**Headteacher Update**

**Friday 1st December 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Christmas**

December has arrived and the madness is about to begin! Rehearsals for the Infant Christmas Play are underway and Christmas songs can be heard around school during the afternoon. We even had some festive music on the way into assembly today! It is about to get extremely busy, so please keep a look out for emails and reminders about events over the next few weeks.

The Friends of Leftwich Primary School (FOLPS) have organized a Christmas Film night for the children on Thursday 7th December. We are inviting the children to come to wear their cosy clothes – pyjamas, oodies, onesies – and come along for a fun, festive evening from 5.30pm until 7.30pm. Please pay via Parent Pay and ensure you have selected your child’s film choice.

Also on Thursday 7th December is our **Christmas Jumper Day**, to raise money for St Luke’s hospice. Children may come to school wearing a festive jumper, top or outfit for a donation of £1 towards this very important local charity.

Children may also wear their **Christmas jumpers on Wednesday 13th December for our Christmas lunch day.**

**Calpol!**

As we mentioned on a previous email, we are well and truly into cough and cold season. We also appear to also have a number of children with ear and throat infections. I have attached our policy for Medical Conditions for your information. If children have been given prescribed medicines such as anti-biotics, staff at school can administer these for you, particularly if they are required 4 times a day. We recommend that those who require 3 doses a day have medicine given to them at home where possible.

There are occasions where children are under the weather, but not poorly enough to be at home and this instance some parents administer Calpol or Child’s Nurofen. Usually, one dose in the morning does the job, but if required we can administer unprescribed medicines in special circumstances with prior agreement from parents - for example, if a child has a toothache and is awaiting a dental appointment. The usual permission form will need to be completed and we will always check that your child still needs the medicine before administering it. This means, although you may give permission, we may make a judgement that your child no longer appears to be unwell enough to take Calpol. In this case, we will contact you to talk to you and ensure you are fully informed.

**New Logo**

Last week we sent a letter to inform you that we are introducing a new school logo. We met with our uniform supplier and agreed to introduce the new logo over time and for a while we will run both logos together. There is absolutely no need for parents to buy new uniform, especially if your child’s current uniform still fits! Please, please don’t spend money unnecessarily. Similarly, many children wear hand-me-downs from siblings and other family members and we would recommend that you continue to do this. As you will have seen, Buccaneer have some great deals on for uniform they currently have in stock, so do take advantage of these if you need to change uniform at this time.

**Team work makes the dream work!**

Once again, we have celebrated one of our sports teams who represented us at a finals event this week. Our football team showed great strength of character and sportsmanship and were runners up in the competition. We are really proud of them all!

Our Playground Leaders were awarded with their badges and high-viz jackets on Wednesday and have got to work, straight away, on helping our children play sensibly and respectfully with one another during our lunch time OPAL sessions. We know playtimes are in safe hands with our superb group of leaders, who are always good role models to their peers.

**Attendance**

Well done to year 6, who have won our attendance competition this week with 96%. They spun the wheel of fortune and won a sweet treat which they will enjoy this afternoon.

*Attendance for the week:*

Reception: 85%

Year 1: 92%

Year 2: 80%

Year 3: 95%

Year 4: 94%

Year 5: 87%

Year 6: 96%

*Whole school attendance for the year so far is 93.9%*

**Dates for your Diaries:**

***Please note the slight change of time for the key stage 2 Christingle service, which will start at 1.45pm and not 1.30pm as previously stated.***

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| **Event** | **Date** | **Time** | **Classes involved** |
| Christmas Jumper Day | Thursday 7th December 2023 | All day | All classes |
| FOLPS Christmas Film Night | Thursday 7th December 2023 | 5.30pm – 7.30pm | All classes |
| Infant Play Dress Rehearsal | Monday 11th December 2023 | 1.30pm | Reception, year 1, year 2 parents/ grandparents |
| Infant Christmas Play | Tuesday 12th December 2023 | 6pm | 2 tickets per child will be issued – Reception, year 1, year 2 parents/ guardians |
| Christmas Lunch Day | Wednesday 13th December | 12pm | All classes |
| Christingle Service | Thursday 14th December | **1.45pm** | Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 |
| Finish for Christmas | Thursday 21st December | 3.15pm | All classes |

I have everything crossed that you all receive this update today and not two weeks from now! Once again, I apologise for my lack of technical skills.

Have a happy weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs C Harrison and Mrs L Guy