



United Schools Federation (USF) St. Catherine's C. of E. Nursery and Primary School



Newsletter

November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

It's quite hard to think that we are already heading in to December and all the excitement and enjoyment that the festive season brings.

Just a few reminders and key things as we head into a busy time of year for everyone.

Data Usage Parental Consent Forms/Permission Booklets/Outstanding fees/Parent Pay login

This week reminders have been sent where we are still waiting for one or two papers or clearance of outstanding fees. Please help us by paying for items daily or at the beginning of each week.

If you need help with signing up to Parent Pay please do telephone or call into the school office and ask to speak to Miss Tippett who will be glad to help.

Home Reading

Since the start of the school year the number of children who are reading at home 3 or 4 times a week has more than doubled and this is great. It makes such a difference to the children and the progress they make in such an important life skill. However, we all need to keep pushing the importance of reading and the enjoyment which it can bring so please keep reading with your child and keep recording this in their reading diary as they do enjoy getting the rewards which come this.

As an extra incentive every child who reads at home 4 or more times in a week gets entered in to a prize draw for a family ticket to Creally. So the more times your child's reading diary is signed to say they have read 4 or more times the more times they are entered into the draw.

It has been wonderful to hear the children gaining confidence in their reading ability and we thank you for your fantastic support.

Attendance

Our attendance this month is 94.5%. This is a long way off our target of 96%. We are bound by law to follow through any cases where attendance is not good. Any child with an attendance rate of less than 90% is now seen as a persistent absentee and we must act upon this. If you are struggling to get your child to school regularly, we can offer support to help with this.

A huge thank you for all of those that do so much to ensure their child's attendance is continually good, and for everyone for working with us in keeping the children in school and reminding them about personal hygiene and the importance of hand-washing in order to keep bugs to the minimum. Don't forget to telephone the school, before 9-10 a.m. if possible, to let us know the reason for your child's absence.

Application for a Primary School place

Applications have opened for admission into primary school in September 2019 for children born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015. You can now apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline and

applications must be in by 15th January 2019 or they will be considered late and you may not get a place for your child in the school of your choice.

Remembrance Day

Our Poppy Appeal collection this year raised £109-92 with a district total collection of £45,722-50. We are always thanked profusely for the generosity of children and parents from Heathfield and once again this is a fantastic result.

Christmas season

We are entering the busy Christmas season and there is plenty going on across the school as we head into December. A huge thank you to our PTA for funding Christmas treats for our children again this year with Key Stage 2 going to the Pantomime and KS1 and Foundation having an entertainer in for the afternoon.

The Festive season dates are below. Do please come and join us for as much as you are able. We look forward to sharing a fun filled and happy lead up to the Christmas Break with you.

Children in Need

Another wonderful response from children and parents enabled us to easily cover our very large Pudsey Bear with small change! Thank you to everyone who brought in pennies and larger denominations. We have banked £200-30 on behalf of the school.

Parents Evenings

Letters for parent's evenings have been sent and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 10th or Tuesday 11th December where teachers can talk with you about your child's progress in school this term.

Diary Dates

December		December	
Mondays	Bible Club 3-30 - 4-30 p.m. Final date 3 rd December 2018, back 14 th January 2019	Tue 11 th	Nativity performance KS1 10.00 am
Mon 3 rd	Home visits for new nursery children		Parents' Evening
Tue 4 th	Flu immunisation Years R - Yr. 5	Tue 12 th	Choir to Seale Hayne
	Year 6 to Coombeshead pantomime		Nativity performance KS1 2.00 pm
Thurs. 6 th	Years 1 & 2 to Kent's Cavern	Mon 17 th	New nursery children induction
	Choir to Trago Mills p.m.		Choir to Ullacombe Farm
			KS2 Christmas Carol Service 5pm
Fri 7 th	Choir to Exeter p.m.	Tue 18 th	Friends KS2 trip to pantomime
			Friends KS1 Children's Entertainer
Mon 10 th	New nursery children induction	Wed 19 th	Christmas lunch
			Christmas Disco 4-6pm

	Parents Evening	Fri 21 st	Chris tingle Service 9.30am
			Last day in school. Back Monday 7 th January 2019

Kind regards.

Marcus West

Head of School