



NEWSLETTER FOR DECEMBER 2011 **FOR PARENTS AND FRIENDS** **OF LOVINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Tuesday 13th December 2011

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Welcome to our December newsletter and the last one of 2011!

Some dates for your diary:

Week beginning

Thursday 15th December:	9.30am Carol Service at the church. Last John Flatters Football Session
Friday 16th December:	Fun Swim at Wincanton 12.30pm Christmas Party Lunch 2.30pm Celebration Assembly Break up for the Christmas holidays
Wednesday 4th January:	Start of Spring Term
Tuesday 10th January:	2.00pm Parents Forum and PTA Meeting in Platform 1 ^{3/4}
Wednesday 11th January:	'Help Your Child With Maths' - Workshop for parents.
Wednesday 18th January:	4.30pm Education and Welfare Governors 6.30pm Business Governors
Monday 30th January:	1.30 – 2.45pm Year 2 Multi-Sports Afternoon
Tuesday 31st January:	3.30pm Inter-school Hockey Tournament at Sunnyhill School.
Wednesday 1st February:	6.30pm Full Governors
Friday 3rd February:	6.30pm PTA Event – Family Beetle Drive
Thursday 9th February:	2.30pm Celebration Assembly
Friday 10th February:	School Closed for INSET Day Break Up for Half Term



This Term:

Carol Service

We do plan to walk the children to church for the Carol Service on Thursday. However, if the weather is very cold, wet or windy we will hold the service in the school hall. We will make that decision by 8.30am on the day – check with the member of staff on car park duty. Please do come along and join us.

Christmas Party Lunch

I am delighted that Sarah Tubridy is co-ordinating the School Christmas Party Lunch for all of the children and staff again this year. This will take place on the last day of term in the school hall and there is no charge!

Celebration Assembly

At 2.30pm, on the last day of term, we will have a special Celebration Assembly. Please join us as we celebrate the achievements for the term, for some carol singing and to say a special thank you and goodbye to Miss Leyman.



Lovington Church of England Primary School - Working together to achieve excellence and enjoyment in education



Next Term

Staffing News – Class 2 Teacher

We had a very successful interview day on Monday. Five candidates taught Science and Literacy to Class 2 and were interviewed by members of the School Council and Governors. The children had a very full and intense day, but behaved impeccably!

I am delighted to announce that Miss Charlotte Guest has been offered and accepted the post. She will join us after the Christmas Holidays, job-sharing with Mrs Hale in Class 2, teaching on Thursdays and Fridays.

Important News – Free School Dinners

To ensure we continue to receive our full amount of the PUPIL PREMIUM, which is for children in receipt of FREE SCHOOL MEALS, please read the information below to see if your child is eligible. Then, please sign up by the start of the January term, in time for the school census, to ensure the school receives the full amount of funding it is entitled to. It is to the whole school benefit that every one of our children who are entitled to have FREE SCHOOL MEALS has registered.

Parents/Carers who receive any of the following are entitled to free school meals:

- Income Support (IS)
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- **Child Tax Credit without Working Tax Credit with an annual taxable income (as assessed by HMR&C) of less than £16,190.**

To encourage more people to take up their entitlement the process has been made easier – you no longer have to provide the documentary evidence of receiving the qualifying benefits or household income. Please contact the school office if you think you are entitled and Mrs Thompson will send you the appropriate information.

If you have recently become unemployed but are still receiving working Tax credits, you may be entitled to free school meals, please call 0845 345 9122 for advice.

After – School Clubs

After school clubs finish this week for the term. I am extremely grateful to my staff who give up their time to run these super extra-curricular activities. They really are very lucky children to have such a choice. The clubs on offer for the spring term are:

Day	Time	Club	Age Group	Number of Children	Staff
Mon	12.30 – 1.00	Hockey Team	Y4 – Y6	10 (invited)	Mrs Marsland
Mon	3.30 – 4.30	Craft Club	Y1 – Y6	12	Mrs Hale / Mrs Tripp
Mon	3.30 – 4.30	Tag Rugby	Y3 – Y6	20	Mrs Marsland
Thur	3.30 – 4.30	ICT (Until Feb ½ Term)	Y1 – Y6	10	Mrs Simmonds
Thur	3.30 – 4.30	Gardening (After Feb ½ Term)	Y1 – Y6	12	Mrs Simmonds
Thur	3.30 – 4.30	Cookery	Class 1	6	Mrs Johnston

Children who signed up for Craft Club this term will have first refusal for the Spring Term, as they had so few sessions this term.

