

# November 2017 Newsletter

## Pinewood Infant School

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It has been a lovely start to this half term. Children and adults alike are all quickly back into the swing of learning and teaching. It is a very busy half term in school and the children will shortly be learning all of the new songs for the Christmas Performances. We have also planned some other exciting activities to make Christmas a special time for the children. This is rather a long newsletter with lots of information. We will send a further letter to remind you of all of the Christmas activities at the beginning of December.

### Harvest Assembly

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Harvest Assembly before half term. The children really enjoyed performing all of the stories and songs, and we are very proud of them all. We received lots of donations for the food bank and I know that the contributions will be put to good use over the winter months.



### Children in Need

Over the last few weeks in school the children have been thinking and learning about the differences between wants and needs. This has helped to develop the children's' understanding of what things they need to live a safe and happy life. On Friday 17th November the children are allowed to wear 'Muffi' to school in exchange for £1.00 towards the Children in Need charity.

### Christmas Fair



The parents' forum group is organising a Christmas Fair on the afternoon of the last day of term, when we sing Carols around the Christmas tree. Over the next few weeks, we will be collecting donations of soft toys and children's books that are in good condition and can be used as prizes for a tombola stall. We will also be asking parents for a donation of chocolate treats and any bottles to



### Upcoming Events

#### **Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> November**

Children in Need – Muffi Day

#### **Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> December**

Target Sharing  
(8.45am Tea and Toast or 2.30pm  
Tea and biscuits)

#### **Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Jumper Day

#### **Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Play dress rehearsals  
Cast A

#### **Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Play dress rehearsals  
Cast B

#### **Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Play Cast A

#### **Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Play Cast B

#### **Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Whole School Disco

#### **Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Lunch  
Class party Games

#### **Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Fair  
Last Day of Term

#### **Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> December**

INSET DAY

#### **Christmas Holiday**

Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December –  
Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January

#### **Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

INSET DAY

#### **Half Term**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup>  
February

be brought in on Christmas Jumper day. We would also like to ask if you have any unwanted gifts suitable for the raffle or perhaps you work for a company that would like to donate something. Please bring donations in to the school office.

Also after the Christmas performance on the 15th December we are looking for some volunteers to help wrap gifts for the Lucky Dip and put tickets etc on the tombola prizes. If you are able to stay for a while and help please can you let Mrs Bennett in the school office know. Thank you for your support.

### Target Sharing

On Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> December there is an opportunity for all parents to come and speak to the class teacher about your child's progress and to find out about the next steps and how you can help support your child at home. The sessions will be running from 8.45am with tea and toast and then again in the afternoon at 2.30pm with tea and biscuits. This is a really valuable opportunity to find out how your child is doing and to ask any questions that you may have. To help us have an indication of numbers please can you sign which session you will be attending on the sheet in the front entrance or phone the school office. You do not need to have signed up to come for an appointment so if you find that you are available at the last minute please feel free to come along.

Mrs Debbie Cook the Head teacher will also be available at both sessions if you have any questions you would like to ask her or to just stop for a chat.

### Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day

The children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers in exchange for a donation towards the chocolate or bottle tombola.

### Whole School Christmas Disco

Following on from the success of the previous discos, we will be holding a Christmas disco for all of the children. The event will be held here at school on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December at 5.00pm – 6.15pm. The children are invited back in their party clothes to have a dance and play some games with their friends. More information will be available nearer the time and again if there are any parent helpers who would like to come along and have a dance please speak to the Office Staff or Mrs Cook.



### Christmas Performances

We will be staging two performances of our Christmas play – this enables more children to have the opportunity of taking a leading role as well as comfortably accommodating the audience. The school will be divided into Cast A and Cast B and children from the same family will be kept in the same cast. When it is Cast A's performance the children in Cast B will be the choir and when Cast B are performing the children in Cast A will become the choir. A detailed cast list will be sent home nearer the time; meanwhile these are the dates for the performances.

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 9.30

Dress rehearsal for Cast A

Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 9.30

Dress rehearsal for Cast B

Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 9.30

Performance for Cast A

Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 9.30

Performance for Cast B

We request that small children and babies are only brought to the dress rehearsals.

The performances on **Thursday and Friday mornings** are for **adults only**.



## **Christmas Post Box**

The box will be in the entrance hall from Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> December. Please label envelopes with child's name and class.

## **Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December**

**Christmas Lunch.** All children will have the opportunity to enjoy a Christmas lunch. It is a special occasion, and the children are 'waited on' by teaching and support staff. **Children may bring in party clothes to change into for lunchtime and for class party games in the afternoon.**

## **Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December – End of Term**

We would like to invite you and your family to join us for singing carols around the tree and to attend the Christmas Fair. Children may be taken home once the Carol service has finished.

## **Staffing News**

I am also happy to announce that Mrs Humphries, the class teacher in Butterfly Class, is expecting her second baby and will begin her maternity leave at Easter. We will shortly be advertising the position and will inform all parents of the outcome as soon as possible.

**Spring Term begins on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018**