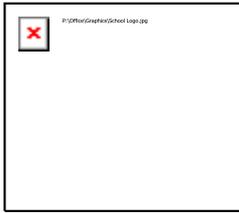


# Wiveliscombe News



16 December 2016

## Achievement Certificates – Roll Call of Honour

*Daisy Hayes, Harvey Batten, Chloe Thorne, Gabriela Grudzien, Phoebe-Grace Perry, Austin Leigh-Firbank, Niamh Higgins, Matthew Gregory, Rhys Hellings-Langdon, Hebe Stewart, Nathan Pincombe, Sophie Withers, Ruby Cook, James Lonsdale-Eccles, Mark Sattler, Jude Marsh, Ben North, Ethan Turner, Tabbie Shaw, Amber Bimson, Fenton Cherry, Arthur Irvine, Elijah Thompson-Farley, Isaac Adams, Kizzy Lee, Emily Woollaston, Freya Speight, Madeline Rome, Josie Bingham, Zakk Schofield, Felix Smith, Ben Pursey, Calum Thorne, Emily Scully, Esther Davies, Johnny Martin, Alex Wood, Jacob Cook, Ella Holmes, Oliver Chowdhury, Beech class, Imogen Wheeler, Cosima Varney, Reuben Berry, Corey Garrity, Kean Hannaford, Sandra Grudzien, , Heidi Stucki*

## Future Dates for your Diary:

- **Fri 16 December** – last day of term before Christmas Break
- **Tues 3 January** – Inset Day
- **Wed 4 January** – Return To School
- **Fri 6 January** – PTFA Film Club (information to follow beginning of the new term)

## Carol Service at Wells Cathedral

Many thanks and congratulations to the School Choir who performed at the annual Somerset schools carol service at Wells Cathedral on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December. It was a long way up on the coach, then a long afternoon of rehearsals, and then a



long - but brilliant - evening, and the children were magnificent. Several people commented on how well they sang, and how well behaved they were as they sat through the whole service - they were a real credit to the school. Thanks also to Mrs Berry who has worked so well with the choir this term, and to Mrs Geary, Mrs Cocking and Miss Lucas who spent the day with them.

## Christmas Nativity and Carol Service

Well done to all the children in Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 on their performances over the last two weeks, and to all the adults involved.



Special thanks to Mrs Berry for all her work behind the scenes, and particularly for her work with the choir, who were stunning at the Kingsmead Carol Service on Wednesday evening and the KS2 Carol Service at St Andrew's Church Tuesday afternoon.

## Christmas Fair (organised by the PTFA)

Yet another successful event organised by the PTFA was the Christmas Fair that took place in the School Hall on 3 December - they raised a massive £1100!

Both the school and the PTFA would especially like to thank everyone who donated towards the amazing hampers. Due to everyone's fantastic response they managed to make 13 for the raffle. (Which on its own made £750).

It was a great day had by all and thank you to all the helpers before and on the day.

Also, a massive THANK YOU to the PTFA for all their hard work and support!

## KS2 Christmas Fun Run

It was fantastic to see pretty much all of KS2 enthusiastically completing lap after lap of the school site on Wednesday

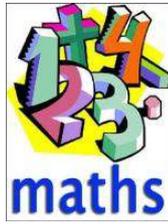


afternoon, joined by many members of staff and even some keen parents! Thank you to everyone (including the supporters) for making it such a fun and Christmassy event.

Mrs Johnson

## Maths Challenge

We entered a Y6 team for the Wellington Maths Challenge on Saturday 26th November (Jonty Lusk, Alfie Eagle, Rosie Denslow & Ruby Cook) and although we didn't win - we can proudly state that we came sixth out of 45 schools that took part in the competition! I was very pleased with the way our team conducted themselves, as always, children from Wivey make me feel proud. They were nervous yet confident at the same time! Parents were there to support their children and even some grandparents and siblings which was lovely. Thanks to Mrs Thompson who has been working with the team to prepare them for the difficult questions they were about to face and a special mention to the other four children who worked alongside the team to get them ready (Daisy Hayes, Petroc Vyvyan Jones, Charlie Lambert and Amy Savage Bailey). As their teacher, I felt very proud and of course knew they would have loved to have come in the top three so I felt their disappointment, but I know, as they do, that in preparation for the challenge, they have learned a lot that they didn't know before and now their love for maths has grown even more! Well done team, you did brilliantly.



