

NEWSLETTER

9th December 2011

Attendance Rewards

As you will be aware, school is always seeking to maintain high levels of attendance. I am pleased to inform parents that overall attendance is currently around 97%. Many thanks to all of you for supporting the school with this. In January, two awards of £50 (to be spent on classroom resources) will be presented to one class in each of the infants and KS2 departments with the highest attendance rates. Children in those classes will be able to choose how to spend their prize. Currently, we have 117 children with 100% attendance so far this school year. They will each receive a £5 voucher in the New Year if they sustain their 100% attendance until the end of this term.

All children who have 100% attendance at the end of the Spring Term will receive a £10 voucher. Any child who manages it for the whole school year will receive a £20 voucher. I will let the School Council decide on the type of voucher.

Football

Last week, two football teams played their final match in the Birchwood event that has been taking place over recent Thursday afternoons. The 'b' team beat the 'a' team 2-0 in a closely contested, with goals from Aaron Hardman and George Minshull. Thanks go to all of the children who have represented the school and to the staff and parents who have supported this.

Thomas Risley Church

The Thomas Risley Church send their thanks to all who sent in shoe boxes (over 300 were collected by the community this year) and donations to their 'Toy and Treat' giveaway, to be held this weekend.

School Council/Birches Healthy Family Zone

Parents may also be aware that, over the past two years the School Council has been working with local partners to try to redevelop an area of land near to school that was originally a 'Skateboard Park', but, in recent times, has become an untidy area of our community. A consultation with the local community took place a while ago and, since this time, a number of revised plans have been completed. The final plan is almost ready to be shared again with the local community. The plans include a new name for the area, chosen by our children - 'The Birches Healthy Family Zone'- and incorporate a relaxation area, some fixed exercise machines and some low level children's

climbing equipment. After Christmas we will publish the plans on the school website and encourage all of you to respond to the consultation. The children will also present them to Birchwood Town Council and then work with partners to submit bids for funding.

Lost Property

Please claim any lost items before the end of term. Any items left will be given to the PTA for their recycle uniform sale being held early next term.

Christmas Productions

We are now in the middle of our annual seven Christmas Productions. As always, they are being well attended and the children are performing excellently. We should like to thank the PTA for their contribution towards the new lighting system in the hall.

School Choir

The School Choir will be singing Christmas Carols at the Birchwood Shopping Centre on the morning of Wednesday 14th December.

Christmas Dinner

The school Christmas Dinner is on Monday. Information has already been sent home. If you require further information, please contact the school office.

End of Term

School closes to children for the Christmas break next Friday (16th December) at **1.40pm**. School reopens to children at the usual time on Wednesday 4th January 2012. The previous day is a staff training (INSET) day.

Children's Corner

This week's work (the 12 days of Christmas), printed overleaf, is by Sophia Mulcahy in Miss Collins' Y1/2 class.

Happy Birthday

The following children have had birthdays in the past 2 weeks;

George Fullerton	~10
Ella Percival	~10
Taylor Speak	~ 10
Katie Metcalfe	~ 9
Jacob Sims	~ 9
Olivia Edmonds	~ 9
Bradley Taylor	~ 8
Logan Ince	~ 6
Tayla Duggan	~ 5
Bailey Brett	~ 5



Happy Birthday to them all