**Headteacher Update**

**Friday 13st December 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a very busy couple of weeks in school, with lots of festive fun.

On Wednesday 6th December we welcomed Pastor Dave and Pastor Dyfan, from Emmanuel Church to lead an assembly to celebrate Advent with a very special puppet show. Thank you to both Dyfan and Dave for reminding us all about the true meaning of Christmas and thoroughly entertaining the children.

Earlier this week the infants performed their nativity ‘The Lucky Owl’ with an astounding amount of confidence and beautiful singing – well done to everyone! As I said at the end of the evening performance, there is nothing quite as special as an infant Christmas play and these are certainly memories for parents to treasure.

On Wednesday the children enjoyed an extra Christmas jumper day and their Christmas lunch. A huge thank you to our lovely kitchen staff for putting on a super festive feast for us all.

On Thursday we were thrilled to take part in a Christingle service at Emmanuel Church. Once again Pastor Dave led the service with the children from key stage 2 singing both traditional and modern Christmas carols to entertain the congregation. Pastor Dyfan dressing up as a giant Christingle orange (including candle!!!) only added to the excitement! Thank you to those parents who came to help make Christingle candles on Wednesday after school too – it was hectic, but we got the job done.

Finally, yesterday our infants enjoyed their Christmas parties with a visit from a very special person, dressed in red. They all had a wonderful time and were thrilled to receive an early present from Santa, who we would like to thank for finding the time to visit us at his busiest time of the year!

**Attendance**

Today we held our last achievement assembly of the year. Those children who have had attendance of 97%, and above, all received a certificate to celebrate their amazing attendance at school.

Congratulations to Reception class, who have won our attendance competition this week with 95%. They spun the wheel of fortune and won a sweet treat which they will bring home with them.

We have had a lot of poorly children over the last couple of weeks – it is just that time of year. We have a calm final week planned for the children and hopefully that, and a good rest over the holiday, will give them all time to properly recover from coughs and colds.

*Attendance for the week:*

Reception: 95%

Year 1: 90%

Year 2: 91%

Year 3: 92%

Year 4: 92%

Year 5: 94%

Year 6: 85%

*Whole school attendance for the year so far is 93.5%*

**Christmas jumpers… one more time!**

We might as well get some wear out of them! The children are invited to wear their festive jumpers and outfits on Wednesday 20th December when we will have our Christmas Assembly.

**The last day of term**

On the last day of term, Thursday 21st December, for an extra Christmas treat we are inviting the children to bring a game or toy to play with during the afternoon. Please don’t send anything electronic. Card games and board games that can be shared are preferable.

**Dates for your Diaries:**

***Please note that the children return to school for the spring term on Tuesday 9th January 2024.***

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| **Event** | **Date** | **Time** | **Classes involved** |
| Christmas jumpers | Wednesday 20th December | All day | All classes |
| Finish for Christmas | Thursday 21st December | 3.15pm | All classes |
| INSET Day | Monday 8th January 2024 | All day |  |
| Children return to school | Tuesday 9th January 2024 | 8.30am | All classes |

We’re almost there! Have a lovely weekend everybody.

Kind regards,

Mrs C Harrison and Mrs L Guy