



MIDSOMER NORTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

LEARNING FOR LIFE

Head Teacher: Mr Damian Knollys LLB(Hons) NPQH

www.midsomernortonprimaryschool.com



NEWSLETTER 11

28th November 2014

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Diary Dates:

Mon	8 Dec	Bath Abbey Carol Service – KS2 trip
Tues	9 Dec	Christmas Dinner
Sat	13 Dec	PSG Christmas Fayre 11.00 - 2.00
Tu-Th	9-11 Dec	Infants' Nativity: Tues 9th (9.15am); Weds 10th (2.15pm); Thurs 11th (9.15am)
Weds	17 Dec	Juniors (Y3-Y6) Christmas Celebrations 1.45 and 6.00pm
Fri	19 Dec	Last Day of Term 2 – PSG Christmas Discos
Mon	5 Jan	First Day of Term 3 – no training days

Head's Message

Last Sunday morning I woke my two elder daughters at 5.45 to get them to school for a trip to the Royal Albert Hall to take part in a schools' performance of Handel's *Messiah*. My middle daughter was less than enthusiastic; in fact, she didn't want to go at all. "Too bad," said her unsympathetic dad. "You're going." It was an opportunity, kindly organised by their school (for a modest cost), to be part of a fantastic event in an amazing venue. She didn't appreciate that and grumbled all the way to school in the back of my car.

A few years back we took a large number of children to Bath Abbey to sing carols with children from across the local authority and our children made a big impression with their enthusiastic singing and excellent behaviour; they had a great time, too. Our Juniors have been invited back on Monday. Part of our new curriculum is to foster greater knowledge and understanding of the world, so we should seize opportunities like this, to provide children with experiences they wouldn't normally have - especially if that involves singing in one of the most beautiful buildings in England! It is a concern among many in education that children are having fewer and fewer experiences outside their comfort zone, as technology brings entertainment directly into their hands. This breeds insularity, a reluctance to try new things, even a contempt for difference. As a parent I know what a struggle it can be to broaden your children's horizons, but part of our remit as parents and schools *must* be to take children outside their normal experience, even if they protest, and provide them with something that gives them a new perspective. I am sure that Monday will be a good experience for our Juniors and for many will be something entirely new to them.

Incidentally my girls had a fantastic day out and couldn't stop talking about it when they got back. I could have given in to my middle daughter's protests. I didn't and she got the benefit.

Storybox Theatre ... and on exactly the same theme, we were delighted to welcome Rod Burnett and the Storybox Theatre Company to our school last Friday. He gave two superb performances of *The Three Little Pigs* which completely captivated the children. We were delighted to be able to provide this pre-Christmas treat to the children entirely out of school funds, with no charge to parents.

Year 3/4 European Food Tasting ... and another one: thank you to all those parents who supported their children to make some fantastic European dishes for Year 3/4's Europe Day on Tuesday. Particular thanks to Leo's mum for providing so much help in setting it all up. The children had a great time tasting all the different dishes – some were very adventurous and tried new things.

Congratulations ...to Mrs Young, who (rather earlier than expected) gave birth to a son last weekend. She and Rowan and Mr Young are all doing well. We send them our very best wishes.

Welcome ... to Miss Clare Plummer, who is covering for Mrs Hughes's maternity leave, and Mrs Mindy Little, who is covering for Mrs Young. They have both had to start earlier than planned and have slotted into the staff team brilliantly. We wish them a very happy time with us.

GOLD AWARDS:

Freya	Ieuan	Megan	Erin
Adam	William	Charlotte	Libby
	Isabelle	Charlie	

Gold Awards are given to children in assembly whose contribution to the life of the school has been exemplary.

Christmas Lunch Please remember that if you have not informed us that your child wishes to have a Christmas lunch on Tuesday 9th December then they will need to bring a packed lunch regardless of whether they are entitled to a free school meal or if they usually have a school meal on that day. We have to inform the kitchen in advance due to the large numbers wishing to have a meal and there will be no capacity to order any meals on the day.

Applications for Reception places for September 2015

Children who will be 4 years old between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015 are able to start school in September 2015. Applications for places need to be made through Admissions & Transport at Bath & North East Somerset Council. You can do this online by visiting the website at <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/schools-colleges-and-learning/admissions-schools> . Alternatively you can download an application booklet or contact them on 01225 394312 to ask them to send you one. Applications for reception places **must** be received by B&NES by midnight on **15th January 2015**.

If you or anyone you know has a child starting school next year and have not already visited us please do not hesitate to contact the office to arrange a tour of the school.



Charlie in action

Our football captain, Charlie, has recently returned from playing for B&NES and West Wiltshire in the Ateitis Cup in Lithuania, a tournament bringing together teams from across Europe and as far afield as Kyrgyzstan. Their coach commended Charlie for his 'impeccably good form on and off the pitch'. We congratulate him and all the squad.

Letters home this week

PSG Christmas Disco

Maths Passport Club

All letters are now uploaded to the website; follow this link to see them: <http://www.midsomernortonprimaryschool.com/index.php?id=94>



Head Teacher's Awards



were given out today in Assembly to the following pupils for exceptional effort in their work

Cori Chloe Leah Oliver Amber Dexter Mae

Phoebe Summer Mia Faith Will Tulula Ieuan Jai Liam Thomas



This week's top house is CORVUS!



COMMUNITY NEWS

An update on things going on in and around the area. Please feel free to notify us (by Wednesday) of any items to go in. The school does not actively endorse or vouch for any event publicised here.

Daily outdoor fitness classes in Midsomer Norton. Boxercise, Interval Training and Circuits available. Contact Sarah Isherwood of Alpha Fitness on 07429 149190 or sarah.isherwood1@gmail.com to receive your first class free!

Don't miss the opportunity to win £50, £40 or £30 in the **Midsomer Norton Christmas Nativity competition** organised by Welton Baptist Church. There are 18 Cardboard Nativity characters to collect from various shops in the High Street to take home, colour, build, decorate and photograph. Look out for more details in the Journal newspaper, MSN Library or www.weltonchurch.org.uk



Many Happy Returns!



Pupils with birthdays between the 5th December and 11th December are included in our list this week

Fathema Erin Melody Declan Logan

Charlie Harrison

From all of us at Midsomer Norton Primary School, have a great weekend!