



Friday 15th December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to thank all the parents who worked so hard to ensure that our Christmas Craft afternoon on Wednesday was such a success and it was great to see Santa in school too! Many thanks also to all the parents who attended the Christmas Concerts and I hope you enjoyed the performances. Losing our dress rehearsal time on Monday in the Village Hall definitely wasn't ideal preparation but I thought the children rose to the occasion well and they certainly seemed to enjoy themselves! Given the traffic problems caused in the village by so many parked cars and the ensuing complaints, we're certainly going to have to think carefully about how we organise future events of this nature.

*But anyway ..... Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to everyone!*

### **Diary Dates**

A detailed list of important dates for the Spring Term will be sent out soon after the holidays.

Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	INSET Day (school closed to children)
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Start of Term 3

### **Road Closure Information**

I've noticed road signage already in place but we just wanted to inform parents that because of repair works being undertaken to Railway Bridge No. 34 on Gretton Road, Gotherington the road will be closed from around the 2<sup>nd</sup> January for 6 to 8 weeks and diversions will be in place. If you require further information please phone 01242 621905, thanks.

### **Staffing Arrangements**

From the start of next term there will be some changes to the current staffing arrangements. I'm pleased to inform you that Mrs Marlow will be joining our team as a Teaching Assistant, primarily during the mornings in Kingfishers. Mrs Lacey will be returning to work in Robins for the morning sessions and Mrs Fowler will move back to working in Owls for two mornings per week. Mrs Lacey will be taking over from Mrs Greasby in Robins on a Friday afternoon. Hopefully we will see Mrs Greasby again soon, perhaps as a supply teacher but in the meantime we would like to thank her for all her efforts and we wish her the best of luck in her future career.

### **School Football Team**

The team were in action again last Friday afternoon in the area finals of the English Schools' Football Association tournament, held in bitterly cold conditions at Oxstalls Sports Park. The team performed well and finished in a very creditable 4<sup>th</sup> place overall - congratulations boys!

## Gretton Church

Steve Carter, lay minister at Christchurch, Gretton and the entire congregation, warmly invite children, parents, grand-parents and friends to the annual Crib Service at the church, which will take place on Christmas Eve, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December, starting at 4pm. The service is especially appropriate for children of primary and pre-school ages. This year, it will feature a story, 'Dave the Donkey,' which has been specially written and illustrated for the occasion by Susan Climie, a member of the church.

## News from FOGs

A very big thank you to all of the helpers that came along to the children's craft afternoon - the children (and teachers!!) had a fabulous time. There were echoes of singing heard all around the school as the children relaxed and had fun! Thanks also go to all of the children for their enthusiasm. We really appreciate the £3 donations received for the craft afternoon and would still welcome any donations that have not yet been sent in.

Thank you to those who helped at the performances or brought along treats to sell - we think we can all agree that the cakes were yummy!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to planning many events for you all in 2018.

## News from around the classes

### *Robins*

Well done Robins for performing so brilliantly in their first Christmas concert. This week the children have enjoyed lots of festive activities including making cards, paper lanterns and snowflakes.

### *Kingfishers*

Well what an adventurous week we have all had! After a day off on Monday enjoying the snow, Kingfishers really stepped up to the mark in the Christmas production despite not having had a dress rehearsal. They were all brilliant and we were all very proud of them! We wish you all very merry Christmas from all the teaching staff in Kingfishers and we look forward to seeing you in 2018!

### *Owls*

We were all very proud of Owls' performance in the Christmas production on Tuesday and Wednesday. They spoke clearly and confidently in their poem and sang beautifully. In class we have been enjoying lots of Christmas themed learning including a maths detective investigation to see who stole Mrs Clause's Christmas cake. We also created some excellent 3D Christmas decorations and enjoyed our fractions work with a bar of chocolate!

### *Eagles*

Eagles have had a go at designing their own Christmas cards this week. They had lots of ideas and put loads of effort into their plans. The children also wrote the beginning of a fictional story titled 'The Supernatural Snow Globe'. There were some fabulous examples of ambitious vocabulary and a great show of imagination. Finally, we were very proud of the effort put into the song and dance performed at the Christmas performances. Despite the snow day, the changes of venue and the lack of space for the dancers, all the children did their best.



Birthdays coming up.....  
**Lewis and Liam Burnett-Hockey, Maisie Willmore and George  
 Hitch-Wood**  
*Congratulations!*

To help your child choose their meals, here's the menu for the first week back after the Christmas Holidays;

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hotdogs with tomato sauce & jacket wedges	Macaroni Pastichio (made with organic mince)	Meatballs & Rice	Organic Beef Cottage Pie	MSC Breaded Fish with chips
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Potato & Courgette Layer Bake	Spinach & Tomato Quiche with New Potatoes	Quorn Sausages & Mash	Macaroni Cheese with Tomato topping	Vegetable fajita
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo	Soup & Filled Baguette	Jacket Potato with Salmon Mayo	Soup & Filled Baguette	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Broccoli & Sweetcorn	Peas & Cauliflower	Carrot & Swede Mash	Sweetcorn & Roasted Courgette	Baked Beans & Garden Peas
Shortbread Yoghurt/ Fruit Platter	Apple & Mixed Berry Crumble & Custard/ Yoghurt/Fruit Chunks	Flapjack Yoghurt/Fruit Pieces	Pineapple Upside Down Cake with Custard/Yoghurt /Fruit Platter	Pear & Ginger Muffin / Yoghurt, Fruit Salad

*This week's 'Golden Children' (15.12.17)*

**Robins**

Morgan White for his wonderful singing in rehearsals and in the concerts.

**Kingfishers**

Ines Silver, Talia Stratford, Hugo Millar and Beauford Weatherley-Kaye for being such fab Dinky Donkeys in the Christmas play and learning so many lines really well!

**Owls**

Talullah Hollingsworth who remained unphased when her partner was away for the poem and spoke confidently and clearly. Jemimah Richardson and Jennifer Andrews for listening carefully to instructions to produce excellent Christmas decorations.

**Eagles**

Isla Storey for much improved handwriting and Lauren Graham for her imaginative Christmas card design

**And finally ..... a big THANK YOU from the staff!**

We would all like to offer a very big thank you for all the cards and generous gifts that we've received. It was very kind of you and much appreciated.

Festive best wishes to all members of the school community, thank you for your support this term and I hope you really enjoy the holidays.

*Mr R Woolston*  
Headteacher