21st December 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

We have come to the end of an incredibly busy and exciting term and once again I am writing to say how proud I am of your children. They have given their very best in whatever they have done and I feel very privileged to witness their continued hard work and exemplary behaviour. As you would expect I have received many comments on their excellent attitudes and manners when they have visited different places and I have been very impressed with the academic progress they have made this term. I would like to thank you for your support in all aspects of their school life.

**Staffing**

We are saying goodbye to Miss Anderton who is moving on at the end of term. I would like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her luck as she moves to another city. Mr Glover is also moving and although he retired some years ago, he has continued to support the school by teaching different classes and stepping in when teachers have been absent. We wish him well as he moves on and thank him for his unwavering support over many years.

We welcome Miss Bowell back from maternity leave and she will be working with Year 1. Miss J Saunders will be joining us to replace Miss Anderton.

We also have some new additions to our Wyken Croft family – Miss French has had a baby boy and Mrs Rashid has had a baby girl. They are all doing well and we look forward to meeting them soon.

**Website**

This term we have been working hard to develop a new website and this is nearly ready to be launched. We have listened to the feedback we have had and hopefully you will find the new website more user friendly and will enjoy using it. Until the new website is launched in mid-January, we will continue with our current website.

**Behaviour**

When the children returned after the half term break we introduced some new school rules and reward systems. This has been a great success and we are very pleased with how the whole school has taken on the rules and we regularly hear the children referring to them. Their behaviour is something to be very proud of. The children in Key Stage two have been collecting Phoenix Points and many have already collected prizes, with some finishing their cards and choosing to bank the points to save towards a different prize. It is a pleasure to have given out so many certificates in the Early Years and Key Stage One assemblies, when the children have completed their Star Points card. All are keen to get onto the next colour! It is delightful to be stopped by children across the school to tell us how many points they have collected or how many they need to finish their card and the pride they are taking in their achievements is wonderful.

**PTA**

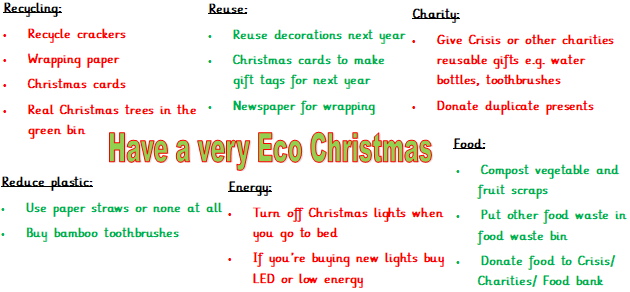
This year the PTA have again worked hard to help raise money for the school with various events including Year 5 / 6 disco and the Christmas Fete. The Fete this year was a particular highlight with the children selling crafty items they had made during Enterprise Week including candle holders, tree decorations and hot chocolate reindeers. It is always a joy to see so many families enjoying the Christmas Fete, with Carols by Year 6 and the KS2 Choir as well as some superb brass playing by Miss Bell’s brass group. Many of the funds we raise are used to reduce costs of trips e.g. Cadbury’s World and the Albany Theatre trip as well as buying books for the children at Christmas time. This year we are also delighted to contribute funds towards the new canopy being built outside the Phoenix Club.

**Crisis**

Can we take this opportunity to thank all of the families and friends of Wyken Croft who have generously contributed to our Crisis appeal this year. Following the last 4 years, the school will again be the venue for Crisis at Christmas and will host over 90 homeless clients on Christmas Day. Over the last few days, the children have also made crackers, placemats, party hats, bunting and paper chains to make the day feel extra festive! Alongside the meals, games and Christmas cheer the clients will also receive your donations of toiletries, books, gloves and sweets etc; all of this is due to the generosity of our children and families. It is amazing to contribute to our local community and give a little back; especially at this time of year. Thank you!

**Eco Council**

The children who represent each class in our Eco council have been exploring ideas of how to care for our environment by having an “Eco-Christmas.” Here are their ideas and top tips that they would like to share with you...



**From the school office**

Can we remind parents of children in nursery that the deadline for applying for a school place in September 2019 is January 15th 2019. Applications can be made using the following link <http://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/148/school_admissions/114/primary_school_admissions> or alternatively you can call 02476 975445 and make an application over the telephone.

West Midlands Police have created a new website [www.wmnow.co.uk](http://www.wmnow.co.uk) This is a community messaging service with updates of what’s happening where you live and work and allows you to let the police know of any information or concerns you may have.

As you are aware we have rolled out a new online payment system which is proving to be very successful. If you have not yet received an invitation code or are having issues getting registered, please contact the school office. We also want to rely on the InTouch system we have in school now to allow more immediate contact with our families. This obviously relies on up to date information such as mobile telephone numbers and email addresses. If you wish to receive information via text and email, please ensure that we have your details on our systems by contacting the school office.

