



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you had a good break and wish you all a Happy New Year.

### **Curriculum Information**

Very shortly, the Spring Curriculum information leaflets will be brought home by your child. Knowing your child's topics ensures that you are aware of what they are learning.

### **Pantomime**

On Wednesday this week the children will be watching a pantomime, Snow White. We are very grateful to the PTA who fund this annual event.

### **Topic Celebration**

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January from 2pm there will be a display of topic work from the Autumn term topics. Parents are invited to come and see the display at any time between 2pm and 3pm, children will visit with their classes: Y3 2.00pm, Y4 2.15pm, Y5 2.30pm and Y6 2.45pm.

### **Easter**

I know it seems a long way to go, but we wanted to give you advance notice about the Easter assemblies and church service. We are going to follow the pattern we did last year. Each class will do an Easter assembly at 2.40pm on the week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> March (year 4 Monday, year 3 Tuesday, year 6 Wednesday and year 5 Thursday). Parents are invited to come and see the assemblies that their child/children are performing in. The whole school will go to a church service at St Lawrence church on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 11am.



### **SATs Week**

A reminder that SATs week this year is 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> May. All year 6 children need to be in school for this week.

### **Online Free School Meal Eligibility Checking**

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, the school will receive additional funding for your child. We use this to provide extra support, we look at each child who receives additional funding and plan the best way to enable him or her to achieve well. We also use the money to reduce the cost of residential trips for any child who has received FSM in the last 6 years. Children do benefit from this funding, your child does not have to have the school dinners to receive the benefits of the funding, so it is worth applying for it, even if your child is going to continue to have packed lunches.

Hampshire County Council Catering Services (HC3S) has an online service so parents can check their eligibility for free school meals. This service option is available at: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/hc3s/freeschoolmeals.htm> Please note the criteria for free school meals is the same, regardless of method of checking eligibility, but for the online service, all you need to do is enter your name, national insurance number or asylum number, your address and your child's details. Press 'submit' and you will find out if you are eligible. If your result comes back 'found', this means your child is eligible for free school meals and the system automatically tells the school.

### **Staff News**

We congratulate Mr Williams and Mr Carpenter who are due to become dads in June and July respectively.

### **Calling All Budding Authors!**

We are lucky enough to have a published author, Sarah Lucas, running 6-week writing courses at The Alton Maltings on Saturday mornings. The sessions, where children can write fiction or non-fiction, in groups or independently are described as being "lively, interactive and a little bonkers!". Visit the following website if you have a child with a passion for writing to find out more:

<http://www.madaboutsnaillbooks.com/pen-to-paper-courses/>



We will also be encouraging pupils to take part in the Rotary Young Writers National Competition this month (closing date is January 31<sup>st</sup>). The theme is "A Different Perspective" and the writing can be poetry, fiction or non-fiction - up to 500 words. For more information about either of these opportunities please contact Miss Thomas through the school office.

### Times Tables

This week the children in years 4, 5 and 6 will be tested on their 3, 4, 5 and 6 times tables as part of the rock star challenge.

### Sam the Frog

Congratulations to 5W who achieved 98.4% attendance in the week before the Christmas holiday and will have Sam the Frog this week.



<b>Letter Alert!</b>	
The following letters have been sent out today/recently ...have you received them?	
<b>December</b>	
Thu 14 <sup>th</sup>	Dance Club Spring 2018 letter
Thu 14 <sup>th</sup>	School Milk Spring 2018 letter
Tue 19 <sup>th</sup>	iRock letter
Thu 21 <sup>st</sup>	Computer Club letter
Thu 21 <sup>st</sup>	Chess Club letter

<b>January</b>	
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>	Topic Show 2.00 – 3.00pm
Wed 31 <sup>st</sup>	Drama Club Performance 6.00 – 8.00pm
<b>February</b>	
Thu 1 <sup>st</sup>	Drama Club Performance 6.00 – 8.00pm

With all best wishes to you and your family,

Jenny Jones  
Headteacher