



Willoughby Primary School

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Willoughby on the Wolds

Loughborough

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'Learning For Life'

2019 November

Dear Parents/Carers

I'm sure the children are well rested after the 2 week half-term holiday and will have plenty of energy for the next busy part of the term. We have just 7 weeks to go as we look forward to Christmas.

This issue contains:

- Key dates for the rest of the term
- Healthy Hearts
- Football
- Dance
- Thank you for support for Daisy
- Children in Need
- Willoughby Award Winners
- Reporting School Absence
- Christmas Fair with FOWs
- Christmas Jumper Day
- Finally ...

Key Dates for the Rest of the Term

NOVEMBER

Mon 11 th	- KS2 Swimming (8 of 9) (Please note that the Juniors will need to bring a long-sleeve top and long trousers/joggers)
Tues 12 th	- Whole School Trip to Conkers
	- Y5/6 Indoor Athletics at The Becket School
Weds 13 th	- All pupils - Flu Immunisation (afternoon)
Fri 15 th	- Children in Need
Mon 18 th	- KS2 Swimming (9 of 9)
Tues 19 th	- Y3/4 Mixed Football @ South Wolds Academy
Thurs 21 st	- Christmas Club (1 of 4)
Mon 25 th	- KS1 Swimming (1 of 8)
Thurs 28 th	- Christmas Club (2 of 4)
Fri 29 th	- Christmas Fair

DECEMBER

Mon 2 nd	- KS1 Swimming (2 of 8)
Thurs 5 th	- Christmas Club (3 of 4)
Mon 9 th	- KS1 Swimming (3 of 8)
Tues 10 th	- Nativity Dress Rehearsal
Wed 11 th	- Nativity
Thurs 12 th	- Christmas club (4 of 4)
Fri 13 th	- Christmas Jumper Day
Sun 15 th	- 'Carols for All' 6:00pm @ Willoughby Church
Tues 17 th	- Christmas Dinner

Weds 18 th	- Panto @ Loughborough Town Hall - Jack and the Beanstalk (1:00pm to 4:30pm)
Thurs 19 th	- Party Day
Fri 20 th	- BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Mon 23 rd - Fri 3 rd	- CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
January	

JANUARY 2020

Mon 6 th	- INSET DAY - School Closed to pupils
Tues 7 th	- First Day of Spring Term 1

Healthy Hearts

Just before half term the KS2 class completed The Healthy Hearts project in their science lessons. Run by Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club, the programme is designed to promote a healthy and active lifestyle to primary school children.

The 6-week programme engaged the children in understanding the importance of a healthy lifestyle, incorporating physical activity, nutrition and diet and it culminated in a celebration assembly with their teacher, Geoff, handing out certificates and awards. Geoff also ran a poster competition for each year group to showcase what they had learned. Geoff did say that the standard of entries (which will all be on display) was the highest of all the schools he had been to! Congratulations to our winners:

- Yr 6 Natalie
- Yr 5 Evie
- Yr 4 Louis
- Yr 3 Edward

Football

Congratulations also to all of the children who joined in the football last half term. The year 3/4 team won all of their games in their competition, beating everyone comfortably! We also had a great couple of friendly games against Bunny and Wednesday lunchtimes have been good fun, dashing up to the field for a quick run-around.

Dance

The whole school has been involved in a 6 week dance block last half-term on Fridays. Bethan, from Rattle & Roll, has been teaching Reception and KS1 and then KS2 a series of dance moves to music. Each group learnt to count the beat, move in time and perform some specific Street Dance routines. Bethan said she was particularly impressed with the quality and expertise displayed by both classes. The next Friday PE block will be gymnastics.

Thank you for Support for Daisy - we raised an amazing £148.47!

We celebrated our harvest/Daisy Day on Tuesday 5th November. Thank you all so much for your support in donating money for Daisy Akoth Adhola, the child we sponsor in Kisumu in Kenya. Please do take the opportunity if you are in school at having a look at the Daisy display by the entrance door, where children's envelopes are exhibited. Your generosity means we are able to cover Daisy's education for the year and send the small surplus to Plan International who work with the children and families in the area. Daisy is now 16 years old and our pledge is to see each child we sponsor through until they leave school at 18 years of age.

In Reception, Isabelle made the table for lunch and tea and made her bed every day to earn some money. Mabel made a cake and then charged Nanny and Grandad to come round and eat it! Thank you to everyone for all your hard work and generosity.

Children in Need

Children in Need is back on Friday 15th November. Of course, School Council were unanimous in their decision to continue to support this special national event. The theme this year is 'Get Together' so we would like to all get together and dress up in something 'Yellow'. Yellow for Pudsy Bear and yellow for the song Jodie Whittaker (Dr Who) is singing on the Children in Need album released for the event called 'Got it Covered'. Please send in a £2 donation (or more) on the day for this wonderful charity.

Willoughby Award Winners

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

4/10/18 Ella (Y6)
11/10/18 Erin (Y2)

18/10/18 Sam (Y4)

Reporting School Absence

Please can I remind you of the importance of reporting absence to the office first thing in the morning either in person or via phone - the best time is between 8:30am-9:00am. Please do not inform us by email as sometimes these may not be read until later in the day. If no-one answers the phone, you are able to leave a message.

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair is on Friday 29th November and this year we will be having it up at the Village Hall (still protecting the new carpets in KS2!) We will be joining up with FOWs to get the festive season up and running. As well as the traditional mixture of children's games, refreshments and hampers, we will be running a 'Make a Christmas Decoration' competition and entertaining you with some Christmas songs sung by the children.

It is always a great way to get into the feel of Christmas but we do rely on your support- donating to the hamper, helping prepare games as well as coming along to the event. I appreciate that this is an incredibly busy time of year so I am grateful for the support you always give.

Christmas Jumper Day

A final charity event to raise money, which was a popular choice when our School Council met, is to invite everyone to wear a Christmas jumper on Friday 15th December. Donations of £1 (or more) will go to the 'Save the Children' charity which is promoting, 'the silliest, woolliest, most generous day of the year'. Children could wear either a bought jumper or add decorations to a jumper or just wear something Christmassy!

Finally ...

- As winter months come upon us there is often an increase in illness. Following sickness many children are keen to return to school quickly. However, in order not to spread germs, please keep them at home for 48 hrs, if they have been sick to ensure they are fully well again.
- Unauthorised absence - Please note holidays cannot be authorised during term time. As our cohorts are small taking your child or children out for just a day or more can have an adverse effect on the attendance data for our school. Please plan ahead and book holidays during the school holidays!
- It was good to see the majority of parents/carers at our recent teacher meetings. Please remember that our 'open door' policy means we are happy to see you to discuss your child's emotional well-being or academic progress at any point during the term.

- Many thanks for your continued support for all that we do together to ensure all the children have a safe and happy environment in which to learn.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'B. M. Smith'.

Beatrice Smith
Head Teacher

