



Newsletter - December 2015



CRUCIBLE CO-OPERATIVE LEARNING TRUST

The 1st of January sees the launch of us becoming a Foundation status school with our neighbouring schools. As we promised, there will be no changes to our school name, leadership and governance structure or uniform policy.

The first joint work of our schools will be looking at ways to improve the teaching and learning through joint training programmes for our staff.

It's a really exciting time for us all as we can pool our strengths so that the whole can become much more than the sum of its parts.

THANK YOU!

Once again the shoebox appeal was a great success. Thank you to everyone who contributed, together we collected 41 boxes. The boxes have been collected and will be sent to disadvantaged children across Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



We'd also like to thank you all for your support at the Christmas Performances and your exit contributions to St Luke's Hospice.

TIMEKEEPING

As part of our attendance monitoring, we have noticed an increase in the number of late marks throughout the school.



Doors open at 8.40am with registration taking place from 8.50am to 9.00am. If your child arrives between 8.50 and 9.00am they should report straight to their class. If they arrive after 9.00am children should report to reception for a late mark. Arrival after 9.30am is recorded as unauthorised absence for the morning session.

Its really important that children are in school and settled for 8.50am so they don't miss the introduction to lessons as key subjects are taught in the mornings.

PARKING



Can we please remind parents that due to restricted access and safety concerns, we are unable to offer parking or drop-off/pick up facilities on school grounds.

We have had several near-misses over the past few weeks along with quite severe congestion caused by traffic trying to pass both ways on the single width drive at peak times.

We thank you for your co-operation in this matter and considering our neighbours when parking near school.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

We are delighted to announce that the PTA's Christmas Raffle and Fayre raised over £1,500. Thanks for your work and efforts in supporting the PTA in raising such a spectacular sum.



The next event will be a fashion show which takes place on Tuesday 2nd February doors open at 7.00pm. Tickets are priced at £5 and are available from the school office after Christmas.

WINTER WEATHER



We always do our best to make sure that Ballifield stays open throughout the winter. However, if in extreme circumstances a decision is taken to close we will send out a message via our text alert system.

Please make sure that the office knows about any changes to your mobile phone number.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER...

It's been an extremely busy and productive term and I would like to thank the entire school community for their hard work, especially in making all the Christmas performances so enjoyable and successful.

The support given to a vast range of charities this year has been amazing and you all deserve our genuine thanks.

I would like to extend my thanks to Mr Strafford who is stepping down as governor. He has served the school for 14 years, including 11 years as chair. Mr Andy Wynne has become our new Chair of Governors and Mr Simon Rodgers is his deputy.

Parents have provided very positive feedback regarding the Y2 and EYFS workshops on the curriculum and new assessments. In the New Year the Y6s will be able to access some after school booster sessions.

We are working hard to achieve our challenging attainment targets. Every child has individual learning targets in maths and literacy and they should be able to tell you what they are!

May I wish you all a lovely Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Sheila Haigh

Ballifield will close for the Christmas break on Friday 18th December at 3.15pm.

We re-open to children on Monday 4th January.