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Head Teacher: Miss Beatrice Smith

'Learning For Life'

2019 December

Dear Parents/Carers

I write ahead of the busy end of term with updates and news in this, the final edition of the newsletter for 2019.

This issue contains:

- Class Organisation and Christmas Cards
- Key Dates and Times to the End of Term
- FOWs News
- Christmas Fair
- Thank you for support of our charities
- Nottingham Rugby Visit
- Willoughby Award Winners
- Emergency Closure & Text Messages
- Swimming Contributions

### **Class Organisation and Christmas Cards**

In school we will once again have a Christmas post box available for children who wish to send each other cards. Please can you ensure if your child is sending cards that they include first name and surname initial on the envelope along with year group.

In summary our class structure is:

Year	Class	Key Stage Group
Reception (Foundation 2)	Class 1	F2 (Foundation 2)
Year 1	Class 1	KS1
Year 2	Class 1	KS1
Year 3	Class 2	KS2 (lower KS2)
Year 4	Class 2	KS2 (lower KS2)
Year 5	Class 2	KS2 (upper KS2)
Year 6	Class 2	KS2 (upper KS2)

### **Key Dates for the Rest of the Term**

#### **DECEMBER**

- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Club (3 of 4)
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Last swimming session for KS1/R before Christmas
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> - Nativity Dress rehearsal (am)
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> - Nativity @ Church - 6:30pm start  
(Children should aim to arrive from 6:15pm. Infants in costume please).
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> - Final Christmas Club
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Jumper Day ('Save the Children')
- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> - 'Carols for All' - 6:00pm @ Willoughby Church

- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> - School Christmas Dinner
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> - 'Jack and the Beanstalk' pantomime at Loughborough Town Hall. We will leave school at 1:00pm.  
Children will not return to school until after the end of the normal school day. Please be ready to pick them up at 4:30pm. We will text you if there is a significant variation to this time.
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Party - children may wear party clothes all day. No packed lunches or dinners as they will be bringing in party food to share (list of food requests will be sent out the week before the party)
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> - **END OF TERM: BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**  
Children may bring in sensible games to share with others (no expensive electronic games please). Please stress to your child it is their responsibility to look after the game (e.g. to ensure all the pieces get put back in the box).  
**Children will NOT need their P.E. kit after Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec**

## **JANUARY 2020**

- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - INSET Day (School Closed to Children)
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> - First Day Back - Start of Spring Term 1

### **FOWs News**

It has been a busy month for FOWs. Firstly, they received the wonderful news that that the final total from the Co-op community fund was £5,370.17. I went along with a selection of children and FOWs members, on a Saturday morning, to receive the rather large cheque that you may have seen in the school entrance. The children made a 'Thank-You' card which was gratefully received as they had never had one before!

Secondly FOWs were incredibly busy working at making the Christmas Fair the success it was. FOWs distributed flyers around the village, inviting everyone to the Fair, which made it more of a community event as well as making it very busy! They also co-ordinated all of the games and tables, set everything up on the day as well as doing all of the refreshments, hampers and a game as well. The children obviously played their part as well with their great games and stunning singing which all led to a grand total of £651.16 being raised on the day. Thank you to everyone for your support.

I will be meeting with FOWs to discuss how to put the money to best use for the school and also planning future events. They are such a great asset for Willoughby.

### **Thank you for Support of our Charities**

Thank you for your on-going support for our charity efforts as a school to raise money for those less fortunate. Doing good for others is an important part of a 'learning for life' lesson.

Our 'Children in Need' dressing up day raised £123 in the end. Thank you for your generosity. Debbie Brooks has also been busy collecting selection boxes for the 'Forget Me-Notts' campaign and has been overwhelmed by the positive response she has had. She currently has 268 boxes ready to deliver to vulnerable children across the East Midlands and would like to thank you all for your support in this project.

Finally, a reminder that Friday 13<sup>th</sup> is Christmas Jumper Day in support of 'Save the Children'. This proved very popular last year and we want to repeat it. Children can come to school in a Christmas top/jumper and bring in £1 donation.

### Nottingham Rugby Visit

The driving rain and the cold weather did not stop KS2 from enjoying a session of rugby skills delivered by Tank from Nottingham Rugby Club. Although we had to use the playground rather than the Community Park, the children engaged in a variety of exercises and games using rugby skills. Tank and the children enjoyed the session so much that he has promised to return later in the year when the weather allows us to use the field.

### Willoughby Award Winners

Congratulations to our recent winners of the Willoughby Award, awarded for effort in work, behaviour and other aspects of school life:

8/11/19	Natalie (Y6)
15/11/19	Eleanor (Y3)
22/11/19	Hector (Y4)
29/11/19	William Br (Y5)

### Emergency Closure & Text Messages

Now that winter has arrived I thought it best to remind parents of our emergency closure procedure. If for any reason we feel we may need to close, Miss Smith will liaise with the Chair of Governors, Adrian Bath, to make a decision.

We have the following procedures in place if we have to close the school at short notice (e.g. heating/electrics failure, severe weather):

- We will inform you via the text messaging service.
- A notice will be posted on the school gate by Debbie Brooks, to inform all parents that school is closed.
- We will also get it announced on local radio station, BBC Radio Nottingham and a notification will be on their website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/nottingham>

We do not operate a phone chain so if you have problems with your mobile signal you might like to make a private arrangement for a parent friend to inform you.

### Swimming Contributions

Since KS2 have completed their swimming sessions and KS1 and Reception have begun theirs, it would be helpful now if all voluntary contributions are paid. However, if with all the expense at Christmas you feel you would prefer to leave this until the New Year then we quite understand. Based on a voluntary contribution of £4.50 per child, per session towards swimming (which includes transport) we are asking for a voluntary contribution for a KS2 child of £40.50 and £36 for a KS1/Reception child (as they have one less session).

Payment of voluntary contributions can be made by cash, cheque (payable to Willoughby Primary School) or via bank transfer, details of which are below:

Bank:	Santander
Account Name:	Willoughby School Fund
Sort Code:	09-01-54
Account Number:	31744009



**KS2 Swimming (Y3-6)**

Family name .....

I enclose/have transferred by interbank transfer (please delete as appropriate)

a voluntary contribution of   
£40.50 (per child)

**KS1 Swimming (YR-2)**

Family name .....

I enclose/have transferred by interbank transfer (please delete as appropriate)

a voluntary contribution of   
£36 (per child)

Finally, I would like to thank you all for the support and well-wishes I have had this term, in my new role as Head Teacher. I am so grateful to have such caring and considerate parents and warm, friendly staff. Willoughby has always been a special place for me and this term has reaffirmed what a wonderful, supportive community there is here.

I would like to finish by wishing you and your family a very Happy Christmas and joyful New Year.

Yours sincerely

Beatrice Smith  
Head Teacher