



28<sup>th</sup> November 2016

## Newsletter 7

Dear Parents/Carers,

A reminder that this week is the **last week for school led extra-curricular clubs**. There will be no clubs running from week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> December. A letter for spring term clubs will be sent out in January.



Children in Need

Thank you to everyone for supporting Children in Need – we raised a terrific £246.53.

### Basketball Tournament

On Thursday 10th November, we took a squad of eight basketball players to the Alsager Community Trust basketball tournament at Alsager School. Having won the tournament since it began three years ago; there was considerable expectation to emerge victorious. Our final match meant everything; if we lost we would lose the tournament. It was neck-and-neck into the closing moments of the match, with near misses from both schools. Then, we scored a basket, holding on for the remaining moments to claim the match and the tournament as a whole.

The tournament was a shining example of how great sports teams win. The team worked fantastically together, supporting and encouraging throughout, both on the

pitch and from the side-line. In addition, the attitude was exemplary, with sportsmanship and fairness a trait that every single member displayed. Well done to Alex, Josh, Layla, James, Kyle, Corbin and Ben T. Additional congratulations to Ben B for being a fantastic supporter throughout and willing to step in if needed.



We will be supporting Save the Children Christmas jumper day on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December. If your child would like to wear a Christmas jumper on that day and bring a donation for Save the Children they are very welcome to join in.

### Girls football

On Monday 14th November 2016, a team of Year 4, 5 & 6 girls attended the Sandbach Sports Partnership U11s football competition. Throughout the tournament, all of the squad played brilliantly, showing fantastic footballing skill and teamwork. On top of this, the players displayed an exemplary attitude, both on and off the pitch. The encouragement for their team-mates, and sportsmanship to the opposition, helps to show what fantastic potential the team has. Well done to Layla, Eva, Jasmine, Stella, Emily R, Emily A, Issy and Lilly.



### Staff Development

Teachers attended a Philosophy for Children twilight workshop last week. Philosophy for Children (enquiry based learning) offers a way to open up children's learning through enquiry and the exploration of ideas. Children learn that their ideas have value, and that the ideas of other children have value too. Through Philosophy for Children they realise

that they don't always have to be right, but they gain the confidence to ask questions and learn through discussion. At Excalibur, we believe that developing these higher order skills will impact on all areas of learning and will be taking this forward as part of our regular timetable.

### Christmas Tree Festival

Our midday supervisors joined the EYFS team last week to help the children make their decorations for this year's contribution to the Christmas Tree festival at Wesley Place. Our theme this year was 'Sugar and Spice'. The tree will be brought back to our school for us all to admire. Thank you everyone who helped.



### And Finally

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours Faithfully,

Lise Houldsworth  
Headteacher

## **Diary Dates**

A list of dates currently in the school diary.

28-11-16 Last week of clubs
30-11-16 Smokebusters – Fire service IN Y5
<b>01-12-16 Non uniform day – FOE – chocolates (KS1) or bottle (KS2)</b>
02-12-16 FOE Christmas fair 5-7pm
07-12-16 Governors - Full
09-12-16 Carol service @ St Mary's – Juniors
12-12-16 Christmas celebration – Infants dress rehearsal
13-12-16 Christmas celebration – Infants performance
<b>14-12-16 Christmas lunch – details to follow</b>
<b>15-12-16 Reception visit to St Mary's church</b>
<b>16-12-16 Christmas Jumper Day</b>
<b>16-12-16 Y6 to Alsager High carol concert</b>
19-12-16 Infants Christmas party
20-12-16 Y3/4 Christmas party
23-12-16 Y5/6 Christmas party
<b>23-12-16 School closes</b>

<b>09-01-17 School opens</b>
16-01-17 NSPCC assembly
18-01-17 Governors - Community
18-01-17 E-safety workshop for parents 6pm –details to follow
20-01-17 Bentley Be Extraordinary IN Y5
23-01-17 NSPCC workshops with Y5/Y6
15-02-17 Governors – Strategic leadership
16-02-17 Y3 Class assembly 9.15am
<b>17-02-17 School closes</b>

<b>27-02-17 School opens</b>
<b>02-03-17 Book Fair delivered</b>
09-03-17 Y2 class assembly 9.15am
14-03-17 Y4 Standon Bowers
16-03-17 Class photographs
22-03-17 Governors – Learning & Teaching 5pm
23-03-17 Parent/teacher consultations 4-7pm
24-03-17 Y5 class assembly 9.15am
28-03-17 Parent/teacher consultations 3.30-5pm
29-03-17 Full Governors 5pm
31-03-17 Easter service – Juniors 9.15am
<b>31-03-17 School closes</b>