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Headteacher: Mrs S-A Evans  
BSc Hons, PGCE, NPQH

December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

### Newsletter Number 3

#### Whole School

##### Staff Updates

Mrs Beadling, one of our lunchtime assistants is retiring at the end of term after 10 years. During this time, Mrs Beadling has provided care and support to children at lunchtime. She will be missed. We would like to thank her for her dedicated service and we wish her every success for the future.

We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Young at the start of the new term in her new role as Midday Supervisory Assistant.

##### Learning, Behaviour and Attitude Report

We believe children's attitude to learning, together with the behavioural habits they form, are key to successful learning. We place a high focus on this and frequently discuss them with the children. You may have heard them refer to Gilbert the Goose who is good at teamwork, Percy the Persevering Penguin or Octavia the Thinking Owl. Class teachers have completed a short report for each child indicating how well they are developing these positive traits and good work habits, including completing homework.

The report will be sent home on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. We hope you will take time to discuss this with your child and reinforce the expectations that as a child progresses through school they take increasing responsibility for themselves and their learning; a life skill so necessary in modern society and higher education.

##### Get Caught Reading

Once again, we are holding our Get Caught Reading Challenge and would like children to take a photo of themselves reading in a special or unusual place at Christmas time. A book token will be awarded for the most interesting or unusual place! All photographs will be displayed in school. Please could the photo be 6" x 4" and emailed to [admin.office@ringwood-junior.hants.sch.uk](mailto:admin.office@ringwood-junior.hants.sch.uk) by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

#### School Events

##### Scotathon

During November, the children enjoyed taking part in the Scotathon, our annual fundraising event and we are delighted to let you know that we have raised £1,766.40.

This event is one that unites the whole of the school community. No matter how small the sum raised, it all contributes to the final amount and our goals. Some children have been very enterprising and have raised a considerable amount showing their concern, commitment and citizenship and we are most grateful for their efforts. We will be celebrating their achievements in our assembly on the last day of term.



### **Santa Dash**

On Friday 13th December, we will be taking part in the New Forest School Sports Partnership Santa Dash. This is a national initiative to encourage fun and continued activity during the colder weather.

Last year, more than 94,000 children took part in the event and we are hoping to be a part of increasing those numbers this year.

The children will complete laps of our wider school site, collecting stars for each lap which will contribute towards their house total. The winning house will then be rewarded with additional playtime and a festive treat!

Children will need to change into their PE kit in school, but will be allowed to wear festive accessories such as Santa hats or headband boppers.

We hope the children will enjoy the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful initiative and work as a house team in their efforts.

### **Year 4 Music Concerts**

Year 4 children had an opportunity to share with us their newly acquired violin skills in a mini concert this week. We were impressed by their level of knowledge and skill and the way that the children came together in their playing of the violin.

If your child would like to continue learning to play the violin, we are able to offer a larger group session at a discounted price on a Wednesday morning. Please register your interest through the school office.

### **Year 3 Christmas Sing-Along**

The year 3 Nativity Performance got Christmas off to a great start and was very well attended by year 3 parents and families. The traditional Christmas story was told through music and actions with a modern twist. Well done to everyone involved. It was a truly wonderful performance.

### **Carol Service in Ringwood Parish Church – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm**

Our traditional Carol Service will be held in the Parish Church on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm. The Carol Service is always a highlight of our festive celebrations, and we do hope you will join us. If you are bringing siblings to the Carol Service, please ensure they remain seated in a pew throughout the service and do not sit in the aisle, as this is a distraction to the pupils and other members of the congregation. Thank you.

### **Christmas Lunch – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Children will be able to enjoy a special Christmas lunch served by staff. The cost of the lunch is **£3.20** and this amount should be credited to your child's dinner account no later than **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December**. There will be **no other choices** available at lunchtime, therefore, if you have not ordered the Christmas lunch, please arrange for your child to bring in a packed lunch.

### **Visit from Santa Claus – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Children will receive a visit from Santa Claus. I will be taking him to visit the classrooms after the Christmas lunch when children will receive a small gift from him. I have a couple of Christmas elves to join me!

### **Christmas Post Box**

If your child would like to post a Christmas card then please make sure they clearly print the child's name and class on the front of the card. The post box is situated in the main school library. There are still a few days left!



## PTA Events

The Christmas Fayre was well attended and we hope your child enjoyed this traditional event in school whilst raising funds for our playground project. The PTA will be sending a separate letter with further details about the events they have run this term. Thank you to the PTA Committee for organising all of the enjoyable events, we appreciate your hard work and all that you do for the school.

## Community Support

### Community Fundraising

Thank you for your donations for both the Royal British Legion and Children in Need. £151.03 was raised for the Poppy Appeal and £562.85 raised for Children in Need. This year, we again joined FSCI's Christmas Box Appeal. Thank you to all of you who donated shoeboxes, we collected 48 boxes which will be appreciated by the people who receive them in South East Europe.

## Other Matters of Interest

### Site Safety

There are some parents who are dropping off their children on the road at the front of the school by the yellow zig zag lines. These markings are there to help protect children on their way to and from school. **For the safety of all, please do not park or stop even for a short moment on, or opposite, the yellow zig zag markings.**

Can I also remind parents that pedestrians are not permitted to walk into school via the double gates at the bottom of the drive, unless your child has a scooter or cycling permit.

Staff are committed to ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of your child. If you have any concerns, we will always listen to them and address them. However, disrespectful language and behaviour will not be tolerated. Please treat staff in a respectful manner.

### Attendance

We know that it is vitally important that your child attends school and is on time, both for their education and well-being. Attendance is crucial and the government has made this clear. Please support your child to give the best chance with their learning and ensure they attend school.

### Photography and Videos

Please can we remind parents and carers that any photos or videos taken of the children during performances to only be taken of your child and are not to be shared on any social media for safeguarding reasons.

### Arrangements for the last day of term.

I would like to remind you of the arrangements for Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December as we will be finishing school at 12:45pm for the Christmas holiday. We would like to invite the children to wear their Christmas jumper as part of a non-uniform day, in exchange for a voluntary contribution of 50p.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and wish you a very Merry Christmas.

*S.A. Evans*

Mrs Sally-Ann Evans  
Headteacher



## Diary Dates

Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Carol Service, Ringwood Parish Church 6.30pm
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Learning Behaviour & Attitude Reports to Parents
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch and Santa Visit
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Christmas Party
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Last day of term, school closes at 12:45pm</b>
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>INSET Day</b>
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Children return to school</b>
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 3 – Iron Age Day
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 - Writing Workshop with Chris Connaughton
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 5 – Planetarium in the hall
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 5 visit to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	PTA Disco Years 3 & 4 will be 5:15pm – 6:30pm Years 5 & 6 will be 6:45pm – 8:00pm
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 6 SATs meeting 3:30pm
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Last day of half term</b>
<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Children return to school</b>

