



*Delivering an outstanding learning experience for all children so they flourish and thrive; enabling them to achieve their own individual excellence.*

4<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## **Newsletter 5**

Dear Parents/Carers,  
Christmas is just around the corner and there is a chill in the air. A host of exciting activities have been going on in school.

### **Y6 Trip to Englesea Brook**

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November, Year 6 visited Englesea Brook Chapel & Museum to take part in a science-themed day. During the day, the children took part in a variety of STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) activities which will support their learning in school throughout the year. In particular, the children observed the wonders of light through a demonstration of a traditional light-box and made their own prints using a pre-20<sup>th</sup> century Atlas printing press. They also listened to early 20<sup>th</sup> century gramophones and discussed the method by which the sound was transferred and amplified. After lunch on the chapel pews, Reverend Hatcher, adopted the role of Methodist Hugh Bourne. As usual, everyone at Englesea Brook was wonderful - many thanks to all of them for making the day possible.



### **SSP Year 5/6 Basketball Tournament**

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019, a squad of Year 5 & 6 children competed in the Sandbach Sports Partnership basketball tournament held at Congleton High School. During the event, our team played against three other schools. By the end of the group stages, three teams, including us, had won two matches and lost one. We narrowly missed out on progressing to the next stage due to goal difference.



### **Excalibur's Website**

Staff have been working tirelessly, updating and refining our website. Information regarding our curriculum provision can be found under the

curriculum drop down box. Find out what is being taught in each year group and discover what it is like to be a learner in Excalibur.

### **New Appointments**

As you know, Mrs Bailey is due to take maternity leave on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020. We have appointed Mrs Emma Harris to cover Mrs Bailey's Year 5 teaching commitment and Mrs Griffin to cover Mrs Bailey's EYFS teaching commitment. In addition, there will be a new welcoming face on our reception desk. From January, Mrs Grace Ridler will be joining our team.

I am sure that you will join me in making Mrs Harris, Mrs Griffin and Mrs Ridler feel welcome at our school and also in wishing Mrs Bailey all the best when her new little person arrives.



### **FOE Christmas Cards**

It was lovely to see so many fabulous designs on the Christmas cards; there are so many budding artists in Excalibur. Many thanks for all your support. FOE raised £253 for the school.



### **Printer Cartridges**

Just a reminder that we are still collecting printer cartridges. If you have any to dispose of, please ask at reception. We have previously collected a massive £164 which has been used to purchase additional wet play equipment.



### **Poppy Appeal**

Thanks for all your support with our poppy appeal. We are really pleased to announce that we raised an impressive £308.32.

### **Governor Update**

Mrs Vicky Alsop has stepped down from her role as Chair of Governors. We would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you for all the hard work she has done over the years for our school, and for being an excellent Chair to our governing body.

Mrs Sarah Sproston will be taking the reins as Chair of Governors. As previous Vice Chair, Mrs Sproston has a wealth of experience and knowledge to bring to her new role.

Mrs Jo Bain has agreed to take on the role of Vice Chair. With her substantial educational

background, Mrs Bain is a valuable addition to our governing team.



### **Chancery Update**

With effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019, we are really pleased to welcome The Berkeley into our multi-academy trust. Already, there have been a number of opportunities for our three schools to meet and work closely together to improve outcomes for all of our children.

### **Treetops Update**

There have been lots of exciting activities happening at our 'out of hours' provision, Treetops, with the children enjoying making reindeer gift tags, reindeer food and marshmallow snowmen. The children have also been taking part in festive quizzes and games.

Just a reminder that Treetops will be open on the INSET day, 12<sup>th</sup> December. Booking forms are available on our website.

### **Reminders...**

Our school doors open at 8.50am. Before this time, parents are responsible for their children. If your child is dropped off before this time, please be aware that this will be unsupervised.

For the safety of your children, if your child is unable to attend either extra- curricular clubs or Treetops, please advise the school.

Thank you for your continued support. As always, any concerns or worries, please do not hesitate to arrange to speak to a member of the team.

21 more sleeps until Christmas!



**Mrs Houldsworth**  
Head Teacher

**Mrs Jones**  
Deputy Head Teacher

## **Diary Dates**

A list of dates currently in the school diary. New dates are in **bold**.

05-12-19 Non Uniform Day – Xmas Fair
<b>06-12-19 Rob Hilton visit to Reception 1.15pm</b>
06-12-19 FOE Xmas fair
09-12-19 KS2 Xmas Performance rehearsal at 2pm
09-12-19 KS1 Xmas Performance at 1.45pm
10-12-19 FLUENZ (rearranged from 20/11)
10-12-19 KS1 Xmas Performance at 1.45pm
11-12-19 Christmas dinner
12-12-19 SCHOOL CLOSED FOR POLLING
13-12-19 KS2 Xmas Concert at 2pm
<b>16-12-19 Choir singing at Lavender House 10.45am (letter to follow)</b>
18-12-19 KS1 Xmas party day
19-12-19 Y3 and Y4 Xmas party 1.30pm
20-12-19 Y5 and Y6 Xmas party 1.30pm
20-12-19 School closes
06-01-20 School opens
<b>22-01-20 Y3 Class assembly 9.15am</b>
<b>29-01-20 Y5 Class assembly 9.15am</b>
29-01-20 Smokebusters Y5 1.30pm
<b>12-02-20 Y2 Class assembly 9.15am</b>
<b>13-02-20 Y6 Annie rehearsal @ AHS (letter to follow)</b>
14-02-20 School closes
24-02-20 School opens
26-02-20 Y6 Annie matinee 1pm
26-02-20 Y6 Annie evening performance 6pm
<b>04-03-20 Year 1 Class assembly 9.15am</b>
5-6-3-20 Standon Bowers
<b>12-03-20 KS2 trip to The Big Bang (letter to follow)</b>
<b>18-03-20 Year 4 Class assembly 9.15am</b>
<b>25-03-20 Reception Class assembly 9.15am</b>
03-04-20 School closes