



# Ringstead

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## C of E Primary School



November 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome to November's newsletter, hopefully it will provide you with lots of information about what is to come over the next few weeks and also celebrate everything we have achieved over recent months.

Lion Class are up next with their class assembly on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Join us at 9am to hear all about their learning this term.



Thank you to everyone who made our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations so successful. It was wonderful to see so many past pupils and staff visiting the school and the children were so proud to share their school with all of the visitors. Y6 in particular did an excellent job of leading tours of the school and ensuring that everyone received a comprehensive history of how the building has changed over the years. The children also enjoyed a visit from the Bishop of Brixworth who led a special service for them to celebrate and, of course, they loved Mrs

Cave's yummy commemorative cake. Also this week, the children have had a whole school photograph taken and an aerial shot of them in the position of 150 on the playground. The photographs look great and, as soon as they are ready, each child will be presented with a copy as a reminder of the special events they have taken part in this year.

The RSA continue to work hard to provide fun events for your children that also raise money for the school. They are currently fundraising to raise money towards a new trim trail for the children to use at break and lunchtimes. This term has seen a film night take place already and, as Christmas approaches they will be hosting the Christmas Fayre, Christmas Disco and the annual Paperchain Competition. Look out for flyers from the RSA with more details about these events.



The deadline for applying for a secondary school place for current Y6 pupils is has now passed so, hopefully, all Y6 parents took the opportunity to visit the local schools and make an application. The deadline for primary school places for entry into Reception in September 2018 is now also fast approaching. If you have a child who will turn 4 on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 or know someone who does and have not already done so, please ensure that you apply for a school place for your child and that this is received before the closing date of 5pm on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018. A late application will mean that the chance of getting one of your preferred schools is greatly reduced. School places are **not** automatically allocated to any child even if there is an older brother or sister attending the school or you live in an area linked to a particular school. You can apply by using the Northamptonshire Citizen Portal at [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/admissions) or request a paper form from the Admissions Team at [admissions@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@northamptonshire.gov.uk) or telephone 0300 126 1000. Please allow adequate time for postage.

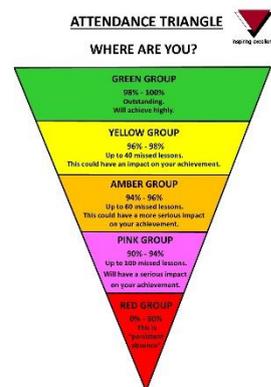


As you will be aware from my last newsletter and recent letters sent home with your children, the school currently has a vacancy for a Parent Governor. The deadline for nomination forms to be received at the school was Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November and this has now passed without us receiving any nominations. Mrs Michelle Howes currently serves on the Governing Body as a co-opted member. This means that she was co-opted to work with us because of the skills she brings to our meetings. As Michelle is a parent of children at our school, we will now approach the trust to change her status from Co-opted Governor to Parent Governor in order to fill this vacancy.



The Attendance Tea Party for Term 2 will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December and all children with 100% attendance between Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December will be invited to join Mr Adams and myself for a drink, some cake and a special surprise to celebrate their achievement. Pupils will be given a certificate in assembly on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December so that they know whether they will be attending the Tea Party or not.

Whole school attendance for Term 1 was 96.3% and for the current term to date it is 96.7%. This means that the attendance for this academic year to date is 96.4% which is much better than the 95.3% in the academic year 2016/17 and in line with the 96.4% achieved in 2015/16 but not quite as high as the dizzy heights of 97.2% achieved in 2014/15. A huge well done to everyone who has contributed to this attendance figure, let's keep up the good work and see whether we can improve further. As I mentioned in my last newsletter, attendance plays a factor in judgements about 'Pupil Behaviour, Development and Welfare.'



Thank you to everyone who supported the Book Fair this week, we sold approximately £265 worth of books. Sadly, we did not reach our target of £300 which, if reached, means that Scholastic give us commission on the books sold so we did not raise any money for the school on this occasion but we hope that you enjoyed the opportunity to purchase books for your children.

Monkey and Lion Classes enjoyed a trip to the Mandir on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November as part of their learning about Hinduism. They had an absolutely fantastic time and one pupil said to me, "It was great Mrs Buckley, I feel like I know lots more about another religion now, not just Christianity." It's wonderful to hear such positive comments from our pupils and their mature approach to learning about other religions and cultures mean that we are building a better future for all of our children in which future generations can, hopefully, grow up without experiencing prejudice or persecution for their religious beliefs.



