

December 1st 2017**Dear all,**

I can't believe it is December already! I love this time of year in school. It is extremely busy but the children (and staff) are buzzing with excitement!

This morning we had the first of our Nativity plays. Our Foundation Stage children performed brilliantly and were so brave in front of so many parents. They sang lots of songs and were really clear and loud. Well done to all the children and thank you to all the staff for all their hard work.

This afternoon the PTA handed out the class Christmas presents. The children were so excited it was lovely. I'm sure the children will tell you but so you are aware the presents included: beanbag chairs, a sand and water tray, a puppet theatre, stepping stones, chess sets and felt tips. I would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA as well as to all the parents who have given money at the different PTA events.

Rowan and Sycamore Class had a patio party this afternoon for the PTA with cards and cakes to say thank you for their lovely canopy.

In sports our children continue to take part in lots of events with other local schools. Many of our KS1 children took part in an Aesthetics Festival and KS2 children in a dance festival at Exmouth Community College last week. All the children had a fantastic time. It was a lot of fun and they got to have a go at lots of new skills with other local children. Many thanks to Mrs Turner for making these events happen and the parents who help.

E-safety talk

Last night we had our parents E-safety talk. I was very disappointed that only one parent turned up, it was advertised in the dairy dates, website and various newsletters. I believe it was a very important talk about how to keep all our children safe online, different parental controls and apps that we can use to protect our children online as well as information about what to do if they do encounter problems online.

Maths marvels

This week a group of our year 6 children went to Exmouth Community College to take part in a maths competition. We were against Marpool and I am really pleased to say we won. This means we go through to the final against other local schools. I am really proud of our children as they were the only ones who managed to answer the most challenging questions e.g. 'On a day trip to the coast I travel the first 30 km in one hour. What must my average speed be for the remainder of the journey if my average speed for the whole journey of 90km is 40km per hour?' This is far beyond what is expected for yr 6 so we are really proud that our children could answer this and many other equally challenging questions. Well done to them all!

Parking

I am sorry to say I have had some of the nearby residents in complaining about parents' parking around school. I appreciate that every school has difficulties with parking but it is not acceptable to park on people's lawns or swear and make rude gestures at them because people are running late to drop off or pick up their children. If you need to use your car please allow plenty of time to find a suitable parking spot and please treat all of our neighbours with respect. Many thanks.

Arriving late

If you are arriving late with your child in the morning please can you come into the office with your child not send them in on their own as parents need to sign them in.

Next two weeks:

Tuesday 5th December – KS1 Nativity performance in School at 2pm and 6pm

Thursday 7th December – Year 3/4 Advent Service in Church 6.30pm

Friday 8th December – KS1 Nativity songs in Church at 10am

Friday 8th December – Christmas Fair 6pm

Tuesday 12th December – School Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 12th December – Year 5/6 Advent Service in Church 7.00pm

Wednesday 13th December – Christmas Jumper day & present wrapping day

Thursday 14th December – Christmas Art display around school from 1.30pm & Carols around the Christmas tree 2.30pm

Best wishes**Mrs Taylor-Bashford****Headteacher's Awards:** Cherry - George**Bronze certificates:** Oak – Harry, Sycamore – Queenie, Dean, Phoebe, Beech - Samuel**Stars of the week:**

Oak – James , Sycamore – Jayden, Rowan – Alfie, Cherry – Jasmine, Willow – Chloe,

Maple – Oliver,

Beech - Finn