The car park is an ongoing issue here at Wyken Croft Primary School. Please can we ask that parents do not try and access the car park as this is for staff parking only. We appreciate the problems with parking but cannot possibly accommodate all our families in the car park. As you will all understand there is a safety issue with cars trying to access the car park at the beginning and end of the school day and the safety of the children is our main concern. We thank you for your support in this matter.

After school clubs will resume the week commencing 14th January but further information about the CCFC in the Community club will be shared at a later date.

**News from EYFS …..**

What an amazing term we’ve had in EYFS! The Reception children have been exploring their topic of colour through Diwali celebrations, bonfire night and Elmer the elephant stories. They have been working really hard to remember new phonemes, form their letters and numbers more confidently and also follow our new school rules superbly. Nursery children have enjoyed investigating and naming shapes, exploring the school grounds on their ‘Wellie Walks’ and continuing to produce some super mark making.

We would like to thank all the parents and families who have supported the children during our Christmas festivities. I’m sure you will all agree that the children were little superstars both during Reception’s nativity performances and Nursery’s sing-a-long. They all remembered their lines, dance routines, songs and actions perfectly and to perform so confidently in front of so many people is an amazing achievement. We are very proud of each and every one of them. Our Christmas Workshops were a huge success and thank you to all of you who attended. It was lovely to see the children sharing their learning with you.

We are looking forward to the spring term and exploring new topics of Fantasy (Reception) and Get Fit (Nursery). Thank you for your continued support and we hope you have a good rest over the Christmas holiday.

**News from Year 1 and 2 ……**

Years One and Two have had an exciting and busy half term. All the children have worked very hard and we are proud of all of their achievements this half term. The learning in Year One has been based around an Alien that crash landed on the school grounds. Through this work the children have enjoyed a visit from a police officer, letter writing and also designing and making some fantastic vehicles for the alien to use when back on the moon. It was lovely to see so many parents visit school last week for the children to be able to share their learning with you.

Year Two’s Muck Mess and Mixtures topic has seen the children creating their own gloop and also writing the instructions of how to do this. They have taken inspiration from Roald Dahl and written their own versions of George’s Marvellous Medicine, which are a joy to read with such creative ideas! To end their topic, Year Two enjoyed a visit from ‘PopBangColour.’ During this day, the children had fun creating huge pieces of art using wheels and other tyres instead of paintbrushes. If you haven’t done so already, you can see a video of this on our Twitter page. As the term comes to a close both year groups would like to thank you for your continued support. The children in Years One and Two have produced some amazing homework projects this half term. Many of the children have spoken about how much they have enjoyed doing this with their parents.

**News from Year 3 and 4 …….**

It has been a super term with many exciting and engaging opportunities! In Year 3, the children thoroughly enjoyed the trip to Cadbury's World where they were able to immerse themselves in the chocolate making journey. The visit from a Roman solider on Roman Day in Year 4 was also a highlight! It was super to see the children dress up and engage in the life of a Roman soldier! Both Year 3 and 4 excelled themselves during Enterprise week where they made decorations, cards, tea light holders and gift tags of superb quality which they then went on to sell at the Christmas Fair. It has been a fantastic term and it was a real pleasure to see so many parents, carers and grandparents attending the Commando Jane showcase in Year 3 and the Topic Celebration in Year 4; it is always a joy to see the children share their learning and achievements with you. We are looking forward to the Spring Term where the children will be continuing their learning journey by exploring Misty Mountain Sienna (Year 4) and Tribal Tales (Year 3).

**News from Year 5 and 6 ……**

What a great, hardworking term we have had in Year 5 and 6. In Year 5 the children have been learning all about The Victorians and they had the opportunity to visit The Black Country Living Museum, experiencing what it was like to be alive in Victorian times. It was very pleasing to see how much the children learnt, resulting in many fantastic pieces of work. In Year 6 the children have been focussing on World War 1. Through a range of immersive learning experiences, the children have understood what life was like during the war, including being an evacuee for a day when they visited Holdenby House. Many of the children have taken on additional roles across the school, including postal monitors, register monitors, playground buddies and lunchtime helpers, all excelling in their roles. Both year groups made fantastic contributions for the Christmas Fair, selling out really quickly!! It has been a brilliant term and the children have worked so hard. Have a relaxing break and see you all next term!

On behalf of the staff and governors I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I hope that you have a peaceful and enjoyable holiday. Our new term starts on Monday 7th January.

With best wishes



Mrs G. Franklin

**Headteacher**