



Dear Parents

Wow! What a busy final 3 weeks to the end of the Autumn term. We are all so grateful to for the amazing gift of a whole school visit to see CinderElla at the Nuffield City Theatre this week. As one of our children announced 'it was the best school trip ever!'. The story was a reworking of the old fairytale for a modern audience packed full of morals and Christmas festivity.



Many thanks to all of you who came out this week to support the community bonfire night and carol singing evening which raised well over £500 for the Durley Diamond's lunch in January. Our thanks to Helen Childs for leading our pop up adult choir and to all the ex-parents and pupils returned this year to join in with the singing. Our thanks to Year 2 parents, Reuben Reeves and Andy Wheeler for building the amazing bonfire this year and the Sweich family for donating the pallets. Please look closely at the photos as their Christmas wishes

were hard to see in the dark and quickly caught light. Also many thanks everyone involved for their hard work and to you for your support.

The Key Stage 1 Christmas nativity play this year was a delight and such a joy to see so many confident children singing and performing to a large group of adults. It is lovely to hear our young children singing all the words to many of the traditional carols as they make their way around the school. Our thanks to all the staff involved for all their hard work.

Our thanks to Mrs Crowley and the school council for organising the reverse advent collection for the food centre at Hedge End and to all of you who sent in food to enable more people to enjoy this festive time of year.

## SPORT



Despite approaching the end of term, we continue enter teams into local sporting competitions. Last week our Year 3 and 4 children took part in a level 3 indoor athletics competition against 11 local schools. We were thrilled to finish in **first place** and

receive a shield which we are currently having engraved. Well done to them all.

This week we managed to continue our sporting success with the Year 3 and 4 girls football team competing against schools in the Wyvern cluster—Stoke Park, Upham and Fair Oak. Thanks to great teamwork and skill, we finished in **first place**, winning all of our matches including beating Fair Oak A team 3-0. Well done to you all.



Thank you to everyone who took part in our Christmas jumper day today and for your generous donations to Save the Children which raised over £100. Our Christmas dinner was a delight with the children in mixed age groups across the school and a Year 6 pupil in charge of each table. The children made table decorations, place mats etc in preparation for the big meal which they all really enjoyed. Our thanks to Paula and Sarah in the kitchen for making this a very special event.

### **CRIB SCENE**

We were delighted to be able to participate in the Durley Church 'Crib Scenes' as part of the displays in Holy Cross Church. Each class made a figure (linked to their class colour) and every child in the school participated in making it. They stood in splendor in the church last weekend, and I understand that the church had many visitors to see them.



### **COOKERY**



Over the past few weeks has seen every child in the school has had the chance to be doing some cookery. The children in Year 4 made biscuits and raised £67 for their chosen charity World Wildlife Fund, as part of the PSHE class work. The children in Year 6 had to follow a recipe without help to made stained glass window biscuit tree decorations. Key Stage 1 made Christmas shortbread and Years 3-5 made Mayan chocolate as part of their study on the Mayan Civilization.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Congratulations to all of the pupils who have managed to dodge the bugs and maintained 100% attendance over the Autumn term.

### **A REMINDER**

The school will re-open after the Christmas break on **Monday 6 January 2020** at 8:50am.

As the Autumn term draws to a close, I would like to thank you all for the tremendous support you have given to the school and staff this term. I am once again indebted to the staff for their dedication and support of the school, making the many events and Christmas festivities possible for your children. Finally, I would like to thank you for the many presents and cards your children have kindly given to the school staff. We wish you a festive Christmas and every happiness in the coming year.

Kirstie Baines - Headteacher