



## Great Whelnetham Church of England Primary School

# Newsletter

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14th December 2016

Dear Parents

### WOW Science Lesson!

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December Senior Science Technician Jay Abu from King Edward VI School along with his assistant delivered a super biology lesson to Year 3 and Year 4.

The children were investigating whether maggots preferred light or dark and wet or dry conditions. The children's reactions to live maggots were hilarious! Thanks to the staff at King Edwards VI School for a great lesson—our partnership works extremely well (Mrs Claire Masson Science Co-Ordinator).



### Christmas Fair

Our Fair was a huge success making an impressive £523! Thank you to everyone for your support in either attending, donating or in the case of the PTFA organising and running the show. A huge thank you from us all to Nancy Shipperley for all she does for us—we are very lucky!

### Parents' Evenings

It was lovely to see so many of you at our consultation evenings last week—in fact 90% of parents attended. It is encouraging to see that so many of you want to support us in helping your children achieve the very best outcomes not only at school but also for the future as well.

### Key Stage 1 Christmas Productions

I hope that all our Key Stage 1 families enjoyed the performances of 'Christmas Counts' as much as I did! There was some super singing and performing—well done Key Stage 1! Thanks to parents for supporting your child/dren with practising lines and providing costumes. The retiring collection in aid of the Rainbow Ward at West Suffolk Hospital raised £199.62 and we will be proud to send this off to them your behalf.

### Left over Christmas wrapping paper

We would be most grateful for any unused rolls/part rolls of paper which we could use in school next year. Please could they be handed in to the office.

### Attendance Matters

There is a direct link between attendance and attainment and we want to work with you to ensure that your child is present at school wherever possible. We now display the weekly attendance figures on each classroom door to highlight the importance of good attendance to the children as well. In addition we will be awarding gold, silver and bronze certificates at the end of each term to those children who have 100%, 99% and 98% attendance accordingly.

### Temporary Road Closure

We have been advised that Suffolk Highways plan to carry out road repairs along Stanningfield Road on Friday 6th January 2017. This means that the road will be closed from the junction of Bells Lane to the junction of Tutelina Road between 9.30-2.30pm. Please bear this in mind when accessing the school site.

### Christmas Jumper Day

I am pleased to report that we received donations amounting to £127.50 which has been sent off to the Save the Children Charity. We all enjoyed wearing our jumpers and are very grateful for your generous support.

### Admissions

We would like to alert all parents and carers of pre-school children who were born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 that they need to apply for a full time school place for their child for September 2017 by the closing date Friday 15th January 2017. The online application at: [www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions) is the recommended method but application forms can also be obtained from the office. Please do not hesitate to speak to us regarding any queries you may have.

### Consultation regarding admission arrangements for Sybil Andrews Academy

This consultation relates to the proposed admissions arrangements for 2018-19 and runs from 9th December 2016-20th January 2017. The proposed policy can be found on their website: [www.sybilandrewsacademy.co.uk](http://www.sybilandrewsacademy.co.uk). To respond to the consultation please email the school: [saa@sybilandrewsacademy.co.uk](mailto:saa@sybilandrewsacademy.co.uk).

### Menu Change

There will be a changed menu on Tuesday 20th December, the last day of term. The choices that day will be:

- Fish & chips or veggie finger and seasonal vegetables.
- Strawberry smoothie pudding.

We break up for the Christmas holidays on Tuesday 20th December. This will be the last newsletter of the year. On behalf of the governors and the staff may I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all back at school on Thursday 5th January.

*Kath Parkin*

Headteacher