

# Ellwood School News



**Headteacher: Mrs D Milford**

**Tel: 01594 833232**

**Autumn 12 2017**

[www.ellwoodschool.co.uk](http://www.ellwoodschool.co.uk)

All newsletters are also available  
on our website.

## Thank you from 'Friends of Ellwood'

Hi everyone,

I hope you all enjoyed our Christmas Fayre on Saturday.

It was a lovely event, great atmosphere and on behalf of the committee, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support.

If you cast your mind back to October, to our Funky Hair Friday, you kindly donated items towards our Christmas Fayre. All of the items that you sent in were put to good use on the day. A huge thank you for your generosity, it really did make a difference.

I won't name people individually for the fear of accidentally missing someone out...however, I would like to say a heartfelt thanks to all of you that have donated items, baked or bought cakes, ran the cafe, the stalls and the raffles. A thank you to those that created and ran games for the children to play, to the clever ladies who lovingly made beautiful craft items and the team that prepared delicious turkey rolls for us to enjoy. To Astrid with her fab handmade slime, what a sell out! and to the children who sang beautifully. Thank you to the team who created our fantastic magical grotto and a special thank you to Father C and his fabulous Christmas helpers. Also a huge thanks to all of the helpers who worked behind the scenes leading up to the event and for taking the time to help pack everything down and clear away.

As always thank you to Mrs Milford, Janet and Charlotte along with all of the staff at Ellwood School for their continued support and help at all of our events.

And finally, to you, to all of the parents, carers, grandparents and friends who came on the day to make the event happen.

I am absolutely thrilled to tell you, that you have helped to raise a massive ..... £1173!  
Wow! What a huge amount raised in just a couple of hours. This money helps us to continue to provide education items and equipment for the benefit all pupils.

Well done and thank you everyone.

Zoe



### **Writing Competition Congratulations!**

Chestnut Class entered a young writers 'Little Riddlers' competition, and out of over 12 000 entries they would like to publish; Charlie Johnson, Finlay Davies, Michaela Owen, Niall Edey and Alfie Pritchard. Their work will be published in a book and is due for publication on 28th February 2018, where the school will receive a copy. We can't wait to have a look!

What a great achievement - well done!



### **Pantomime Trip**

To start off the New Year we have arranged a trip to see Aladdin, at the Savoy Theatre in Monmouth on January 3rd. This will be a lovely start to the new term and New Year.

We are very fortunate that the Friends are kindly contributing towards the cost of the trip and paying for the coaches, meaning the cost of the trip will only be £5 per pupil. A letter will be sent home shortly with further details.



### **Christmas Production - Tickets**

If you haven't returned your request for tickets to school, can you please do so by Tuesday 5th December, so we can allocate reserve tickets. Remember a donation of £1.00 per ticket is appreciated. The dress rehearsal is free and is great for pre-school children to attend. Thank you.

### **Spelling Challenge**

Just a reminder to keep practicing your child's spellings for the Spelling Challenge on Friday 15th December.

# Spelling

### **Lantern Parade**

We are really pleased that children are taking part in the Lantern Parade on Saturday 2nd December in Coleford. Please remember that children cannot be dropped off and left but must be accompanied by an adult. Miss Rogers will be there to meet the children but will be unable to supervise them, due to the nature of the event.

Thank you.

### **Internet Safety Talk—Reminder**

Please remember to come along to our Internet Safety Talk on Wednesday 6th December with Mr Phelps at 2.30 in the Hall.

The session will provide parents with useful information about how to keep your child safe whilst on-line.

Please try and attend.



### **Rotary Club Shoeboxes**

Could all Rotary Club Shoeboxes be returned to school by Wednesday 6th December, ready for collection from the Rotary Club.

Thank you to all of you that have already returned your filled boxes.

This will make some children very happy this Christmas.



### **Christmas Jumper Day**

On Friday 15th December children may come to school wearing a Christmas Jumper. If you do not have a Christmas Jumper children may come to school in any jumper but school uniform should be worn. (No donations needed)



### **Punctuality**

Children have been much more punctual at arriving at school, which means that classes start promptly, without interruption.

Well done!

### **Safeguarding Audit**

The school has completed the audit of statutory duties and associated responsibilities for schools and settings in relation to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education (Sept 16)'. It is a legal requirement under SECTION 14B OF THE CHILDREN ACT 20014, for schools and settings to respond to this audit. It is the responsibility of governors to oversee the process and ensure that the school is complying with all the robust requirements of safeguarding, as set out in the document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (Sept 16). We feel that we are doing a good job and to ensure our pupils are safe. On our website you can find a copy of our Safeguarding Policies and Early Help offers. Which demonstrate show we try to keep children safe and other professionals and organisations we can refer or signpost families to.

### **School Council**

Mrs Marshall meets regularly with the Pupil School Council and talks about a range of different items, including safeguarding, so that the school is also taking into account their views. Our children report they feel safe in school which is great.

The children will look at our anti-bullying and hate crime policy next time; The policies will be amended incorporating their views, if necessary.

### **Updated SEN Policy**

An updated SEND policy is now available to view on the school's website.

Thank you.

### **Free School Meals**

If you think your child may be entitled to Free School Meals and want to find out more information. Please email the Free School Meal Team at: [edsupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:edsupport@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

### **A note from the Governors**

This is the time of year that I really enjoy in school; nativities, carol services and Christmas lunch. The governors have been busy this term with visits into school to look at SEN, Finance, Maths and EYFS and to complete the safeguarding audit. John Newland attended Parents' evening and I know we will be at the nativity too. We were completely taken aback by the amount raised at the Christmas Fayre and would like to thank everyone for their hard work. The new build is planned to start in February, so we are looking forward to having extra space.

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Mrs H Cornock

Chair of Governors

### **Attendance**

Our overall attendance this half term has been lower than hoped, our target of 97% has only been met by one class. However, we appreciate that a number of pupils have had sickness and colds.

Well done to Willow Class for having the highest attendance so far this term.

Please contact the school office by 9.15 a.m. if your child will not be attending school, stating the reason for absence.

Oak	93.9%
Chestnut	94%
Beech	96.9%
Sycamore	95.5%
Willow	97.4%

## Diary Dates

### December 2017

- |                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| Sat 2nd Dec    | - | Lantern Parade—Coleford<br>(Sycamore & Willow)<br>Meet at Coleford Fire Station at 4 p.m. |
| Tue 5th Dec    | - | Indoor Sports Hall Athletics<br>(Selected children from Sycamore & Willow)                |
| Wed 6th Dec    | - | Christmas Dinner  |
| Tue 12th Dec   | - | Nativity 1.45 p.m. Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3  |
| Wed 13th Dec   | - | Nativity 6 p.m. Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3<br>Class Talent Show (Pupils & Staff only)                |
| Thurs 14th Dec | - | Nativity 6 p.m. Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3<br>Final - Class Talent Show (Pupils & Staff only)        |
| Fri 15th Dec   | - | Whole School Spelling Challenge<br><br>Wear a Christmas Jumper to school                  |
| Mon 18th Dec   | - | Carol Service 3.30 p.m. Y4, Y5, Y6  |
| Tue 19th Dec   | - | Christmas Party Day   |
| Wed 20th Dec   | - | <b>END OF TERM - 2 p.m. finish</b><br><b>Please collect your child at 2 p.m.promptly</b>  |

**All term dates are available on the school's website**