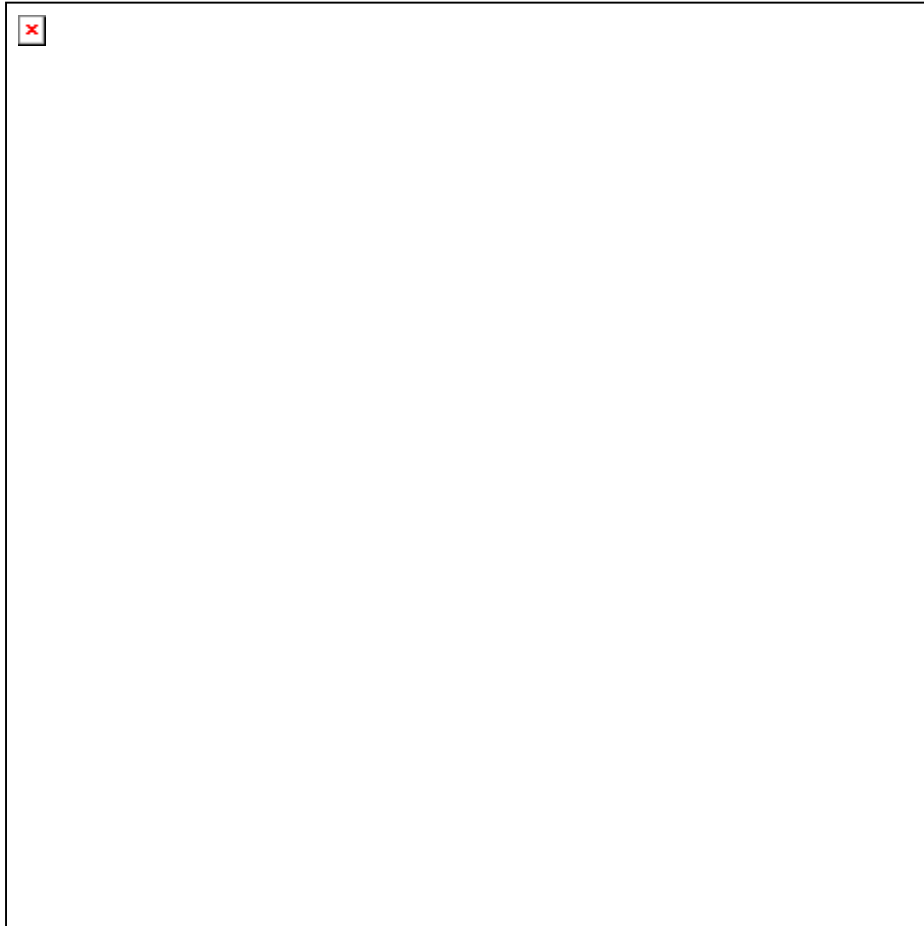


December 2006

Staplegrove C of E Primary school



Issue 4

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Dear Parents,

I cannot believe that I am writing the last Newsletter of 2006! This year seems to have flown by at an extraordinary rate and Christmas is fast approaching. School is ringing with the sound of Christmas preparations and there is a real buzz around the school.

Hopefully, I will catch up with you all before we break for the holiday but if not, I will take this opportunity to wish you and all your family a happy Christmas and peaceful new year

Kind regards,

Kirsti Nelson

Christmas performances

I notified you of the Christmas performances on the "dates letter" back in September but am now in the position to give you more details.

Elm class will perform their nativity on Monday 11th December in the afternoon and again on Wednesday 13th December for the Evergreen club. Parents also welcome to attend this performance.

Rowan and Beech class will perform on Tuesday 12th December at 1.45pm and then again in the evening at 6pm

Cherry, Cedar and Willow will perform on Thursday 14th December at 1.45pm and then again in the evening at 6pm.

We will be sending tickets home next week.

