



21st December 2015

Newsletter 9

Dear Parents/Carers,

This is my final newsletter of 2015!



Wonderful children

I know you will agree with me when I congratulate our children for their fabulous performances in both the infant and junior celebrations. The standard was high and they clearly enjoyed being part of these events. Thank you to all staff for their hard work and parents for supporting with costumes and the learning of lines. Both performances were special and a wonderful way to end a busy term. Well done children!

Donations

Thank you for your donations at the performances – we have collected £429.94 in total. Some of this will be donated to St.Mary's church and the rest to the charity Runaway. The pupil school council has selected this charity, which supports vulnerable teenagers.



Tim Peake

This week the children were very excited as we tracked the Tim Peake launch into space. We will continue to follow his experience and use this significant event as a stimulus for learning in science.



Governor news

We have a dedicated and skilled governing body who work with the senior leadership team to ensure the continued success of Excalibur. There is an area on our website where you can see the minutes of meetings

and share their blogs which outline some of the time they spend in school.

At the last full governors meeting, several policies were renewed and ratified. These will be available for you on our website as usual.

In order to continue to safeguard children, staff and the wider community of Excalibur school in an ever changing world, the governors have ratified two new policies that I would like to draw your attention to. They are attached electronically to this newsletter. These are: *A policy for dealing with incidents of abuse, threats, intimidating behaviour or violence towards staff* and *Social media policy for staff, pupils, parents and the wider school community.*

Also, at the last full governors meeting, our chair of governors Gill Burgess (although remaining on the governing body) stood down as chair. Gill has given a significant amount of time to helping develop our school and has offered unwavering support and challenge to the senior leadership team for a number of years. On behalf of us all, I would like to thank her for her dedication and for the quality of her contribution to school improvement. Our vice-chair Vicky Alsop has now stepped into the role of chair of governors and Nikki Ratcliffe will serve as vice-chair.

House point winners!

The winners this half term are **Camelot**. Pupils in Camelot house have earned a non-uniform day on Thursday 7th January 2016. Well done all!



And finally..

Have a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year. We will see you back here when school re-opens on **Wednesday 6th January 2016.**

With very best wishes,
Mrs Lise Houldsworth
Head Teacher

Diary Dates

This is a list of dates currently in the school diary. You can also use the school calendar on our website which is updated as dates are set.

06-01-16 School opens
06-01-16 Reception class – Love Music Trust IN – details to follow
11-01-16 F.O.E meeting 7.30pm @ The Manor
15-01-16 Y2/3 History workshops IN – details to follow
22-01-16 Artist in residence – 50 th anniversary
22-01-16 F.O.E movie night
29-01-16 Artist in residence – 50 th anniversary
05-02-16 Artist in residence – 50 th anniversary
05-02-16 Y5 vocal performance @ St Mary's – details to follow
09-02-16 Safer Internet Day
09-02-16 Jon Mayhew author visit to Y5
10-02-16 Y4,5,6 Be cyberwise workshops – details to follow
10-02-16 Governors meeting – community 5.30pm
12-02-16 School closes for half term

22-02-16 School opens
02-03-16 Governors meeting – strategic leadership 5.30pm
14-03-16 Science week
16-03-16 Governors meeting – teaching and learning 5.30pm
22-03-16 Y3 perform @ Victoria Hall – details to follow
23-03-16 Easter service @ St.Mary's – details to follow
23-03-16 Reception Barney Bear Festival @ Victoria Hall – details to follow
23-03-16 Full governors meeting 5pm
24-03-16 School closes for Easter