

DECEMBER 2024

19.12.24



WHITEGATE COFE PRIMARY

# Newsletter

Well we are at the end of the first term - a third of our way through the school year! And what busy term it has been! It is no wonder that we are all so tired! I cannot believe that it was only three months ago that we celebrated our RE gold award, enjoyed a French day and officially opened our new build! The children this term have all had the opportunity to learn outside of the classroom, not only in our wonderful grounds, but also on lots of exciting educational visits. We have also had the joys of Ofsted and, the last few weeks, have been full of the magic of Christmas. Today, we have been led in worship by our children in Hawthorn. It is always a special moment to gather together in church, especially at Christmas, when we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

I would like to say a special thank you to you all for all of the wonderful presents and cards that my staff and I have received. They are not needed but very much appreciated.

## Prickly Hay

Thank you to all who attended our KSI performances of Prickly Hay last week. The children did a great job of re-telling the Christmas story from the viewpoint of a tired stable boy and his trusted animals. Thank you to the cast for reminding us all of the real meaning of Christmas - Jesus came for everyone! Cast photographs will be available mid-January once we have collated the KS2 orders.

## Wind in the Willows

It was disappointing for both children and staff that we were not able to go ahead with our KS2 performances of Wind in the Willows this week. However, we are very much looking forward to starting the new term with the excitement of a show! The play will run on 8th January starting at 1:30pm and on the 9th at 6pm.

Please note that it will be approximately 3:30pm when the children will be ready to leave school on the 8th.

Those with lines will need to look over their scripts during the Christmas break to make sure that none are forgotten! Thank you in advance for your support with this.

## FOWS

As per my previous communication, an emergency FOWS meeting was held on the 11th December and at that meeting, the decision was made to pause this charity arm of our school. Again, I would like to say a huge thank you and well done to the FOWS team who have worked incredibly hard over years, not only to raise a substantial amount of money for our school, but also to provide children and families with a range of enjoyable events and activities.

On Monday 20th January, we will be holding a meeting to relaunch our Parent Teacher Association (PTA). We would like as many people as possible to attend this meeting, and have therefore set up a google form to hold it at a time to suit most people. The link has been sent out separately. If the meeting is held before 6pm then childcare can be provided free of charge at The Ark.

## PE

After the half-term break, PE days will be as follows:

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Acorns	Hawthorn	Acorns	Elder
Rowan		Rowan	Birch
Hawthorn		Birch	Oak
Oak		Elder	

A reminder that Acorns should still be coming to school in uniform on PE days as they change in school. Thank you.

## Toast

Toast for next half-term is £7.50 and is available to pay and order via ParentMail. Please ensure that this is completed before 9:30am on the first day back - Monday 6th January.

## Parent Governor

If you missed the previous communication, Mr Ben Ireson has now been appointed as our new parent governor. I am sure that he will be a great asset to our governing board. Please remember that his role is to represent parents, not to be the voice of the parents. A governor's role is strategic and not about the day-to-day management of the school.

## Clubs

The following clubs will be running after the Christmas break and will start week beginning the 13th January. All clubs run until 4:15pm and the children can be collected from the main entrance. Apart from football and the Sports Coaching Group clubs, all others are bookable and payable via ParentMail.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
KS1	Engineering club with Mrs Corcoran (£20)	Art with Mrs Savage and Miss Davies (£20)  Christian club with Mrs Finney (£5)  Sports with Mr Parrish (Sports Coaching Group)			Football with Mr Palfreyman (Mini Stars Football)
KS2	Football with Mr Palfreyman (Mini Stars Football)	Art with Mrs Savage and Miss Davies (£20)	Choir with Mrs Rowland (£5)	Drama and debating club with Mr Thomas (£5)  Sports with Mr Parrish (Sports Coaching Group)	Chess and board games with Mr Heathcote (£5)

## Dates

Monday 6th January	8:45am	School re-opens
Wednesday 8th January	1:30pm	KS2 Performance of 'Wind in the Willows'
Thursday 9th January	6pm	KS2 Performance of 'Wind in the Willows'
Monday 20th January	TBC	PTA Meeting
Week beginning 27th January	All Week	Assessment Week
Friday 7th February	6pm onwards	School sleepover for KS2 children
Thursday 13th February	1:30pm	Y6 Public Speaking Competition
Friday 14th February	3:15pm	Finish for the half-term break
Monday 24th February	All Day	INSET Day School closed
Friday 28th February	9:15am	Oak's Sharing Assembly for parents, carers, friends
Thursday 6th March	All Day	World Book Day
Friday 7th March	9:15am	Hawthorn's Sharing Assembly for parents, carers, friends
Friday 14th March	9:15am	Elder's Sharing Assembly for parents, carers, friends
Wednesday 19th March	4pm— 7:30pm	Parent Consultation Appointments
Friday 21st March	9:15am	Birch's Sharing Assembly for parents, carers, friends
Friday 28th March	9:15am	Rowan's Sharing Assembly for parents, carers, friends



*Have a peaceful and joyous Christmas.*

*Every blessing,*

*C Mackenzie*