Our author visit was also a huge success and it was great for pupils to meet a real, published author and take part in assemblies, workshops and question and answer sessions with her. The children certainly seemed inspired and I have already seen the impact in some great writing from Panda Class with their retelling of the Gruffalo's Child, great work Pandas!

Another big thank you to all of those who contributed to our Children in Need fundraising by wearing spots and purchasing keyrings, wristbands and pin badges. We raised a staggering £214.80 for this excellent cause. Well done everyone!



Pupils from Y5/6 took part in a Sports Hall Athletics tournament on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November and, as always, they behaved beautifully and were excellent representatives of our school. They showed excellent sportsmanship and were a real credit – well done Giraffe Class!

In other sporting events, KS2 pupils have also been invited to take part in a Cross Country Competition on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November. The event is an opportunity for pupils to get out in the fresh air, improve their levels of fitness and meet pupils from other schools so please do encourage your child to participate if they have been given the opportunity to do so.



And so we turn to Christmas celebrations! Please join us at school from 3:00pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December for our RSA Christmas Fayre, there will be stalls and games for the children to play and the opportunity to meet our very special visitor - assuming he has time in his busy schedule at this time of year and the reindeer don't mind pulling his sleigh - Santa will be paying us a visit.

We will also be holding our annual Paperchain Competition. Starting from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December, pupils will be able to purchase paperchain strips for 20p each. Their name will be written on the back of the strip and all joined together to create a long paperchain for each class. The class with the longest paperchain will win a small prize each. Then the paperchains will be brought to assembly on the last day and a pupil from each class will cut the chain and the person who purchased the cut strip for each class will also win a prize. Pupils can purchase as many paperchain strips as they wish between Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December and the last day of term.



Rehearsals for Christmas performances are now well under way and your child(ren) will shortly be driving you mad practising their songs and learning their lines. Teachers will be sharing with pupils and parents the parts that have been allocated to each child and what costume they will need. Dress rehearsals take place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December with KS1 performances taking place at 2pm and 6pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December and KS2 performances at 2pm and 6pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Sadly, the Manor School were unable to accommodate our KS2 performance so this will take place at the school as usual. This year, each **family** will be allocated 2 tickets for each performance. There **will not** be the capacity to offer additional tickets but please feel free to swap tickets amongst yourselves if you wish. Tickets will be sent home on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December.



Our caterers, ABM, will be holding their annual Christmas lunch on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. If you wish your child to receive a hot dinner on this day (roast turkey with all the trimmings / vegan / vegetarian options available) please order this using ParentPay in the usual way. If your child would prefer to have a packed lunch instead, please feel free to encourage them to decorate their lunchbox however they wish so that they too can get in the festive spirit.

Panda Class will also be hosting a Coffee Morning on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December from 9am as an opportunity for them to share some of their learning with you this term. Please feel free to come along and support the children as they take part in their first 'enterprise' event, selling you light refreshments including gingerbread men that they will have made themselves.



On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, the whole school will travel to the Lighthouse Theatre for this year's pantomime performance on Snow White. The children are very excited about this trip and it gives many of them a rare opportunity to visit a real theatre. Once again the RSA have subsidised the trip heavily, covering the cost of the coach travel to and from the theatre which totals more than £600 – thank you RSA for making this possible again for us this year.

The RSA Christmas Disco will also take place on the evening of Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – look out for RSA Flyers about this upcoming event.



Finally, on the last day of term we will celebrate the festive season with Christmas Carols in Church from 1:30pm. Children will be allowed to go home following the Carol Service if you wish.



Another busy term ahead for everyone! We will do our very best to keep you as up to date with information as possible. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself.

Kind regards  
Mrs Buckley

### **Important dates for your diary:**

We have tried to plan as many dates as possible in to the diary already to give you as much notice as possible. More information about these events will follow as they draw nearer.

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November – KS2 Cross Country Event

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Lion Class Assembly at 9am

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December – RSA Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 Christmas Performances at 2pm and 6pm

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – ABM Christmas Lunch

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Christmas Performances at 2pm and 6pm

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Whole school Pantomime Trip

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Carols in Church at 1:30pm

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – School closes for the Christmas holidays

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Training Day

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January – School re-opens for pupils

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January – EYFS & Y6 checks with the school nurse

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – School closes for half term

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – School re-opens for pupils

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March – World Book Day

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March – KS2 trip to Harry Potter Studios

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Service in Church at 2pm before we close for the Easter holidays