Tescos vouchers

The Tescos voucher scheme has now finished so we need to collect in all of the tokens out there so they can be counted and converted into PE equipment. Could you please send them into school by Friday 8th December so they can be counted.

School Uniform

We are going to have a real push on school uniform over the next few weeks. I'm sure you will all be very supportive of this. The children are allowed to wear a pair of plain stud earrings, a watch if appropriate and a signet ring. For health and safety reasons, these will need to be taken off for PE. Girls should only have plain hairbands in school colours. Badges should only be worn if it is a birthday or if your child is a school councillor or prefect.

Walking home

Several children have asked me about being allowed to walk home on their own at the end of the school day if they live close to the school. The school policy is that only year 5 and 6 children will be given permission to do this and only if I have received a letter from parents saying that they agree to this. If it is for an evening event at the school, we will expect all children to be picked up by an adult.

Carol Singing and The Big Christingle Make

Kate Taylor and myself are running a "Christingle make" in the school hall on the afternoon of Saturday 23rd December. Everybody is welcome to come along and help out! The Christingle service will take place in the church on Sunday 24th December at 4.30pm.

Children with their families are also invited to come carol singing around the village on Monday 18th December. We will meet at the school at 5.00pm and then after the singing return to school for a drink and mince pies.

Playground clearing

Our playground is in a real state at the moment with all of the fallen leaves now in a soggy mess! Some parents have volunteered to have a big clear on Saturday 2nd December at 1.30pm. If you could help, please come along with a broom and lots of energy!!

Play equipment

Our past few FOSS fund raising events have been targeted to raise money for more outside play equipment. I am really pleased to be able to tell you that the children have been consulted about what they want through their school council and we have now ordered a wooden adventure trail for KS1 children and a climbing wall that will fit on to the existing KS2 trail. Thank you

to all those people who have helped in any way to raise this money-it will be really brilliant for the children. It is being installed on 2nd January 2007 ready for the Spring term.

Christmas Fayre

Thank you to all of you for supporting our Christmas Fayre. It was a fantastic afternoon and we raised approximately £1200 which will go towards creating an benched quiet area in the playground. The event was only possible because of the hard work of Nicky Winkworth and the members of the FOSS. A special thank you to all of them!

Christmas postbox

Our special post box is in the entrance hall. Children are encouraged to post their Christmas cards in here and the year 6 pupils will distribute them to the different classrooms.

Christmas Dinner

On the last day of term, we are going to be having a Christmas Lunch for everybody in the school. It will be provided by SCS who do our hot school dinners and the letter about this and the cost will come home next week. It was a really lovely event last year and enjoyed by all! If any parents can help out with the serving can you let FOSS know.

Wake and Shake

I hope you have been enjoying our Wake and Shake sessions in the mornings. It is so important that the children are participating in this Daily Physical Activity for their health and to prepare them for their learning. We are always trying to make things better and we will be changing how we run wake and shake from Tuesday next week. The children will line up at 8.50 and Year 3,4,5 and 6 children will go into the hall for their wake and shake with Mrs Cox. (Parents are still welcome to come and join us!) For the present time, year 1 and 2 children will do their exercise during the day with their teacher.

Healthy snacks

We are really trying to encourage the children in to healthy habits. KS1 children are provided with a piece of fruit at playtime. Could KS2 children bring in fruit or vegetables for their

break as this will help them towards eating the recommended 5 pieces a day. There should be no biscuits at playtime.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Harry Bond in Elm Class for winning the Gazette Christmas card competition! He designed a fantastic picture and we are very proud of his achievement!

Reminder

School starts back after the Christmas holidays on Thursday 4th January 2007.

Christmas Cards and photos

Photographs have been delivered today and we will get them to you on Monday. We have also have been notified that the Christmas cards will be delivered on Monday. The company printing them have apoligised for the delay and their apology letter will be displayed on the parents notice board.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a
HAPPY NEW YEAR!