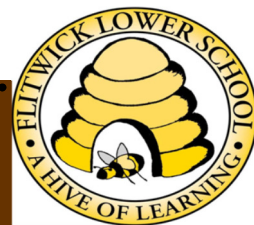


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Flitwick Lower School Newsletter No. 6



1st December 2017

KEY DATES AND EVENTS:

3rd Dec—Christmas Fayre
4th Dec—YR 1 Concert
5th Dec—YR 2 Concert
6th Dec—Foundation Concert
7th Dec—YR 3 Concert
13th Dec—Christmas dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
19th Dec—Break up for Christmas
January 2018
3rd Jan—Start of school for all children
4th Jan—E-safeguarding Talk 6pm
20th Jan—27th Jan—Panto Performances
12th Feb—18th Feb—Half Term
2nd Mar—World Book Day—Dress as a Character
7th Mar—9th Mar—Yr 4 Grafham Trip
14th Mar—16th Mar—Book Fair
19th Mar—Class Photos
22nd Mar—Grafham Assembly
26th Mar—Parent Consultation Evening
27th Mar—Parent Consultation Evening
29th Mar—Break up for Easter
16th Apr—Start of school for all children
24th May—New Parents Evening for Foundation Pupils 18-19
28th May—3rd Jun—Half Term
6th Jun—Open Day
9th Jun—Flitwick Carnival
18th Jun—KS2 Sports (am)
19th Jun—KS1 Sports (am)
20th Jun—Foundation Sports (am)
6th Jul—Fun Run
7th Jul—Summer Fete
13th Jul—Transition Morning—All Classes
17th Jul—Open Evening
18th Jul—Yr 4 Leavers Production and Presentations
20th Jul—Break up for Summer

School has been a very busy place over the last few weeks. All the children have taken part in a street dance session to help provide them with different ways to keep themselves healthy and fit. Don't forget we do run a dance club after school every Wednesday.

I had the opportunity to watch the drama club perform to their grown ups this week. It is lovely to see how confident and imaginative the children are. The drama club runs every Tuesday after school.

Next week Christmas starts in earnest. We are all looking forward to watching the Christmas concerts. The afternoon dress rehearsals start at 2.15pm and will be watched by siblings and year groups. The evening performances start at 6pm. The children need to be back in school by 5.30pm so they can get ready. There will be refreshments in the hall whilst you wait and all donations are going towards the playground refurbishment.

Janet Roberts, Cheryl Edwards and Neil Yates spent some of their Saturday decorating the courtyard in school in readiness for Christmas. It looks great and makes us all feel very festive.



Christmas Fayre

This Sunday 3rd December is our annual Christmas Fayre. It is open from 2—4pm and there are lots of festive activities on offer. The fayre is being opened by our Year 4's who are singing some of their favourite Christmas songs.

There are lots of stalls, so come along and buy some of your Christmas gifts and stocking fillers.

Santa flies in just after 2pm, so come and have chat and let him know all the things that are on your list.

There will be refreshments on offer all afternoon and raffle tickets on sale to win some fabulous prizes



Christmas Dinner

Today was the deadline for children in Years 3 and 4 to book a Christmas dinner.

Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 are already booked in.

Christmas dinner is on Wednesday 13th December

ATTENDANCE AND LATENESS

As a school, we are having a focus on improving pupils attendance and lateness. The school's attendance policy has been updated and can be found on the school website. Regular attendance in school is mandatory and research shows that children who miss up to 17 days in school achieve lower than those who attend regularly—this can be a whole grade drop at GCSE's.

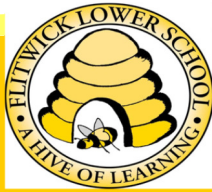
97%+ = Good Attendance
95% = Satisfactory Attendance
90 – 95% = Needs improvement
90% and below = Persistent Absence

School starts at 8.50am therefore children need to lined up on the playground ready. A child who arrives between 9am and 9.10am will be marked as late. A child who arrives after 9.10 is marked as unauthorised as the registers have closed.

We monitor attendance weekly, monthly and 1/2 termly. If your child's attendance is a cause for concern you will be invited to a meeting to discuss ways forward.



Flitwick Lower



TEMPLE WAY

A Hive of Learning

COMMUNITY NEWS

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Flitwick Children's Centre

If you are a mum or dad under the age of 24, come and join us on **Friday morning from 10am until 11.30am**.

Have fun taking part in a variety of activities like messy play, cooking, arts and crafts, walks to woods and celebrating festivals while socialising and making new friendships.

LANGUAGE OF THE MONTH

This month we are finding out how to speak **Italian**. The children will be introduced to some basic phrases and find out more about the countries that speak Italian.

NUT FREE SCHOOL

Please remember that we are a Nut Free School, as we have several children who are severely allergic to nuts. Please do not bring in any granola bars or spreads that contain nuts.

CIRCUS AT THE VILLAGE HALL

We have been given the opportunity to get commission on the ticket sales for the Circus at the Village Hall on 9th and 10th December. Tickets are available from the School Office.

Family Ticket is £25 (for 2 Adults & 2 children). Individual adult tickets are £8 and child tickets are £6. There are 3 shows on Saturday 9th December and 2 shows on Sunday 10th December.

Tickets are available now and will be on sale at the Christmas Fayre. Cash only please.



Bingo

Mrs Barber's bingo was a great success with lots of winners!!

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Barber and her team Mrs Bullen, Mrs Degnan, Mrs Smith and Miss Barber for giving up their time to run the event. Look out for the next date in the Spring.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

We have now signed up for **Aviva Community Funding**.

Voting is now open! Now's the time to share our project with friends and family to get as many votes as possible. We hope to raise more funds for the playground. Here's the project link that you'll need:

<https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/17-2744>

Everyone can cast 10 votes and we need at least 1000 to be guaranteed some funding. The more support our project gets the better our chances of securing funding.

CO-OP LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND

We have now managed to access the Co-op Local Community Fund, which means that members of the Co-op can choose to give their 1% to Flitwick Lower School Association. This funding period is open for 11 months until 27th October 2018.

Every time members shop at the Co-op 1% of what they spend on selected own brand products and services goes to the Co-op Local Community Fund.

Please do help us with raising more money for the playground refurbishment.

IS YOUR CHILD ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you are in receipt of certain benefits you may be eligible for Free School Meals which can also include additional funding to help the school in enriching their time at school eg support with trips etc.

This is different to universal free meals for children in FS, YR 1 & 2.

Please pick up a leaflet from the school office to check your eligibility.

CONTACTING SCHOOL

If you need to get in touch with us during the School Holidays, you can always email us on the main address, flitwick@cbc.beds.sch.uk or call and leave a message on the answerphone.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Remember all newsletters and attachments are available to download from our School website at: www.flitwick-lower-school.net

We update the site regularly as well as uploading information sent through from outside agencies. Please check for SEND information and resources.