

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that, in the main, you and your families are surviving the annual onslaught of colds, coughs and for a few, the presence of chicken pox which is affecting some children, particularly in Fallow Class and about which a separate Parent Mail has been sent out. As they used to say, "Coughs and Sneezes Bring Diseases" and we are making sure that the children are using the disposable tissues we have in school and washing hands regularly in an attempt to curb the spread of germs. Whilst the weather is a bit dull and wet, we are also getting outside as much as we can, so that fresh air can be enjoyed.

A healthy diet and sleep are important factors for boosting immune systems and I am sure you are encouraging your children to eat lots of fruit and vegetables as well getting to bed on time - at least so that you can get on with your own "to do" lists

We have the tree, we have the Fair on Friday, KS1 children are practicing their Nativity Play, we have a very smart new Post Box, so it MUST be Christmas! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers who are working hard behind the scenes: organising, contributing, sewing, packing, wrapping and generally making sure that our children enjoy the run up to Christmas at school. I would also like to thank the whole school team for working above and beyond, as they always do at this time of year.



Christmas Fair

We are all looking forward to our Christmas Fair and to make it as enjoyable and safe as possible, may I remind our parents and carers that your children will need to be supervised at all times.

Chilton Foliat Community Club House Update

This message from our Chair of Governors, Mrs Sam Wolcough was shared at Celebration Assembly yesterday afternoon. Very exciting news indeed!

Update Since Friday 16th November

We were at £16,000 raised for the Club House 3 weeks ago. Since then:

- Grow a Fiver: HUGE thank you to the children have done an incredible job growing their fivers, and parents/carers are welcome to return the funds to the office to sign it back in any time before the deadline of Monday 17th December.
- Pledge a Plank: Alumni, old Friends, local businesses, and the community have pledged or donated planks, and each, no matter how big or small is making an enormous difference, so again, a huge thank you for everyone's generosity.

- Grant Applications: The fundraising team are in the process of applying for 30 grants. The latest excitement is that Greenham Trust have generously offered a match-funding donation of £20,000. A massive thank you to Joseph May's daddy who has been such a great support to the fundraising team.

Total: I am delighted to announce that while we were a quarter of the way to the target of £85,000 3 weeks ago, we are now OVER HALF WAY THERE, and can now colour in planks up to £45,000!!!

Not having a clubhouse will have a profound impact on the school and our families, so any support and creativity to help with raising these funds will make a difference. What an incredible team effort this is, and we are very optimistic that if we continue with everyone's everyone's support, that in a few months we will have a beautiful new building!

Winter Shoe Box Appeal

On behalf of the Friends, I am delighted to say we have had a very generous response to the Winter Shoe Box Appeal and the opportunity to drop off your shoe box remains until Thursday 20th December. A letter was sent via Parent Mail on 23rd November, with all the information you need, however, if you need a copy, please ask the office. Many thanks.



Online Safety

It may be that your children have included in their letters to Father Christmas, requests for the latest iPad, new game or new App. If so, it is a good time to highlight the importance of Online Safety and attached to this newsletter is just one of the many resources available to parents and carers which provide much needed advice and support. We will be launching a termly Online Safety newsletter from the New Year. In the meantime, here a few other organisations which you can go to for information:

- www.nspcc.org.uk
- www.childnet.com
- www.internetmatters.org

Christmas Post Box

Talking of letters to Father Christmas, the school has received an early Christmas present in the form of a brand new Chilton Foliat Christmas Card Post Box, which is standing proudly next to our wonderful Christmas Tree (another early Christmas Present!) The children are welcome to post their cards to their friends which will then be distributed during the afternoons by members of the Executive School Council. It would be very helpful if, when writing their cards, the children could address their envelopes with the name of their friend and the class they are in.



Annual Reports to Parents

As a school and for individual teachers, the value placed on the high levels of engagement from our parents and carers with regard to their children's progress, both academic and pastoral, is highly prized. With this in mind, the school is changing its timetable for reporting to parents and for Years 1-6 each child will receive their annual school report in March 2019. The purpose of reporting just after mid-way through the academic year is so that teachers can share what progress has already been achieved and whether any gaps in learning have been identified. Our parents and carers will then have a better idea of how to support their children so that they can continue to make good progress for the rest of the academic year. Reception children will receive their end of year EYFS reports in the summer term, due to how the EYFS curriculum is assessed. Further information about the year's reporting arrangements will be available shortly after we return to school in January 2019.