



## Bishop Wood C of E Junior School

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Mr G Stanley, Headteacher

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

### Coffee Morning

A reminder that our next coffee morning is happening at 9.00 on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Come along for an informal chat and a mince pie.

### House Captains

Our amazing House Captains led tours of the school for prospective parents this week during our Year 2 Open Morning. They all received high praise from the visiting parents. I would like to say a personal thank you and well done to them all:

Merryn D, Alice K, Violet A, Darcey G, Charlotte F, Barney A, Sophie J and Esther B

### Attendance

We are always looking at the attendance figures for the children. Some families may receive a letter regarding attendance. Please see this as a supportive device – we want to see your children in school and learning. Whilst looking at the figures, we noticed that there are lots of children arriving to school late. This can have an impact on progress. Please try your best to get your child to school on time – it really is in their best interests. Thanks in advance for your support.

### Christmas at St Peter and St Paul

Father Huw has handed out a flyer to each child with the dates and times of the church services this Christmas. They are:

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 6.30pm – Lessons and Carols  
Christmas Eve 2pm and 4pm - Crib Services  
Christmas Eve 11.30pm – Midnight Mass  
Christmas Day 8.00am – Holy Communion  
Christmas Day 10.00am – Worship for All with Communion

### Christmas Trees

You will have noticed that our Christmas Trees have gone up around school. We have received some lovely feedback from parents and children. The outside tree was expertly decorated by Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Bourke. The children's tree in the hall was decorated by Joseph S, Amber E, Jack VG, Matilda H, Grace F, Seb B, Evie N and Albert P. The tree in the dining room was decorated by members of Buddies, ably assisted by their children and members of the after school club.

### Community Choir

It is not too late to join Mrs Reeve's community choir for the performance at the Christmas Concert on the 17<sup>th</sup> December. Please let Mrs Bourke or Mrs Lloyd know if you want to join and we will send you a link to the music. The first rehearsal went extremely well. Next rehearsal is 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the school hall.

### Lost Property

There is currently a mountain of lost property in school. Curiously, we are also experiencing high levels of parental visits regarding lost items. Mrs Adams works hard to return named items to children but there is a huge amount of unnamed items. Mrs Birley has asked me to remind parents that excellent, and virtually indestructible, name labels can be purchased via this website: [www.mynametags.com](http://www.mynametags.com)

### Buddies - Wreath Making

Feedback from the wreath making evening was that it was a huge success and very enjoyable. The Buddies are an amazing group who work tirelessly to run events for the benefit of all pupils. Thanks to all those parents who came along to support the evening and a huge thank you to the Buddies for all their hard work!



## Poppy Appeal

Thank you for all your donations to the Poppy Appeal. We raised £211 making a valuable contribution to the £26,000 raised locally by The Royal British Legion.

## Christmas Concert

Early notice that the school Christmas Concert is taking place on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December (7.00pm) at St Peter and St Paul. This year the nativity story is being led by Year 5 but all classes are contributing a performance of their own. It would be amazing if every child in the school was there on the night for this celebration. Buddies will be offering mulled wine, mince pies and a raffle. Come and enjoy this special occasion with us.

## Celebration

This week we celebrated the following pupils in school:

3I – Jasmine B, Shannon I and Orla H	5F – William B and Owen A
3B – Freddie M and Albert P	5R – Lola G and George S
4H – Elspeth H and Rowan C	6C – Stanley R and Alice K
4DR – Lewis F-J, Bella D, Freddie K and Joseph S	6M – Antony N and Raqiyya A-O

*Golden Broom* – 4H

Outside Honours

Anna B, Nicolina H, Annabel G and Olivia G – Irish Dancing

George A – St John's Ambulance

## Getting to know...Mrs Birley

- What made you want to work with children?  
*"I had a hunch that it might be a good career for me and I wanted to move to London so I combined the two and did a PGCE. Thankfully, it was a good decision."*
- What was your greatest achievement at school?  
*"Being part of a netball team which got to the under 16 national finals. We came second"*
- Where is your ultimate holiday destination?  
*"My ultimate holiday destination would be an African Safari. I have already done it but would love to do it again."*
- Which three of your possessions would you save from a burning building?  
*"My family (including all pets, especially Cooper our new puppy) photo albums and hair straighteners."*
- What is your typical Nando's order?  
*"It is on the list to visit Nando's. I prefer a curry in Wagamama."*
- What are your hobbies?  
*"Reading, baking, walking and yoga."*
- What wouldn't you do for 1 million pounds?  
*"Any of the challenges on 'I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here'."*
- What is your main ambition?  
*"To ensure that my children reach adulthood as confident happy individuals with opportunities at their door. I'd also like to learn to play the piano."*
- Tell us an interesting fact about yourself?  
*"I used to represent Great Britain at trampolining!"*

## Around School

As already mentioned, the House Captains did a great job as tour guides this week. Year 6 have also been very busy preparing for the Christmas Market. Year 5 have been refining and rehearsing the Christmas Concert in readiness for the 17<sup>th</sup>. Miss Record reports that it is going to be fabulous! Some children in Year 4 have been looking at non-fiction reports on animals. Meanwhile, Mr Hall's class have been trialling an approach where their work in English is closely linked to current affairs. Year 3 have been writing poems in the style of Pie Corbett. I have read some of them and they are incredible!

**Important Dates**

Wed 12th December 2018	Year 6 – Victorian Day
Wed 12th December 2018, 9:00am - 10:00am	Coffee Morning
Fri 14th December 2018	Pantomime Trip – Robin Hood
Mon 17th December 2018, 7:00pm - 8:00pm	Christmas Concert – St Peter & St Paul's Church
Wed 19th December 2018	Christmas Lunch
Fri 21st December 2018	End of Term – School closes at 1.30pm
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	Start of Spring Term

For more information and to view letters about upcoming events please visit the school website

[www.bishopwood.herts.sch.uk](http://www.bishopwood.herts.sch.uk)

Mr Gary Stanley