



AWLISCOMBE PRIMARY NEWS

Newsletter 13
8/12/2017

01404 42031 Website: www.fort.devon.sch.uk

The next few days

Monday 11 th December	-	
Tuesday 12 th December	-	Swimming for Yr 5/6
	-	Swans and Robins narrators practice
	-	Art Club - cancelled
Wednesday 13 th December	-	Lucy and the lost ones - Theatre trip
Thursday 14 th December	-	Choir to Hembury Fort House
Friday 15 th December	-	Christmas Jumper day
	-	Christmas nativity 2.15pm & 5.00pm

Message from the Headteacher

What an eventful week, it has felt very challenging. Over both schools we have been hit by a number of staff absences. It is just unfortunate they have all occurred at the same time.

It all started on Monday with Miss Moore falling down the stairs after the staff meeting before school. It resulted in a trip to A and E. Unfortunately she has sustained a nasty break in her wrist and will be off for a minimum of one month. Poor Miss Moore! I have tried to say she will be excused from all holiday washing up but I think she can't think about Christmas yet.

Clearly this has had a number of consequences. Firstly we are covering her absence from Swans class as much as possible by our own team of teachers. We will also be using Gillian Milton and Jane Johnson who are experienced and familiar supply teachers. I have thoroughly enjoyed being in Swans this week and I know I have another few days scheduled in my diary. I know there is nothing better than teaching, especially the youngest.

The next issue we have had to sort is the fact that Swans lead the Nativity service. Mrs Morris has picked up the reins and is working flat out to ensure we are ready for Friday. We will have two performances of the Nativity play on Friday 15th December and it will only last for half an hour. Please come along to watch the children perform for you.

On the following Monday 18th December we have another event in the Church, our traditional Carol service which starts at 5pm.

It was a great afternoon yesterday for the school football team. We went over to Payhembury School and we had a super exciting match between the two schools. Payhembury finally scored the winning goal close to the end of the match, but our team played superbly. We hope to do more shared sporting events in the future.

Last week we had a full governor's meeting and as always, our agenda was long. However an important issue was raised through the parent governor representative by another parent. The issue of parking in the car park and dropping off/picking up. We gave the issue a great deal of discussion time and while we have great sympathy about the frustrations of not enough spaces. We must appreciate it is not the duty of the school to provide spaces. A number of parents are arriving and attempting to turn or park in inappropriate places. The lane beside the school needs to be able to freely let a tractor up and down. Parking at the narrow point is very dangerous for pedestrians and other drivers. Please consider the children's safety whenever you park at school.

Next week we are also taking both schools on our annual theatre trip. We will be watching a performance of "Lucy and the Lost Ones". It will hopefully inspire them for their own show on Friday. The following Monday will be a very traditional Carol Service in the Church.

Don't forget it's Christmas jumper day on Friday too.

Lastly just a small reminder about sending your child in with appropriate clothing. It really is very cold on the playground and even though they are running around it can be bitterly cold. Can I suggest they carry gloves and hat in their bags -just in case!

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Hammett

Star of the Week - Well Done To.....

<u>Cygnets</u>	Esmae Stewart	
<u>Swans</u>	Daisy Mae Williams	
<u>Robins</u>	Rosie Summers	Elowen Meek
<u>Woodpeckers</u>	Barney Post	Lou Lou Williams
<u>Kingfishers</u>	Rosenwyn Meek	Oriana Burford

Notices to Parents

Registration

Please can we remind you that school opens at 8.45am with registration at 8.55am. There are a number of children who are arriving on the site much earlier than 8.45am, as much as we love this eagerness, it isn't ideal on chilly mornings. We also appear to be having a few children arriving later after registration closes, which disrupts the start of the day.

Christmas Jumper Day

This year instead of a donation for wearing your Christmas Jumper, we would like families to bring in something for the Christmas Hamper's raffle. The raffle will take place after the Carol Service on the 18th December at 5.00pm.

Applying for Primary School Places

We are now inviting parents to apply for their Primary school place for 2018 for children born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014. The timescale for completing this is **15th November until 15th January 2018**. You can apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline.

Choir

A big well done to the choir for their performance at the Awliscombe village Christmas market. A lot of people commented on how well they did. Thank you to all the families that came to support the event. They raised over £300.00 for the Admiral Nurse Campaign.

Swans and Cygnets

Thank you to Mr Wilkinson who has refurbished the pirate ship in our outside area. We are very pleased that we can now use it in all weather conditions.

We would also like to thank Mrs Millman for adjusting the costumes for our nativity.

