

MENGHAM INFANT SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

This newsletter comes with warm Christmas wishes for a happy and healthy festive season.

Already our celebrations have started with an amazing Nativity by our Year R children last week. I think perhaps one of the high points of my time at Mengham so far was hearing some of the comments following their performance to our senior citizens, one of whom told us that he hadn't really wanted to get up that morning but that watching our children had brightened up not only his day but his whole week! This week we are looking forward to sharing our Christmas Dinner and Craft activities with parents and then next week will see our Christmas Carol concert and perhaps a visit from someone rather special!

Entrance To School In the Morning

I'd like to thank YR and Y1 parents for their support with trying to make coming in the morning a little safer and easier for our children by allowing the children to come in the doorway on their own.

Whilst we encourage parents to have communication with our teachers, the start of the school day is very much about getting the children in safely and settling them to their morning tasks so we do ask that parents use the communication books for any day to day messages. These books are checked daily by an adult in your child's classroom. If you have a more serious issue that you need to speak to the class teacher about then we would ask that you do this at the **end** of the school day once the children have gone and we can give you our full attention. Again, if you feel you have an issue that only I can deal with I am unable to discuss this whilst on the door, as my priority at this time is getting the children in safely. I would ask that any parent who feels that they have an issue or concern that their class teacher cannot deal with and needs to speak to me or Mr Young contacts the office so that we can arrange a proper meeting at a convenient time for all.

I hope you all enjoy a fun filled Christmas Break and look forward to seeing everyone on the 4th January.

Best Wishes

Lindsay Rebbitt
Headteacher

Car parking

We have been asked by the Library and the Police to remind parents that the library car park is not a public car park for use by parents when dropping and collecting their children. We are very mindful that at the moment parking is very difficult in the St. Mary's Road car park due to the number of contractor vehicles. The Police had an incident where parked parents had blocked their vehicles and they were trying to respond to an emergency situation. Hopefully, once the development of the old Billy site is completed there will be more parking available in the usual car park. We would ask parents to be considerate of all our neighbours when using vehicles to bring children to school and collecting. Thank you.

Governor's Report

Firstly, I am very grateful to Lynn Gubler for writing the governor contribution to last month's newsletter. Lynn, our Vice Chair, very kindly took on the responsibilities of Chair of Governors recently while I took a break due to a family bereavement. She did a magnificent job, for which I am very grateful. While I was away Nick Lacey was appointed as a new governor and we look forward to benefitting from his extensive experience. Sadly we also lost a governor when Seb Burrige had to step down following his promotion at work. We wish him all the best in his new job. This highlights our continuing need for new governors who have a range of skills, and the time and commitment needed to fulfil this important role. At the moment we particularly require people who have expertise in finance and the management of resources, but free training is available if required. I will be honest - becoming a governor does mean that you have to commit yourself to offering time to the school and that you are willing to become involved in the work the governors do to enable the school to continue improving. But I cannot tell you how satisfying it is to be part of that work

14 December 2017

and to know that you have helped the children at Mengham Infants to receive the best education we can offer. If you, or someone you know, are interested in exploring becoming a governor please ask Lindsay, myself, or the office staff, for more information.

I can't quite believe it is almost the end of term. I returned to my responsibilities to find the school in full Christmas mode. Almost the first thing I did was to watch the Year R Nativity which was fantastic! I don't think I have ever heard such excellent singing and narration from Year R, and the costumes were amazing! Well done. I am looking forward to attending the school Carol Concert in St. Mary's, which I am sure will be just as good.

Christmas works really well in an infant school because it places a child at the centre of the story. It reminds us that our children are a source of hope for the future. They are precious, but also vulnerable - dependant on adults like you, their parents, to hold them and help shape them as they grow. The obvious point to make here is that this too is exactly what we do at Mengham Infant School, and we take that responsibility very seriously. I hope you, and your children, have a wonderful Christmas.

Peter Cole, Chair of Governors.

Year R

Year R performed their Nativity play last week. It was called Christmas Eve in the toyshop and was based around the Old Toymaker carving a Nativity scene from wood. The children loved putting on the play especially when all the toys came to life. They all sang beautifully and those with speaking parts spoke clearly and made their voices heard. Luka was superb as the Narrator. The costumes, scenery and backdrop were all created in class with a team of parent helpers working with the children.

On Thursday we performed our Nativity to 40 invited guests from the local community. The invitation was shared with local care homes, churches and Help the aged. The comments were fantastic from the guests, there were a few teary eyes and coffee and mince pies made it a real celebration. The whole school joined us for Christmas carols. Cards made by Year 1 were given out along with chocolates by our beautifully dressed Angels. The whole morning left us all with the true meaning of Christmas and spreading joy to our local Community.



Year 1

We are fast approaching the end of a very exciting and busy half term. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning the new story of 'Midnight at the Zoo'. After seeing a video clip, the children have been making posters for missing animals. Lots of fantastic sentence work and hopefully all the animals have now been found. In Science the children have become super scientists and have been learning all about light and dark and how light travels. They had lots of fun using torches to create dens and making shadows. We have also learnt how the light from the sun creates day and night. Ask us and we will be able to tell you all about light and dark!

14 December 2017

In maths the children have been continuing to practise their skills in addition and subtraction with numbers up to 20 and are starting to use these skills to solve problems at the zoo.



The Children in Need challenges were a great success and a lot of money was raised overall.

Thank you for your sponsorship.

Shark Class - sweet challenge	Stingray Class
	

Please keep checking newsletters for important dates leading up to the Christmas holidays. It is also important to keep reading to and hearing your child read over the school holiday. Information about our new topic and homework will be given out soon.

Merry Christmas from the Year 1 Team.

Year 2

In year 2 we have had a very busy few weeks!

In English, we have been writing our own stories based on the story of traction man. We had some very interesting ideas, such as: the attack of burger man and Traction man rescuing a group of baby spoons!

In Maths, we have been learning all about fractions. We have been making sure that we put things into equal groups. No one wants half a cake that isn't equal!

As part of computing we have been learning what makes a good photo. We then went out and practised taking pictures of nature around our school. When we got back, we edited our photos using the brightness, saturation and contrast in order to getting our photos looking as beautiful as possible.

Before:



After:



If you wish to receive this newsletter by e-mail please ensure we have your up to date e-mail address. It is also available on the school website.

Visit our updated website at: www.mengham-inf.hants.sch.uk