmas production
- Thursday 18th December—Carol Service PM
- Friday 19th December—break up for Christmas Holidays
- Monday 5th January 2015—Training day
- Tuesday 6th January—children return to school

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you and your children have had an enjoyable start to the school year and are looking forward to the half term holiday next week!

### Fire Safety

It is that time of year when many of us will be enjoying fireworks at home and at public displays. Attached to this newsletter is a Firework Safety leaflet to help keep you and your children safe. Children will also be taking part in Fire Safety workshops and assemblies on Monday 3rd November.



### New Staff

Mr Welch will be joining us after half term to teach 5P. Mr Welch is moving to us from a school in Dudley and is an extremely experienced teacher with over 10 years' experience. Mrs Patel will be taking on another role within school. I'm sure you will join us in welcoming Mr Welch to Highfields.

### Poppies

The School Council will be selling poppies and other items for the appeal to children during the first week back. Items on sale range from 50p to £1, and include a range of items such as pencils, bracelets, temporary tattoos, hair clips and poppies. Please send money in with your child week commencing Monday 3rd November. A design a t-shirt competition is also attached.



### Friends of Highfields Auction

Friends of Highfields will be holding our 3rd annual auction on Saturday 8th November. Donations of good quality items to auction would be much appreciated and can be brought into school on Friday 7th November. If you need help with transport, please contact the school office. The auction will start at 1pm, with viewing from 12noon and refreshments will be on sale. All profits will benefit the children at Highfields, so please come along for a fun afternoon!

### Children in Need

Children in Need will be on Friday 14th November. Children are invited to dress up as superheroes for the day for a 50p contribution. We will also be selling key rings, wristbands and cakes baked in school. Children are also asked to bring in 1p and 2p coins to decorate a large Pudsey. There will also be a special lunch prepared by Fresh catering. Further information will follow.

### Training Days

The following dates will be training days and school will be closed to all children. We appreciate how disruptive these days can be and have tried to give you as much notice as possible.

- Monday 5th January 2015
- Thursday 7th May 2015
- Friday 8th May 2015

### Christmas Events

Whilst some Christmas dates have already been included in previous newsletters, I know that many of

you appreciate as much notice as possible to enable you to book time off work etc. Please find below the key dates:

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Fayre from 2pm – 4pm.**

Our school brass band will be opening the fayre and all children will be making things to sell on school stalls and there will be a limited number of private stalls too. Father Christmas will also be making an appearance in his grotto! Please try and support us if you can.

To help us with the items the children will be making, if anyone has any of the following, or could save them and send them into school as soon as possible, we would be very grateful!

- buttons - all sizes, shapes and colours
- plastic plant pots (small please)
- beads

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December—Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day**

A letter will be sent out after half term to enable you to book this meal in advance.

Children are also invited to wear their Christmas jumper to school and contribute 50p to raise funds for Save the Children, further information will follow closer to the date.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Carol Service.**

Our annual Carol Service will be held at St Paul's church, with all children walking to church to take part. Parents are welcome to come and join us and the service starts at 1.30pm.

### Christmas Productions

Children from Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 will be performing their Christmas productions on the following dates, letters will be sent closer to the date to enable you to obtain tickets.

- Reception—Tuesday 9th December at 2.15pm
- AM Nursery—Thursday 11th December at 11am
- PM Nursery—Thursday 11th December at 2.30pm
- KS1—Tuesday 16th December at 6pm

The KS1 Christmas party will be on Friday 19th December in the afternoon. Reception and Nursery parties will be on Wednesday 17th December.

### Attendance

If your child needs to attend a doctor's appointment please try to bring your child to school beforehand for them to receive their mark. Your child can then be signed out via the school office when they need to leave to attend the appointment. If your child arrives late at school due to a doctor's appointment, evidence of the appointment will need to be provided to enable the absence to be authorised.

When calling the Attendance line to report an absence, please can you leave the following information in the message :- Child's name, class, and specific reason for absence.

Congratulations to the the following children who won the attendance prize for this half term -

- Jesse Chima from 1V
- Abdulla Mughal from 2W
- Freddy Parker from 4P
- Elise Bradford from 4B



*Have a safe and happy half term!*