Mrs Laws

## Lunchtimes

Lunchtimes can be difficult for some children, particularly those who need quite structured environments. Our Parent Survey in the Spring showed that at that point a few questioned how positive an experience lunchtime was for children. Since then we have: trained up our lunchtime staff to promote healthy and positive play; employed an additional lunchtime supervisor using our Sport Premium money; trained Y6 play leaders to lead the play of younger children; "Zoned" the available play spaces into different areas to be used through the week on a rota basis; purchased some additional small play equipment; and opened a classroom for three days a week as an alternative indoor area for calm recreation. We have seen a very positive change in the play of the children – they are now far more engaged than this time last year.



Many thanks to lunchtime assistants and Y6 play leaders for all their hard work over the last four months.

## Mrs Goodwin

Many thanks to parents who have enquired about Mrs Goodwin's health over the last week. Mrs Goodwin has been signed off school since last Wednesday with an undiagnosed infection. The good news is that her latest blood tests show that she is on the mend, and her doctor has prescribed plenty of rest over the Christmas break. We look forward to seeing her back bright and healthy next term.

Thank you to Mrs Davis who has had the class several times before, and was happy to step in over the last week and a half. Thanks as well to Mrs Kneeshaw, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Ekless who have worked very hard to maintain the class routines for the children.

## Congratulations to Miss Howard (Chestnut Class)

Congratulations to Miss Howard who is getting married during the Christmas holidays. She will be returning in January as Mrs Hendriks!



## Parent Carer Forum are offering training for parents.

Inclusive communication (STC) training for **parents and family members** in January. There are still a few **free** spaces left. At St Marys Church School rooms in Chard. It is a 2 session course 10-12 on the 9th and the 23rd January. To book places email [help@somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk](mailto:help@somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk) or ring 01458 259384 and leave a message.

Sleep clinic on Wednesday 25th January at Langport Town Hall. Coffee at 10 for a 10:30 start to finish at 1.00pm. This is **free to parents with a child on the SEN register**. If you feel that your child might benefit from you attending this course and your child is not on the SEN register, then please contact Mrs Geary who can see if spaces are available.

Mrs Geary  
SENCO

## **“The Head’s Study”**

Welcome to what will be at least an occasional, if not regular, column in the newsletter.

Looking back over the year since last Christmas I can’t believe how quickly time has flown by, and how much we have done over those last twelve months. We’re all of us another year older, and hopefully wiser. This time of the year is a good time to reflect on how fortunate we – children and adults - are in this country, and especially this part of the country. When I catch the news and see what others around the world are struggling with it puts my own worries into perspective: sometimes, perhaps, we worry too much about what we haven’t got and appreciate too little those things that are secure in our lives. I hope that over Christmas we all have time to pause, catch our breath, and reflect on the good things in our lives before we plunge into the hurly-burly of a new year.

Thank you, all of you who have helped the school and supported its children over the last year, from buying raffle tickets to hearing your child read regularly, and everything in between. Have a peaceful and restful Christmas, and may 2017 be a year that is kind to all of us.

## **Tone Valley Partnership School’s Charter**

At the end of November the Headteachers and Chairs and/or Vice Chairs of Wiveliscombe, Oak, Kingsmead, Lydeard St Lawrence, Milverton and Cotford St Luke schools signed a “Charter” to represent their commitment to work more closely together for the benefit of all the children in those schools. The Charter commits the signatory schools to collaborate as much as is possible to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people, and over the next twelve months headteachers and governing bodies will be working hard to explore what this closer collaboration will look like in reality. (A copy of the Charter is attached to this newsletter).

## **Governors’ Corner**

As the term comes to an end it is time to reflect. The new academic year has seen new children, new teachers and even new Governors! With a new team comes new challenges and some adjustments as everyone finds their feet. As Governors we have been observing behind the scenes and are pleased with the progress made but equally recognise there is a continuous journey of improvement as we all expand our growth mind set and there is lots more work required to take our school forward. There are some great initiatives in the pipeline. The signing of the Tone Valley Partnership Charter is a big milestone and we look forward to the benefits of greater collaboration. We are also wanting to involve and support parents more in their part in the learning journey for all our children and as Governors fully support the steps being made in this area.

The last part of the Autumn term always ends on a high with the run up to Christmas and this term has been no exception with the Christmas Fayre and hamper raffle (thank you to the PTFA!), the Choir singing at Wells Cathedral, another great performance at the Wellington Maths Challenge and of course the KS1 Nativity Play and KS2 Carol Service to mention a few highlights.

Thank you to everyone for all their great contributions to the school – children, parents and all staff. It is everyone’s community spirit that makes being part of the school so special. All that remains is to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas!

Adrian Myram, Chair of Governors

**Finally, Happy Christmas and Happy New Year.**



We hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and look forward to seeing your children return on Wednesday 4 January.