

Pilgrims post

Thursday 24th November 2011

Welcome to our brand new e-post

Welcome to our brand new e-newsletter! It's still full of the usual school information but in a new, easy to read, format. We plan to send it out on a monthly basis so if you have any comments on the new format I would love to hear from you.

Many thanks to everyone who gave generously to the recent Poppy Appeal which raised a fantastic sum of £281.87. Our local British Legion representative (the father of Steph Harwell in Nursery) was delighted with the amount raised.



Year 2 News

Last week we invited three other schools to join several Year 2 children for a print making workshop. Four of our pupils worked alongside visiting children from Priory Lower School, Shackleton Lower School and St. John Rigby Lower School to make an autumn leaf print. They created a background colourwash and printed their autumn leaves using blocks they had made earlier from wood and string. The finished pieces of work were superb and a lovely afternoon was had by all!

Children in Need

Thank you to all the children, parents and staff who purchased merchandise and brought in their teddies on Children in Need day. We raised an outstanding sum of £573.20 which will be added to the current total of more than £23 million.

It will make a real difference to the lives of children all across the UK.

Many thanks for your generosity.

Present for Present Day

Present for Present Day is on **Friday, 9th December**. To participate, children from Nursery and above need to bring in £1.50 and a suitable Christmas gift for an adult by the end of this week.

Remember that the gift which is donated by your child should be something that you may like to receive yourself for Christmas.

On Present for Present Day the children will visit Santa's Grotto to choose a present which will be gift wrapped and sent home.



Monday 28th November

Next Monday, **November 28th**, the staff remain in school after the children have left to prepare the school for Christmas. It is wonderful to see the children's faces the next morning when they see the festive decorations.

To make sure there is an element of surprise please do not go down into the main school after 3.45pm.

All the children's bags will be put into class boxes by the terrace doors.

Holidays

Please may I remind parents that they must request any days off for children in term time prior to booking holidays. This applies to all children in Reception and above.

While on the subject of holidays, I know that many parents book them quite early so I wanted to give you advance notice that next year's summer half term is a week later than usual because of the Jubilee bank holiday combining with the late Spring bank holiday. In 2012 the summer half term takes place during week commencing 4th June and as the Monday and Tuesday are bank holidays our Holiday Club will be running for just three days – Wednesday to Friday – during this week.

Christmas Tree

This year we are taking part in the Bedford Hospital's Charity Christmas Tree Festival at St Paul's Church in Bedford. This means that Pilgrims School now has a 5' high Christmas tree to decorate and we would like you and your child to help! Please could you spend some time at home creating a wonderful Christmas tree decoration: the theme this year is "Celebration & Jubilation".

The festival is open to the public for viewing from Wednesday 30th November to Saturday 3rd December from 10am to 5pm and Sunday 4th December from 2pm to 4:30pm. There is an entry charge of £2.50 for adults and children under 16 are admitted free of charge. So dig out the glitter and glue sticks and make a decoration with your child by Friday 25th November.



Little Pilgrims update

In Little Pilgrims Miss Anna Cervova is leaving to return to Slovakia to get married and we send her best wishes for the future.

Miss Briony Reid will take her place in the Toddler Room. Mrs Mirella Bochetti will be leaving to take up a new position as a Learning Support Assistant. We wish her well in her new position.

Miss Danielle Hester will be starting shortly in the Little Toddler Room as her replacement.

Forest School

Our Forest school sessions with Toddlers and Kindergarten have started this week.

The children have really enjoyed their first sessions and keep asking the staff "is Forest School today?".

This week the children have been hunting for fir cones, acorns and sticks and putting them in their bags.

Carols on the Terrace

On Tuesday, 13th December, children in Reception and above will be singing carols on the terrace. Please make sure that your child is fully equipped for the cold weather. As they will be playing the part of carollers Mrs Hall would like the children to bring their own coats, hats and gloves from home to wear.

All parents and grandparents are invited to come and watch and mince pies and mulled wine will be available to purchase.

There will be a collection afterwards in aid of our two chosen charities – Keech Hospice and East Anglian Air Ambulance.

This is a very busy time for us so I thought it would helpful to list below some of our forthcoming Christmas events.

- 2 Friday 3.30pm-7.00pm Pilgrims Parents Christmas Fayre
- 6 Tuesday 9.30am-10.30am Reception Christmas Production
- 7 Wednesday 9.30am-10.30am Nursery Christmas Production
- 7 Wednesday 11am-12.00pm Kindergarten Christmas Production
- 7 Wednesday 2.00pm-3.00pm Year 1 Christmas Production
- 8 Thursday 9.30am-10.30am Nursery Christmas Production
- 8 Thursday 2.30pm-3.30pm Reception Christmas Production
- 8 Thursday 6.00pm-7.00pm Year 1 Christmas Production
- 12 Monday 2.00pm-3.00pm Year 2/3 Christmas Production at St Peters Church
- 12 Monday 7.00pm-8.00pm Year 2/3 Christmas Production at St Peters Church
- 13 Tuesday 2.45pm Carols on the Terrace



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