Breakfast Club

As we are not covering our costs for Breakfast Club, I am sorry to say that we will be increasing the price to £1.20 per day. If you wish for your child to arrive at school before 8.40am, but not have breakfast, there will be a charge of 50p per day, as they still have to be supervised by a paid member of staff.

Thank You!

Remembrance Sunday Parade

I would like to thank the 10 children and their parents for representing Lovington School at the Castle Cary Remembrance Parade. Yet again, the children were smartly turned out and impeccably well behaved. They were an absolute credit to themselves, their parents and indeed the school. Thank you: Hannah, Anya, Lee, Oliver, Tom, Jack, Eleanor, Rebecca, Enya, Edward and Fifi



Parent Questionnaire Replies

Thank you to those of you who returned your completed parent questionnaires. You can find the results below. However, as you can see, we do really have just over half of the picture, with responses from only 23 parents.

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	% who agreed
My child enjoys school	11	12	0	0	100%
The school keeps my child safe	14	9	0	0	100%
The school informs me about my child's progress	8	13	1	0	91%
My child is making enough progress in this school	8	12	1	0	87%
The teaching is good at this school	14	8	0	0	96%
The school helps me to support my child's learning	10	12	1	0	96%
The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle	12	11	0	0	100%
The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future	14	8	0	0	96%
The school meets my child's particular needs	11	12	0	0	100%
The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	8	14	0	0	96%
The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns	9	13	0	0	96%
The school is led and managed effectively	15	8	0	0	100%
Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at school	13	10	0	0	100%

You will notice that some of the questions do not add up to 23; this is because some parents did not respond to those particular questions.

We do recognise that Parent Consultation Meetings were held very late this term, and much later than previous years. We made this decision because Class 2's residential was held before half term and we were struggling to find dates, where all staff could attend and which were not too soon after the Summer Holidays! We will endeavour to arrange these earlier in the Autumn Term next year.

With regard to PTA Meetings, 4 parents specified that afternoons would be preferable for meetings, 8 parents specified evenings and 2 parents said either. With regard to Parents Forums 15 parents indicated that they should continue, with 9 preferring the option of these being held during school time and 4 preferring them to take place after school. With this in mind, we have arranged for a Parents Forum to be combined with a PTA Meeting early next term during the school day. The following Forum and Meeting will be held during an evening.

Further comments made by individual parents on their questionnaires include:

'Claire goes from strength to strength, as does her team.'

'Sport and singing are excellent,'

'I love the fact that the children have the room to run around and let off steam freely in break times.'

RNAS Yeovilton

Yesterday afternoon we were extremely lucky to have Santa safely delivered to us by the Royal Navy in a Sea King Helicopter. This was an amazing experience for the children and staff. I am sure you all join me in thanking RNAS Yeovilton (in particular Mr Harcombe) for such a lovely surprise!

Well done to...

Christmas Performances

Congratulations to the staff and children of Class 1, who combined with Brue Farm Nursery to perform 'The Sleepy Shepherd'. Three Year 2 children narrated the story beautifully, four Year 1 and 2 children sang duets confidently, there was some fine acting – some impressive 'snoring', and all of the children sang enthusiastically. Thank you and well done to everyone!

Also, congratulations to the staff and children of Class 2 for their performance of 'Scrooge, Ghost of a Chance'. Again, all of the children must be congratulated for their efforts, but I would like to give a special mention to: Jess (Year 3) for reading the narration so clearly and expressively, Anya, Hannah and Tilley for some delightful solo singing, and of course Jake who took on the role of Scrooge brilliantly! Well done everyone!

Christmas Tree Decoration Competition

Well done to the 10 children who entered the Christmas Tree Decoration Competition this year:

Foundation Stage: Callie Fewell and Fifi Grainger

Year 1: Lir Darneley and Lucy Acott

Year 2: Rebecca Pick and Enya Quartermain

Year 3: Tilley Tubridy

Year 5: Iona Darneley and Oliver Pick

Year 6: Anya Paddock



As there were so few entries and the standard was so high, all of the children who entered have won a prize. Iona Darneley was awarded an overall winners prize, chosen by Mrs Brunt.

And finally...

It only leaves me to thank everyone of you; Children, Parents, Governors and Staff; for your hard work and support. The success of the school depends very much on everyone playing their part, which you all do brilliantly!

On behalf of everyone at the school I wish you a very peaceful and enjoyable Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have the most wonderful time with your family.

Yours sincerely

Claire Marsland

