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Newsletter No. 4 - December 2016

This newsletter is an important link between school and home. Please do read it carefully. I hope you will find it useful as it gives news of forthcoming events and a list of dates for your diary.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Merry Christmas! The tree has arrived and we are all feeling very festive. Thank you so much to EVERYBODY who helped to manhandle the tree. We really did try to order a smaller one this year!! We are very much looking forward to the next couple of weeks - It is such a privilege to share Christmas with the children in school! We are thoroughly enjoying our Victorians Topic and look forward to sharing our learning with you.

Christmas Productions:

Purple Class (Pre School) will perform their gorgeous Nativity 'This is my gift' in the school hall on Friday 16th December at 10am. Refreshments served from 9.30am.

Our Christmas Production 'The Little Angel' by Yellow and Orange Class will take place on Wednesday 14th December at 2pm (refreshments served from 1.30pm) and at 5.30pm (refreshments served from 5.00pm). Please note the new slightly earlier time for the evening performance. We are hoping that our younger children will manage to stay awake!

Red, Blue and Green classes will be performing Scrooge in St. Andrew's Church on Thursday 15th December at 5.30pm. Please note the new slightly earlier time for the evening performance. Refreshments served from 5pm.

As usual we will be raffling a hamper at each performance. All donations gratefully received at the office by Monday 12th December.

Please send in your donations of purple (Pre School), gold (Orange & Yellow) red or silver (Green, Blue and Red Class) to school. Any colour will do - we will then make up 4 fantastic hampers to be raffled off in aid of Friends. Thank you.

A very warm welcome:

We are delighted to welcome Reverend Robert to South Otterington. I look forward to seeing you at his inauguration on Saturday 3rd December at 3pm in church.

Congratulations:

We would like to offer our congratulations to Mrs Peacock for Qualifying as a HLTA - (Higher Level Teaching Assistants) after a year of intense training. This is a nationally recognised qualification.

Christmas Cards:

If your children would like to send Christmas cards to their friends in school please ask them to post them in the box under the tree. They will then be delivered by the "elves" from Red class.

If you would prefer, rather than sending cards and presents to school we have a charity box for donations in the office. This year we are supporting Oxfam Unwrapped.

Poppy Appeal:

Thank you to everyone who made a donation to the Poppy Appeal this year. We raised £148.66 which is a fantastic amount. - Thank you so much.

BBC Children in Need - 18th November:

A great day was had by all and we raised a total of £259 which is almost double what we raised last year! Thank you to everyone for your kind donations.

Christingle Service and Collection:

All children should have received a collection candle for Christingle. Please donate what you can and return to St Andrew's Church on Sunday 11th December at 3pm for the special Christingle Service. If you cannot make the service, please return your candle to the school office for collection on Thursday 8th December. Ideally you will receive one per family!



Please ask if you would like us to provide written information in a more helpful language or format e.g. large print.

Baby News:

We are delighted to inform you that Mrs Young has had a baby girl named Daisy! Mum and baby are both doing well and I am sure you will join us in wishing them many congratulations!

Friends and family Lunch:

Please book your adult meal £3 or Toddler meal £1.60 on the gateway and join us for a delicious lunch on Friday 9th December at 12pm. Please book via the gateway by 9am on the Thursday 8th December so that the kitchen team can cater for everyone. Please note Jacket Potatoes are available on request when booking - Please specify 'Jacket' in the comments box.

Christmas Dinner:

MENU

- Roast Turkey and Sausage or Vegetarian option
- Stuffing and Gravy
- Roast and Mashed Potatoes
- Peas and Carrots
- Sticky toffee bun with biscuit decoration!

This year we will be having our Christmas dinner on Friday 16th December. The cost is £2.20 as usual. All the children are invited to have dinner on this special day. Please give consent for your child to have Christmas Dinner via the gateway. You may, of course, inform the office who will consent or decline on your behalf. Everyone is invited to wear Christmas headwear for the day!

I do hope that you will be able to join us in school over the next couple of weeks. Do remember that we have a genuine open door policy in school. If you have any queries or concerns please do have a chat with a member of the team. Telling your friends isn't helpful - We need to know and then we can do something about it!

The staff and I wish you all the best for a relaxing, peaceful holiday and a happy new year. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school again on Wednesday 4th January 2017.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K. Williamson,
Headteacher

December Diary Dates!

1 st	After school Chess Club
2 nd	Forest School for Yellow Class am Forest School for Orange Class pm
3 rd	Friends Christmas Party at Thief Hall 7.30pm
4 th	Little Otters Christmas Fayre South Otterington Village Hall 1 - 4pm
5 th	Christmas Craft Club for Year 6
6 th	Mrs Stamp - Parent support at 3.30pm Football after school club French after school club
7 th	Collective Worship with Kathie Heathcote Tag Rugby for Year 3 & 4's after school.
8 th	Last bookings taken by 9am for Friends & Family lunch TOMORROW. After school Chess Club
9 th	Forest School for Yellow Class am Friends & Family Lunch - join us at 12 noon. Forest School for Orange Class pm
11 th	Christingle Service at St Andrew's Church at 3pm
12 th	Donations for Hampers welcome this week. Christmas Crafts for Year 6 - last one.
13 th	Mrs Stamp - Parent support at 3.30pm
14 th	Orange and Yellow Christmas production 2pm and 5.30pm
15 th	Red, Blue and Green Classes performance of Scrooge at 5.30pm.
16 th	Purple Class (Pre School) Nativity at 10am Christmas Dinner Day - wear festive head gear! School closes at 3.30pm Merry Christmas!!
3 rd Jan	Training Day - school closed to pupils
4 th Jan	School reopens at 8.45am



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