



21st December, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a really busy Autumn term with lots going on. The children have all worked hard and I am extremely proud of the way in which they uphold our school values of courage, care, joy and respect on a daily basis. This term we launched something new for our children; a chance to nominate others when they see our values in action. Many have been spotted and recognised for this – some have been nominated twice! Today, I selected one nomination, which was actually a joint nomination, to have a dip in our treasure chest. Many congratulations to Emma Walsh and Joe Unsworth, who were nominated by their peers, like many others, for showing courage when grappling with long division.

We had a wonderful run up the Christmas. Early December on a Friday evening we enjoyed the magic of twinkling lights signifying a very special evening – Our Christmas Fair. My thanks go to the PTA who created a really atmospheric evening, with lots of things for the children to enjoy and parents too. We really value and appreciate all of your support, not only in enabling this to happen but coming along and enjoying time with family. Then we had the delights of our Key Stage 1 Nativity, spreading joy for all and finally, in the words of a parent 'a spine tingling' Carol Service led by our Key Stage 2 children. Many thanks to Mrs Parker for all the hard work and preparation that went into this. We're looking forward to 2018's Young Voices!

I would also like to thank my staff, who as always work hard for you and your children, working hard to give them the best at all times. I would like to wish all our families a very Merry Christmas. I hope you have time to enjoy the festive period with family and friends. I look forward to seeing you all back at school on 4th January 2018.



Christmas Lunch

A great atmosphere with lots of clean plates! The children were served a delicious Christmas Lunch today by staff and Governors. Many thanks to Mrs Woodhouse and her team. We look forward to enjoying your cooking in the new year.



Carolling at Abbeyfield

This week our choir spread some Christmas cheer when they visited Abbeyfield residential home on Bourne Lane. After singing a selection of traditional carols, we had time for a chat with the residents before heading back to school. It was great to have an audience to practise to before our carol service and we look forward to visiting Abbeyfield again soon.

Farewells

Last week I made you aware of the sad news that Mrs Bevis will be leaving us in the New Year. Her final day will be on 12th January. We will be recruiting for a Senior Admin Officer in the New Year.

Year R morning drop offs

As we move into the Spring Term, we would like you to support us in developing your child's independence by dropping them off at the school gate in the morning. Some are doing this already which is great to see. This will begin after the Christmas holiday. Mrs McQueen has spoken to Ash class about this so that they are well prepared to say their goodbyes at the school gate, make their own way into class and organise their coats, water bottles and book bags themselves. Pick-ups will remain from the classroom please until we feel the class is ready for collection from the playground.

Dates for your diary

Spring Term	
4 th January	First Day of Term
18 th January	Children's Concert at Southampton Central Hall – Beech and Oak
25 th January	Sycamore Class – Forest Schools - Details to follow
26 th January	INSET Day
5 th February	Young Voices Rehearsal 3.30 – 4.30
6 th February	Internet Safety Day
6 th February	Young Voices at the O2 Arena
12 th – 16 th February	Half Term
19 th February	Year R - Vision and Hearing
22 nd February	Sycamore Visit to Fishbourne Palace
27 th February	Mid-Term reports out
1 st March	World Book Day
13 th March	Parents Evening
15 th March	Beech and Oak to Hilliers Gardens
15 th March	Parents Evening
19 th – 23 rd March	Stubbington Residential Trip
29 th March	Last day of the Spring term

Warm Wishes



Mrs Hannah Beckett
Headteacher