

Staplegrove C of E Primary School

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Issue 4

Staplegrove C of E Primary School
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Well the decorations and costumes are out of the loft and Christmas is fast approaching at school! Another year has whizzed by and again we are about to enter my most favourite time in the school. I think it is one of the most privileged times to be the Headteacher of a church school, when you see on a daily basis the excitement and expectation of children mixed with the magic of the whole Christmas celebration.

I look forward to catching up with you over the coming weeks as we join together for various Christmas dates!!

Kind regards,

Kirsti Nelson

Children in Need

This year our Children in Need event was organised by 3 girls in year 6. Casey Broome, Emillie Prouse and Kayleigh Fry. As I'm sure you know, they planned this and wrote the letter to the whole school. Their efforts raised a massive £174.39 so thank you to everybody who supported the event and well done to Casey, Emillie and Kayleigh for their brilliant effort.

Parent Governors

It is always an advantage to the school to have a full compliment of parent governors on our governing board as they can put a parental point of view forward at meetings. Parents who are considering the role in the future might find it helpful sitting in on the meetings as an Associate Governor in the first instance. This gives an insight into what the Governing body do whilst not having to vote. If you are interested in this or becoming a full governor, please let me know as soon as possible.

FOSS Bingo

There is a non- school uniform day on Friday 4th December and we are asking for a contribution of 50p. This will be put towards the prizes for the bingo in the evening. This is a really fun family event, please support us if you can.

Tea with the Head and your views of the school!!

Building on the success of the Tea group with Kate Taylor, I would like to introduce a "tea with the Head" afternoon. This would give you an opportunity to ask those burning questions you might have and haven't had the opportunity to! I can also share with you different plans I have for the school. I plan that these will be the last Tuesday in every month at 2.30pm. The dates will be Tuesday 26th January, 23rd February and 30th March. All parents are welcome and younger children can come too!

There will also be an evening opportunity for those who can not make it in the afternoon. More information will follow about this.

Your views on the school are very important and these can impact practise within the school. Could I ask you to take a small amount of time to complete the attached questionnaire about the school and return it to the office by Thursday 17th December. There is a box for additional comments if you would like to add something not covered by the questions or that you would like to expand upon.

Thank you for your support- remember we can not make something better if we do not know if there is something wrong!!!

Christmas Letterbox

The red Christmas postbox will be located outside the School Office from Tuesday 1st December. This is for internal Christmas Cards only. Please encourage your children to post their cards in here so they can receive them with their class mail! Year 6 will be delivering the cards on a daily basis, the last day for posting is Wednesday 16th December, thank you

Christmas church services

We will be going over to the church for our Christmas service led by Reverend Kivett on Wednesday 16th December at 9.30a.m. This is always a lovely service and all parents are welcome to attend.

On the last afternoon of term (Thursday 17th December) we will have our in-school worship which will be a Christingle service led by Mrs Taylor. This will be at 2 o'clock and again, everybody is welcome to come and join us for this celebration. We will be sending home the Christingle collection candles in the next week. These can either be brought in for our service in the afternoon or taken to the Christingle service that will take place on Christmas Eve at St Johns church.

Late returns

We try to provide as many opportunities for our children as we can so that they have school days to remember! Often we have to ask for financial contributions and/or parental permission slips to be sent in and these have a clear deadline written on them and a notice is usually displayed on the notice board as a reminder too. This is because we have to set aside time to complete the administration work that is created. Whilst we hate children missing out on opportunities, parents need to understand that we have to adhere to deadlines for good reason. To avoid disappointment, please ensure you check bookbags for notes and letters and return forms on time. In our recent returns, we had 15 late returns for Father Christmas and 4 late Tempest photo returns. Some parents have behaved unreasonably toward our office staff when things are returned late when it is the parents responsibility to return things on time. On this occasion, we will accept the Father Christmas returns as this is being organised by FOSS but I hope you can understand how hard it would be if children had to miss out on this special event.

Christmas performances and lunch

The letters will come home Monday 30th November asking which tickets you would like for the performances this year. Obviously for Health and Safety reasons we have a limited number of tickets to allocate and this will be done on a first come first served basis. There is a limit to 2 tickets per family in the first instance although if you would like additional tickets for the afternoon performances during school time please indicate this on your returns. There are often additional places for the afternoon performances.

We like to have a whole school Christmas lunch for everybody to enjoy. The staff serve the children their dinner and FOSS provide crackers and a drink for everybody. It is a lovely lunchtime and it is wonderful to see everybody sharing in a meal. It is essential that if you want your child to enjoy this opportunity, that the slip is returned by the deadline on the letter – this Friday 4th December. There will be no exceptions for late returns as the kitchens have to order the quantity of turkey needed. Late forms and money will be returned to you via your child.

Calculations Evening

Miss Bolton will be running the calculation evening on Thursday 3rd December at 6.30pm which will be accompanied by a help leaflet explaining how addition, subtraction, multiplication and division are taught at the different stages at Staplegrove. The booking form came home with the last newsletter but if you are interested in attending, please notify the office and you can be added to the list. There are currently about 30 people coming. One parent has said they are unable to make the evening date and Miss Bolton has agreed to go through the booklet with them at 3.30pm on Monday 14th December. If you would like to join them, again, please notify the office.

Alan Sullivan

Mr Sullivan has been absent from our school for the last year on long term sick leave. We have just been informed that Mr Sullivan will be unable to return to school at all so we wish him well with regards to his health and in his early retirement.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a
very Happy Christmas and prosperous new
year!