Clubs

Sorry Art club will be cancelled this week.

Don't forget all clubs finish this week.

Exemplair

Please can you return the reply slip from Exemplair Education. All you need to do is tick the boxes, you do not have to sign up for anything. If we have 30% of our parents reply, the school will receive free online learning, which will support everyone.

Letters Sent

- Yr 5/6 Football letter
- Swans/Cygnets letter
- Christmas Jumper Day

Dates for the Diary

2016/17 Academic Year

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| 11-15 Dec | - Last week of afterschool clubs |
| 12 th Dec | - Art club cancelled |
| 13 th Dec | - Theatre Trip |
| 15 th Dec | - Christmas Jumper Day |
| 15 th Dec | - Nativity 2.45pm & 5.00pm |
| 18 th Dec | - Carol service 5.00pm |
| 19 th Dec | - Christmas dinner and party |
| 21 st Dec | - Celebration Assembly in church @ 2.45pm |
| 21 st Dec | - Last day of term for pupils |
| 5 th Jan | - Non pupil day |
| 8 th Jan | - First day of term for pupils |
| 8 th Jan | - Weight & measure Rec and Yr6 |
| 19 th Jan | - Film and PJ's night |
| 12 th - 16 th Feb | - Half Term |
| 29 th Mar | - Last day of term for pupils |
| 16 th April | - First day of term for pupils |
| 7 th May | - Bank Holiday |
| 28 th - 1 st June | - Half term |
| 4 th June | - Non pupil day |
| 12 th - 15 th June | - Residential |
| 20 th July | - Last day of term for pupils |

PTFA



Thank you to everyone who helped and supported kids Café/book sale last week, it was certainly buzzing!

I have a request for Christmas hamper donations please, if each family could bring 1 small thing in to school, on Friday for Christmas Jumper Day. We will then be able to make up some hampers and hold a raffle at the end of the

Carol service on Monday 18th, we will sell tickets before the service, thank you in advance.

Please try and come to the Carol Service on Mon 18th at 5pm, it's always a lovely event, we'll be serving mulled wine, apple juice, mince pies and Tania's amazing shortbread!

We have booked Circus Bazercus to come and entertain the children after their Christmas Dinner on Tue 19th, some of the older children have seen them before and apparently they're fantastic!

Finally, please can we have some help after school on the last day of term to take down the Christmas decorations in the school (not the big tree in the playground) it will only take 30-60 minutes if there's lots of help, otherwise Mr Norrington has to do it all himself probably taking at least a day!

Events in the community

Ferne Animal Sanctuary

Christmas fair, santa's grotto, shopping evening, lunches. See website for more details
www.ferneanimalsanctuary.org

Church

The Christingle at Awliscombe Church is Christmas Eve at 3.00 pm all welcome, recorder players invited to join us to play Jingle Bells, please come early if you would like to rehearse.

Thank you.

Michelle Lucas

Thelma Hulbert Gallery

Paper crafting Workshop - Saturday 16th December. Drop in between 11.00am - 3.00pm. More info see website:- www.thelmahulbert.com

The Otter Inn Weston

It's officially December!! Let those Christmas parties begin!!

We have lots going on, Live Music every Friday night!! Starting tonight the 1st December! 8pm ish

Join us for mulled wine, festive hot drinks! And Mince Pies!

Every weekend colouring competitions for all the little ones visiting us! Prizes to be won!!

Our Christmas Quiz is coming up 5th December!! Book your team on 01404 42594

Boxing Day: we will be serving Lunch only, bar open till 6pm

NEW YEARS EVE!! come and enjoy an early meal before setting off for those NYE parties, children eat free with an adult meal ordered from our main menu, 9pm onwards we will pop some party tunes on and see the New Year in!

Come and celebrate this Christmas with us and receive a voucher for you to enjoy

Saints South West

Saints Southwest are running Soccer Schools during the Christmas Holidays with ALL Soccer Schools JUST £7.50 for a full course, 10am-3pm! Courses running in Paignton, Ottery St Mary, Plymouth, Langport, Taunton, Newton Abbot & Okehampton. Ages 7-12 can attend 10am-3pm. Ages 4-6 can attend 1.30pm-3pm.

To BOOK please visit www.saintssouthwest.co.uk or call 01803 206350.

Saints Southwest Soccer Schools offer exceptional value for money, and the opportunity for young players to improve their skills through a structured and enjoyable coaching programme devised and delivered by experienced and FA qualified coaches. The Soccer Schools are action packed days which allows children to learn new skills and improve match play whilst having fun.