

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are approaching the last week of the Autumn term and Christmas is almost upon us. What a fantastic term this has been! All over the media, there was a lot of apprehension just before we came back after the summer holidays about how the children would cope being back at school. Our goal was to welcome our children back to Finham Primary School, introduce them to the new routines and procedures that we had to have in place and look after their mental health. I am extremely proud of all the children and of all my staff in the way they have all adapted to all the changes that we had to put in place in just a matter of months.

We got into the mood for the festive season by wearing our Christmas jumpers to school and raising money for 'Save the Children'. Thank you to everyone who donated £1.

The final week before the Christmas holidays is always an incredibly busy week at school, and this year is no different. Years 1 to 4 have the Christmas pantomime to look forward to, we have our annual Christmas lunch, Christmas cards and calendars are frantically being made to take home and of course, we have our Christmas performances online for parents from the key year groups to watch.

With reference to the Christmas performances that being shared online, we would ask parents to respect the following rules:

- Please do not record the performances;
- The links for the performances are purely for parents of children who are performing in the productions, so please do not share the link with anyone or place anything on social media.

The links will be on Frog for a limited amount of time, so please do watch the performances before we take them down.

Next week, each teacher will also select two handwriting and presentation champions from their classes. One badge will be given to a child whose handwriting and presentation is always beautiful across all subjects; the other will be given to a child who has shown the most improvement in these areas. We look forward to finding out who these champions are in assembly next week.

We will also be picking a reading raffle ticket champion from Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. The lucky winners will receive the best prize in the world - a book, of course! There is still a chance to earn a raffle ticket by reading to a grown-up at home three times a week! Well done to all of those children who have earned a raffle ticket so far. There is something incredibly magical about sitting with a child, sharing a story and hearing them read. I hope that as well as earning a ticket, you and your children have enjoyed that precious time together too.

Following my letter earlier this week, if anyone in your household does display symptoms at the beginning of the Christmas holiday, for COVID-19, please could you email me directly at s.bracken@finhamprimary.co.uk and put **COVID symptoms** as the subject. I will then alert the relevant people, following the protocol from Public Health England. Thank you.

Please have a safe and restful weekend.

Mrs Bracken.

PRINCESS TRUST

We would like to wish good luck to one of our Year 4 pupils who is raising funds for the Princess Trust, she is donating 12 inches of her own hair to raise funds.

SARA WHITE – TEACHING ASSISTANT

Sara White will be leaving us on Friday 18th December, we wish her luck for the future.

READING

You may have read in the news recently, about Marcus Rashford making a real attempt to promote reading across the country. Before we even knew the news about Marcus Rashford, we at Finham had already been racking our brains about how to get more children reading throughout the week. What we are really looking for, is children of all ages to spend at least 10 minutes, 3 times a week, reading to a grown up at home. As mentioned last week, even though children may be fluent readers, they will still need help with understanding what they have read. This is where we need your support. Once you have heard your child read, please do put a comment in their reading diaries about their understanding of the text and perhaps some new words that they picked up along the way. Our teachers are at the ready with their raffle tickets, wondering which children will win the first tickets! Please do check their reading diaries for the reading 'Question of the Week' too!

CHRISTMAS TRAIL

Thank you to everyone who has participated and entered the Christmas trail, this will be the last weekend you can enter.

CHOCOLATE HAMPER RAFFLE

Next week is our chocolate hamper raffle, lots of prizes to be won! Please send in £1 with your child from Monday, it must be in a named envelope/bag with class name so we can allocate tickets. £1 equals 1 ticket. Thank you for supporting.

NURSERY APPLICATIONS

If your child was born between 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2018 your child is eligible to come to Finham Primary's Nursery from September 2021. The deadline for applications is 31st January, 2021. Please complete a Nursery Application form which is on our website or contact the school office for a paper copy.

RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2021

If your child was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 you are now able to apply on-line at www.coventry.gov.uk/schooladmissions for your child's Reception place for September 2021. If you have problems applying on-line please contact the school office for a paper copy. The deadline for making your application is 15th January 2021. If you require a leaflet explaining how to apply please contact the school office.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Children are being asked to bring in donations of chocolate (any size & individual bars), which will be made into hampers. Please could we have all the donations of chocolate in by Friday 11th December. The Community Champions will then create hampers and goodie bags. Raffle tickets will be available in school Monday 14th – Thursday 17th December.

Raffles will be drawn on Friday 18th December!

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 16th December – Year 4 Swimming

Wednesday 16th December – Year 1,2,3 and 4 Virtual Panto 9.30-11.30

