



Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to our December newsletter.

The build up to Christmas is always an exciting and busy time of year in schools. The children and staff are looking forward to the various activities and I know the children are already counting down the number of sleeps until Christmas Day. The school has been filled with songs and preparations for the children's productions and I'm looking forward to seeing them.

Amidst all the sparkle and glitter of the preparations, we also reflect on the true meaning of this special time and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful Christmas time.

N France
Head teacher

Christmas at Overstone

This morning in assembly, as is our tradition every year at the start of December, the youngest and the oldest child in school turned on the lights on the Christmas tree in the hall. Well done Elizabeth and Adele on starting off all the Christmas festivities for us.

Poppy Appeal

You might like to know that we raised the most we have ever done for the Royal British Legion (£439.55). Thanks go to Alfie and Cameron for representing the school so well at the village Remembrance service. Mr Stephen Naghi, the Wing Village Poppy Appeal Organiser, described the boys as 'first class', who 'certainly did Overstone very proud'.



ALFIE AND CAMERON



ELIZABETH AND ADELE

Fireworks Display

Thank you to the PTA in particular and to everyone involved. It was a super evening, with fabulous weather and we raised a huge £1900.00. A special 'thank you' goes to the volunteer 'Firing Squad' of Mr D'Souza, Mr Peel, Mr Sanders, Mr Stephens and Mr Wilmott – all Dads who have or have had children at Overstone. They gave up their time generously for training, planning and setting up the event and we are all extremely grateful to them.

Children in Need

A big thank you for your contributions. We raised £250.89 for this special charity.

PTA raffles

All children should have brought home an envelope containing raffle tickets for the forthcoming Christmas raffles. Please return your raffle tickets and monies to the office as soon as possible.

Badminton Festival

Congratulations to the two teams of year 3 and 4 children, who took part in the 'Bisi Badminton Festival' at Cottesloe School last Wednesday. They all demonstrated great sportsmanship and represented the school tremendously (from Mr Dixon, Mrs Dallas and Mrs Brain).

Multi skills Festival

Mr Williams and Mr Dixon accompanied two year 2 teams with 2 year 6 pupils for support to the Cottesloe Multi skills festival this week. Well done all for the super sportsmanship displayed!



Christmas plays

We are all looking forward to our Christmas celebrations and plays in Nursery, Reception and year 1 and 2. Tickets have all been sent out for the Reception and Year 1 and 2 plays. We still have a few limited tickets available for the 9.30 performance (Thursday 15th December – year 1 and 2). If anyone at this stage would like to swap from the 10.45 performance, please see me in the office.

ParentPay

We are pleased to announce that we are ready to 'go live' with the first phase of ParentPay next week and initial information letters will be coming home with your child today. Next week, we will issue you with Account activation details, with a view to enabling you to order and pay for your child's meals online directly with AIP. Hopefully, this will make ordering and paying for meals much easier for you and for AIP too. ParentPay is now used by a great many schools very effectively and we hope to develop its usage in the New Year, for trips, music etc. and to ultimately become a cashless school.

Nursery parents

Please be advised that the last day for Nursery children this Autumn term is **Thursday 15th December**. We apologise for any inconvenience caused, while the flooring is replaced and Mrs Bendall visits the new Nursery starters at home.

Applications for Reception September 2017

If you have a child who will be 4 by 31st August 2017, wanting to join our Reception class in September 2017, please remember to apply online between 7th November 2016 and 16th January 2017 to your local County council. Please see the posters around the school or use the link below, if you live in Bucks.

<http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/education/schools/admissions-and-moving-school/admission-to-primary-schools/>

Please also collect an application form from the office and return it to us as soon as possible, so that we can have a clear idea of numbers.

Uniform questionnaire

The Governors' Marketing Committee is looking forward to receiving your completed Uniform questionnaires, which are due back please by Friday 9th December.

Please remember to send your children in coats, hats, scarves and gloves (all named please) in this very cold, wintry weather.

Copies of letters

Many thanks to all of you for printing off your own copies this past month – this will be a massive saving for the school by the end of the year if this continues.

After School Activities

Please see the information below regarding the last club sessions for this term:-

KS2 Cross Country on Monday – last one will be Monday 12 th December	Y2 Sports Club on Thursday – last one next Thursday 8 th December
KS2 Homework club and Y6 Booster classes on Tuesday 6 th December	Y3 Craft club on Thursday – last one 15 th December
Y5/6 Football (boys/girls) - no more now until after Christmas	KS2 Choir on Friday – last one next Friday 9 th December
Y3/4 General Sports on Wednesday – last one on 14 th December	

Pantomime

We are all looking forward to the Pantomime on Friday 16th December. We shall be leaving school at 11am and returning between 4.15 and 4.30pm (traffic permitting). Please keep the car park clear for the coaches. The children will go back to their classrooms, to be picked up from the usual venues, except for Reception children, who will leave via the Dining Room.

All children will need a packed lunch on the day of the Pantomime (as mentioned in the Pantomime letter) and if you have ordered a hot meal via AIP for that day, you will be issued with a credit. Please note we must have a completed parental consent form from everyone before 16th December, as well as the Pantomime letter reply slip.



Photographic permissions

We are currently updating our records. If you have received a Photographic Permission letter in the past 2 weeks, please fill it in and return it to the school office prior to the forthcoming Christmas plays etc.

Lost property

Please take some time to check lost property (just inside the main door) before the end of term, if you are missing any items.

Last minute pick up arrangements

Please only call the office in cases of emergency on the afternoon concerned (eg. traffic hold-ups etc.). Pick up arrangements should be arranged well in advance and changes communicated to the classroom teacher in writing and in advance of the day concerned.

Attendance for the month of November

Well done Year 1 Cedar and Year 6 in particular on your attendance for November!

Y1 Cedar	98.1%
Y1 Elm	96.2%
Y2 Fir	97.4%
Y3 Holly	97.9%
Y4 Oak	97.4%
Y5 Pine	95.1%
Y5 Redwood	96.9%
Y6 Willow	98.0%
Totals	97.2%

Diary Dates

PTA's Christmas Bazaar – Friday 2nd December 2016 from 6pm – 8pm

Nursery Christmas celebration – Tuesday 13th December at 11.15am

Reception Christmas Play – Tuesday 13th December 2016 at 2.30pm

Nursery taster sessions (for starters in January 2017) – 5th December and 7th December 2016

Last day for Nursery children and Nursery Christmas party – Thursday 15th December 2016

Year 1 and 2 Christmas Play – Thursday 15th December. 2 performances at 9.30am and 10.45am (entrance by ticket only)

Pantomime – Friday 16th December 2016

Christmas lunch – Tuesday 20th December 2016

Last day of term – Tuesday 20th December 2016

Return to school – Thursday 5th January 2017

Thank you to everyone for being so patient with me during my first term at the school.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely Christmas holiday and a peaceful and Happy New Year.

Mrs E Edwardson