

Newsletter

29.11.2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is wonderful to have seen so many school trips taking place over the last few weeks. These provide a valuable opportunity to reinforce learning. We also believe that they are a chance to experience something new and broaden horizons. The children always speak so enthusiastically about their day afterwards.

This week, Year 6 visited Brighton to learn more about the impact of World War 2 and visited and experienced a bomb shelter before going on a 'bomb walk' which was also an opportunity to link the history and geography curriculums.

Years 3, 4 and 5 visited Battle and the site of the infamous Battle of Hastings. The perfect conclusion to their learning about the Normans!

Last week, Years R, 1 and 2 visited Tilgate Park and Zoo and had an animal encounter to further their learning about animals in science.

Our children are always excellent ambassadors of the school, in fact our year 6's were told that they were the best group they have had this year!

Have a good weekend.

Warm wishes,

**Tracey Newbold** 











#### Attendance and Lateness

Thank you to everyone who has made an big effort with this throughout the week. Please keep it up!

Thank you to those who contacted the school to discuss their particular circumstances. We are always happy to support and work with you.



## Parents at the door

On Thursday the gate lock was frozen and it was interesting to observe how quickly and smoothly the children entered school without parents! Teachers commented upon how quickly they got their classes settled and learning started when they were not meeting parents at the classroom door.

Please do encourage your children to be independent. Even our very youngest children are capable of independence. We encourage this at school and you can support us by getting children to carry their own belongings, pass on simple messages to teachers etc. This all contributes towards building responsibility and self-confidence.

# **Book Bags**

Please ensure children in Key Stage 1 come to school with their book bag. These need to be in school every day and they are needed to ensure word lists, homework and reading books go home.

Please also check these at home to ensure you are supporting children with their reading etc.



#### Afternoon Tea

I hope those of you who attended found this helpful. We will continue to offer this opportunity on a regular basis as it can be very helpful to discuss concerns of any nature. Yesterday we discussed dyslexia and strategies that can be used to support children with difficulties in this area.

We also talked about toileting issues, the school nurse and sleeping issues.

Having Rachael Highfield there provides an opportunity to link teams who work alongside and support children. We are often able to fast track support through this discussion which of course is very helpful in these days of endless waiting lists.

#### **Christmas Jumper Day**

All children are invited to come to school wearing a Christmas jumper alongside their school uniform on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December. We will be raising money for Save the Children and have set up a just giving page.

https://christmas.savethechildren.org.uk/fundraising/CJD240020403?cid=emligsignupclaimedpage -cjd24 001-6071872BB&utm source=SFMC&utm medium=email&utm campaign=DS STC C JD 24 SignUp Claimed&mi u=0&mi ecmp=DS STC CJD 24 SignUp Claimed

Thank you for your support.

# **Christmas Concert**

This week I emailed you regarding the School Christmas concerts which will be taking place on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of December. Please do look out for the sign-up sheets in the foyer and remember just two tickets per family at this stage.

We will also be singing at the Christmas Tree Festival, which we are also decorating a tree for!



#### Nativity - Dormouse and Hedgehoa

Please sign up for tickets for this too. The sign-up sheets are also in the foyer. There will be two tickets per family in the first instance and any spares will be allocated the week before.

# Billingshurst Lions – Father Christmas

**Father Christmas,** with help from the Lions will be visiting Barns Green from 5:30pm on Saturday, 7th December.

For full route details on which villages and streets he will be visiting and how to follow Santa on his tracker, please visit www.billingshurstlions.org or billingshurstlions Facebook page.

The Billingshurst and District Lions wish everyone a very happy Christmas.

## **Diary Dates**

### December

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Messy Church in community room

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> – Splash assembly

Friday 6th - Drop and Read session in Dormouse and Hedgehog 8.45-9.15am

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Christmas concert to parents/carers 2.30pm

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> – Dormouse and Hedgehog Nativity 2.30pm

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> – Dormouse and Hedgehog Nativity 9.30am

- Christmas Jumper Day – in aid of Save the Children

Friday 13th – Mufti day/cake sale for Holbrook Animal Rescue

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Tree Festival and choir performance at Sumners Ponds

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> - Christmas concert to parents/carers 2.30pm

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>/Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> – Class parties

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> – Chartwells Christmas lunch

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – Break up 1.30pm

# January

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – Children back to school

Friday 31st – PTA Winter disco

### February

Friday 14th - INSET day (no children in school)

## July

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> - INSET day (no children in school)

Saturday 12th – Summer Fete