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Newsletter 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018

### **View from the Heads' Study**

I hope you were able to attend our KS2 Carol Service on Monday, or our EYFS/KS1 nativities on Tuesday or Wednesday, and that if you did, you enjoyed them as much as I did. In all the hurly burly and [bustle](#) of Christmas it was good to sit back and just be reminded what all of this is about. Whatever you believe about religion, for all of us this is the time of year to pause and remember those beyond our immediate circle of close friends and family: perhaps the elderly or lonely who are our neighbours; the homeless we might walk past in the street; or the children we'll never meet living in hopeless poverty in war-torn or famine-struck countries around the world. If nothing else, Christmas is a time for giving, and for remembering those who are less fortunate than us. Often, sharing the spirit of Christmas costs little or nothing – it could be a smile or kind word to someone you might otherwise just walk past, the offer of a favour to a neighbour, or putting some loose change into a collection pot.

However you celebrate Christmas, and whatever it means to you, I hope you have a restful and peaceful one.

### **Governors**

We welcome Carole Burnell-Parnell and Michelle Green to the governing body after they put themselves forward for the two vacant parent places. We are now up to seven with the addition of two governors from the local authority, and met last week to discuss various items of business and to set dates and times for next year's meetings. In January we are meeting with two or three members of the local community who have made themselves known to us as potential governors; we will be asking what skills and experience they could offer us.

So hopefully we will be up to nine or ten by the end of January. However, we are more than happy to take time and care to build the governing body up to full strength so that we have the best possible team going forward.

### **Mrs Johnson**

Mrs Johnson was offered a job at Minehead First School last week, teaching Year 3. As the job offer was for four days a week, more than the two afternoons we are able to offer her, Mrs Johnson reluctantly accepted it. She has worked here for ten years, and taught many of the children who have journeyed through Key Stage 2 before moving onto secondary school. Mrs Johnson has always been a cheerful, thoughtful and very positive member of the staff team and will be very much missed by all of us here. We wish her all the best.

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children and young people are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure children and young people receive effective support, protection and justice.

## Sports update for the Autumn Term

It has felt like a very busy half term for both curricular and extra-curricular PE and sports. Within school, several classes (and their teachers) have worked with Miss Buckingham who's been sharing her gymnastics knowledge, and other classes have worked with Mrs Johnson helping to improve our teaching of PE. We've had twelve active extra-curricular clubs running across the two half-terms.

Outside school, Year 1 & 2 have had the opportunity to take part in their first Tone Area SASP tournaments in two friendly football tournaments. The pupils who took part appeared to have a really great time and their confidence grew with every match. It was a joy to go along to one of their events and share in their enthusiasm.

Key Stage 2 have been even busier with football, handball, badminton, tag rugby and athletics tournaments taking place. At the beginning of October, a team of children competed in a "CAN DO" handball tournament which is for children who haven't taken part in many - or any - school competitions. Their confidence improved enormously throughout and they applied skills taught by the young leaders to improve their playing. Eighteen children took part in the Tone Area Sports Hall Athletics at the end of October with them competing against twelve other schools. They did incredibly well and showed incredible determination against some tough competition. We've had four teams competing in two badminton friendlies at Kingsmead. The children played very well and enjoyed practising the skills they had learnt in their PE lessons and after school club. Year 3 and 4 have had the opportunity to take part in two friendlies and one CAN DO tournament, with lots of children signing up to take part. A team of Year 5 and 6 boys have also played in a football competition in November. Finally, our tag rugby team have competed at three friendly tournaments and have remained unbeaten across all three of their events. This is testament to the hard work and excellent coaching they have received from the Friday after school tag rugby club run by volunteers from Wivey RFC.

A huge thank you must go to all the parents who have helped at these events by driving car-loads of children and helping to supervise. Next term is looking as busy with football, hockey, netball, catch ball, cyclo-cross and gymnastics competitions all taking part. Thank you for your continued support.



## Christmas Fun Run

Thank you to all the children for their energy and enthusiasm at our Christmas Fun Run - great fun was had by all. A massive thank you to the school council for their marshalling and encouragement, and to Ollie and Charlie for leading a brilliant warm up and starting everyone off.

## Badminton tournament

Well done to the players who competed at the Kingsmead friendly tournament at the beginning of December: Abigail, Susannah, Isabel, Amber, Isaac, Luke, Albie and Jude did our school proud with their great teamwork, skills and determination.

## Farewell Wivey...

*"I am very sad to be leaving Wivey after just over ten years working at the school. It is a great community to work in and your children have so much to be proud of.*

*I hope to see lots of you at the Beacon to Beach run at the beginning of July where I will cheer on Wivey as well as my new school!"*

Mrs Johnson

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### Science Photograph Competition

Unfortunately, we didn't receive enough entries for our 'Forces Photograph Competition.' Instead, we will rearrange another photograph competition in the Spring Term. Many thanks to those children who did enter: I hope they aren't too discouraged to enter in the future.

Mrs Jones

### E-safety

We are using an eLIM web based tool to keep ourselves E-safe at Wiveliscombe Primary School. Part of the process to become accredited in E-safety is to ensure that parents and carers, governors, staff and students are all well informed so please look out for regular E-safety bulletins in our newsletter plus assemblies, and we will be supporting the E-safety day with the rest of the nation on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> of February. The theme this year is **Together for a better internet.**

#### *Commonsense media reviews*

At this time of year, many children will be playing new games and apps on their consoles and devices. For adults, it can be challenging to know whether these are appropriate for children to use. An excellent source of support for parents and school staff is CommonSense. Their reviews include the thoughts of parents and children, as well as clear guidance from professionals:

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/game-reviews>

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/app-reviews>

### Give Her a Blue Peter Badge!

Congratulations to Adela Mears in Y5 who was awarded this week with a Blue Peter badge for her campaigning on the radio to save Wiveliscombe Library -well done!



## Christmas Hamper Winners

Mary Lowder  
Shona Garrity  
Sarah and Dan Gray  
Carole Burnell-Parnell  
Mr and Mrs Terrell  
J Britton  
Ted Stuart  
Mrs Biss  
M Gregory  
Jon Cox  
Laura Stoneman  
Neil Buckingham  
Clara Scully  
Natalie Hutchings  
Ruby Martin  
Jackie Clarke

## Christmas Eve Box Winner

Ross and Rachel Jennings

Well done to all our winners hope you enjoy them.  
Thank you very much to everyone made donations and purchased tickets.

**Please note that the film night date has changed it will now be Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019 instead of the Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

Next PTFA meeting Tuesday 22nd January at 7.30pm in The Bear skittle alley. Everyone welcome.

A massive THANK YOU to everyone who has supported our events this term whether you bought Christmas cards or jumpers, came to the fair or purchased hamper tickets. Without everyone's donations of goodies, time and effort these events would not happen.

If you would like to get involved with the PTFA please pop along to a meeting or speak to a member of the PTFA (usually found lurking round the shed) as we would really love to see some new faces and new fundraising ideas.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year xx

Please make sure you have signed up to our fundraiser.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/wiveliscombecpsptfa/>

## Dates for the Diary

- |                            |          |                              |
|----------------------------|----------|------------------------------|
| • 7 <sup>th</sup> January  |          | Return to school             |
| • 10 <sup>th</sup> January | school   | Cinderella Panto 3:30 finish |
| • 11 <sup>th</sup> January | school   | PTFA Film Night              |
| • 15 <sup>th</sup> January | school   | Year 5 Workshop Victorians   |
| • 22 <sup>nd</sup> January | The Bear | PTFA Meeeting                |