

# Newsletter



**30<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

## **Advent Sunday**

This week sees the start of December and many children (and big kids) opening the first doors of their advent calendar. Advent, as the Church of England sees it, actually starts on Sunday and is a time to prepare for the coming (*adventus*) of Christ. An advent wreath is traditional with five candles, representing hope (Prophecy candle), love (Bethlehem candle), joy (Shepherds' candle), peace (Angels' candle) and Christ. These themes are what Christmas is all about and why we celebrate. Remember to keep hold of hope, love, joy and peace during this hectic period!



Our bouldering team

## **Bouldering/Climbing**

Some of our Year 5 children took part in a bouldering and climbing event at Milton Abbot Climbing barn on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The children were a credit to the school and did an excellent job and getting up and down the boulders! Another fantastic example of the range of opportunities we provide our children.

Thank you to the parents who transported and attended the event.

## **First Aid for parents**

Thank you and well done to those parents who attended the free choking and CPR course we provided through Joe Rice First Aid.

The adults felt it was a really useful learning experience and enjoyed the course.

In the new year (January 18<sup>th</sup>) we will be offering FREE workshops for parents and children around Maths and helping your child achieve their potential. This is part of our wider community and parental involvement.



Children using professional equipment to record their Christmas CD (Available soon!)

### Christmas CD

On Thursday the children all used professional recording equipment to record their Christmas CD. The CD comprised of 8 songs sung by the children. Cover artwork will be the selected from the children's entries. The recordings have now gone off to be produced and burnt onto CDs. These will be available to buy for £8 (just £1 per song) soon – a perfect Christmas gift for Grandma!

### Parents' forum

Today's parents' forum was only attended by two parents. I would appreciate some feedback about why parents did not attend – was it at the wrong time of day? Wrong day of the week? Did you even know about it?!

I have put a poll on the school's Facebook group (Search Exbourne C of E School) or you can email me your feedback. I have provided links to the internet safety I wished to discuss and the website for potential book bags.

### Late for school

There have been a number of children coming into school late in the last two weeks. It is vital that your child is in school and ready to learn for 9am. Being late means your child misses out on vital teaching time, often reading and phonics first thing, and disrupts the rest of the class as they have to be caught up with by the class teacher when they come in. Every minute your child is late is recorded on our files, over the last two weeks there have been a staggering 385 minutes of lates, which is well over 6 hours!

If you are struggling to get your children to school on time please make an appointment to speak to Mr Hill so that we can discuss solutions.

### Christmas fair

Don't forget that the PFA have organised a Christmas fair and shopping event for this **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> – 3.30-5.30pm**. The children have made decorations which will be on sale as well as crafts and gifts from 14 other traders. Please come along and support your school.

### Indoor athletics competition

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December will be an indoor athletics competition for Years 4-6. A boys and a girls team of 6 each will be attending.

### Christmas carols at Waitrose

A selection of the children will be singing Christmas carols at Waitrose, Okehampton, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 1.30-2.30pm. Please come along and support the them.



### **Piano lessons**

Mrs Lamon visits the school on a Friday morning to deliver one to one or group piano tuition. She currently has spaces for more students and would love to hear from you if your child is interested in taking part. A 10 minute lesson for Foundation and Year 1 is £5 whilst a 20 minute lesson for older children is £9.

### **Drum lessons**

The school is in the process of securing a drum tutor. Lessons will be on Thursday on a one to one basis, £8 for 20 minutes. This will be on an electronic drum kit with an experienced tutor. Please register your interest with Mrs Chapman or Mr Hill.

### **Poppy appeal**

The school collection pot for the Poppy Appeal raised £87.92. Thank you!

### **Class One Christmas Play**

Please could all children have black trousers/leggings and a black t-shirt for the Christmas play, unless you are an angel, when you will need white tights and t-shirt. These need to be in school for the 10<sup>th</sup> of December. Thank you – Miss Whiteley

### **Tempest photos**

Please get your photo order in by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at the latest as the order needs to be sent off to ensure return before Christmas. Thank you.

## **Diary**

### **December**

- **4<sup>th</sup> - Christmas craft and Shopping Fair at school – 3.30pm**
- **7<sup>th</sup> – Indoor athletics – Year 5/6 selected team**
- **14<sup>th</sup> – Carol singing at Waitrose, Okehampton**
- **14<sup>th</sup> – Christmas jumper day**
- **18<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Play, afternoon and evening (Led by Class One)**
- **20<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Carol Service**

### **January**

- **7<sup>th</sup> – Return to school**
- **18<sup>th</sup> – Learn Devon Maths workshops**

Mr Hill – [head@exbourne-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@exbourne-primary.devon.sch.uk)

## Star of the Week

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018

Class one – Ben – for being full of good ideas

Class two – Lucy for being a fantastic role model in the class

Class three – Isla for great presentation in her work

29<sup>th</sup> November

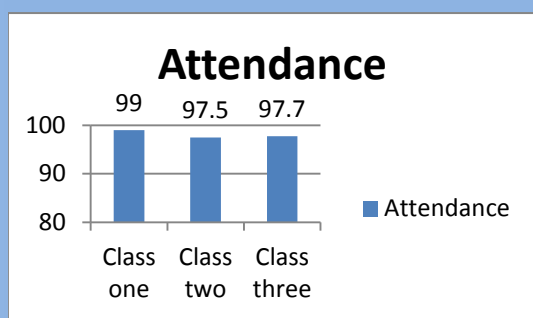
Class one – Ebony for much improved work and focus in class

Class two – Caleb for brilliant handwriting

Class three – Abi for brilliant writing

Kindness award – Liam for helping others make the right choice.

## Attendance since 2<sup>nd</sup> November



Fantastic attendance percentages this week – well done everyone!

