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Newsletter



From the Head Teacher

Christmas message



There have been some special Christmas moments this year.

Watching the Nativity plays was a reminder of the incredible power of events 2000 years ago, and the ability of children to bring communities together. Parents and grandparents of all nationalities and faiths looked on proudly as their children sang and told the story of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, in two very different ways.

The Christmas story brings hope and love into people's lives. Even the hardest-hearted tend to melt at this time of year and we pray that all our families and friends are able to enjoy some peace and tranquillity over the festive period, after what has been a difficult year for many.

In an age of uncertainty the New Year is a new start and the school and its staff are here to ensure the very best future for you and your families. Our best wishes to you all and see you again in 2019, on Tuesday 8 January!

Nativity

Seeing the nursery and reception children in their Nativity was a delight. They looked amazing in their costumes and performed really well on the 'big stage', not daunted at all by the huge audience awaiting them.



What made me proudest was how incredibly well every child has done since September. Each of them has taken their first steps into growing into the person that they will be! Sometimes it takes the innocence of children to remind us how precious everything is.

A Mid-Wife Crisis

In these days of austerity the Year 1 and 2 Nativity performance was aptly named! With her mobile phone low on charge and her sat-nav not working the poor midwife had her work cut out to get to the important birth on time, only to find that a group of shepherds and some kings had beaten her to it. If only she had listened to Steve the Donkey, but then again "no-one ever listens to a donkey"!



The children looked fantastic in their costumes and sang and acted really well. We were very proud of them all and there was a fantastic turn-out from parents.



We were very happy to collect for Home-Start this week and raised £325 in donations from all our performances. We were also able to pass over 20 Christmas Shoeboxes full of gifts which we hope will be enjoyed by children around Banbury. The majority of these were from UTC Aerospace and, as well as our thanks, we wish all our friends there a very Happy Christmas.

Best wishes,

Neil Blackwell





Viking Day

Year 4 finished off their Vicious Vikings topic in style, trading with each other in class and even baking some Viking bread.



Attendance

Mrs Gilkes' class had a wonderful afternoon at the bowling alley as their prize for winning last term's attendance award. Attendance has remained good across the school. Who will be the winners this term?



St Leonard's Church

Find out what is happening in our church by going to their website:

<http://saintleonards.org>



School Website

We have been making some subtle changes to the website to make it easier to navigate. If you haven't been on for a while have a look and let us know if there is anything else that you need.



Christmas Food Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported the PTFA food fair last week and especially to Mr Wilkinson for his now legendary Ackee and Saltfish. It was a nice opportunity to bring the school community together and, as a backdrop, we also had the school choir singing by the Christmas Tree which made for a very atmospheric evening. Thank you to Miss Nicklin, as always, for her time.



Dates for your Diary

Monday 7 January	INSET day school closed for children
Tuesday 8 January	school opens
Tuesday 15 January	Year 5 and 6 Imagineering sessions
Thursday 17 January	Parent NSPCC Online Safety breakfast workshop 9.00am – free bacon butties!
Monday 28 January	Prayer Space Week
Monday 28 January	Year 3 and 4 bCyberwise
Tuesday 29 January	Year 5 and 6 bCyberwise

Jack

We say goodbye to Jack Cane who has been a popular member of staff at lunchtime and at Breakfast Club. A lively presence around the school, he is now building his experience by becoming a Teaching Assistant in Bicester. Good luck and best wishes, Jack.

