

Issue 9

Friday 20th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a super end to the term. Christmas is most certainly here and it has been wonderful to experience the enjoyment in school. The children have managed this very busy and exciting period incredibly well and I hope you can all now relax as the big day approaches!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas prompts so many feelings for us all and sometimes feeling overwhelmed becomes a feature that is not as appreciated. We shared a couple of documents on Arbor last week which may provide you with some strategies; but please take time and be thankful for those who surround you and all that we have, remember to take your time and try not to do too much each day.

Little Punnetts and Beech Classes: The two classes came together through rhyme and song, depicting the traditional nativity story. The children were wonderful, remembering to mime and sing throughout. This was followed by a wonderful biscuit decorating sessions. It was lovely to see the interaction between the children and their families. Thank you for supporting this event.



Save the Children – Christmas Jumper Day: It is always good to support a charity and the array of Christmas jumpers spread cheer around the school. Thank you for the donations – we raised £73.



Y1 and Y2 local walk with Rachel Beddingham from The High Weald. This was a great walk with a lot of free mud! The children thoroughly enjoyed their walk, enjoyed learning about maps and their local environment.

Polar Express and Christmas Fair: THANK YOU to Friends'. What a wonderful afternoon. The children were all given tickets and bags and joined the Polar

Express, literally! With a train track around the school they visited different stations, managing a short stop and some fun activities on the way, these included a disco, badge making, games, and biscuit decorating. The journey concluded in the school hall as we were joined by Father Christmas himself! A gift of a bell was given as a symbol of Christmas, with the message of 'the true spirit of Christmas lies in your heart'. This was followed in the Village Hall with a lovely Christmas Fair. Thank you for all of those who helped and attended the event, it was brilliant!





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Christingles: All the children enjoyed learning about the significance of the Christingle and were able to make them in school on Monday. I hope they could remember to share some facts, before eating the sweets!



Hazel: What a wonderful performance of 'Everyone loves a baby'. This had some great humour orchestrated by the talented children in Hazel class. Huge congratulations for remembering lines, acting out the story, and singing! It was a delight to see all of the children shine in confidence and excel excitement in this performance. Thank you to all of the staff, led by Mrs Fletcher for their hard work.



School Christmas lunch: Well done to Mrs Tripp and Mrs Farley who prepared our fantastic Christmas lunch this year. Mrs Tripp and Mrs Farley work hard and ensure they know all of the children and make sure they enjoy their lunch every day. This year they excelled with a wonderful Christmas lunch made for the whole school, including all staff! There was a wonderful atmosphere in the hall as we all ate together!



Class parties: Fun, fun, fun! Everyone loves a party and the noise reflected that around the school yesterday. The party clothes, food, and games led to many good spirits and it proved a popular opportunity to have lots of fun with peers and staff.

Goodbyes: As you know Mrs McCarthy leaves the school team today. Mrs McCarthy worked in the pre-school, before the school took on the now nursery in September 2023. I extend my thanks to Mrs McCarthy for all she has done, the children and staff have enjoyed working with her. I wish you all the best in your new ventures and know we will still have regular updates!

We also bid a fond farewell to Dhyana, in year 2, and her parents, who also finish at Punnetts Town today. As a family they are moving abroad and we are sadly in agreement that the daily commute to school will be too much! Thank you for being such a great family to work with, we will miss you and wish you every happiness in your new home.

There has certainly been a lot on offer and I thank all of the staff for spending so much time to ensure the children have had as many opportunities as possible this term. Christmas is always wonderful in a primary school – but very exhausting. So I thank all of the staff and wish them a restful Christmas break!

Attendance: Good attendance really helps the pupils in their social, emotional, and academic learning. Please prioritise attendance at school and talk to us if you or your child has any concerns. We ask Nursery parents to inform the school of any absence in line with school policy, to ensure the school attendance records are accurate. Our target as a school is 96%.

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	School overall
Week 6	90	88	99	97	95	98	99	94	96
Week 7	82	83	89	89	88	95	93	93	90



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Achievements out of school: Please send in any achievements that your child has achieved out of school, so we can celebrate their success.

Well done Erin! Erin competed for Lewes swimming club and finished in 1st position in the 50m backstroke, butterfly, breaststroke and freestyle races!

Well done Rose! Rose enjoyed competing in a dance competition with her dance school AB Dancing. Rose finished in 4th position in her solo dance. In her group dances they finished in 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th positions! What a lot of dancing!

Well done Evelyn! Evelyn competed in the Hailsham Christmas Gymnastic competition gaining the following scores – vault 6.4, Beam 6. Beam skill 7, Floor 6.4 and trampette 5 – amazing scores – well done!

Well done to Millie, who competed in a Christmas horse show on her pony, Barney Boss. Millie rode incredibly well finishing in 2nd and 4th position at the Golden Cross Equestrian Centre – well done.



Stars of the week:

Each week the adults and children reflect on the week and choose a member of the class to receive the 'Star of the week' certificate. These are presented in our celebration assembly every Monday and shared in the fortnightly newsletter.

Week 6 & 7:

Elm: Jack Oak: Oak class Hazel: Dhyana Beech: Zephyr Little Punnetts: Imogen

Elm: Joey Oak: Elle Hazel: Hazel class Beech: Beech class Little Punnetts: Little Punnetts class

Well done everyone! Thank you to everyone for being the best you can be!

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a successful and healthy 2025! We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

C. Kinsella

All dates are subject to change – more details will follow regarding specifics. Yellow highlight will show new additions from the previous newsletter.

Term & Week	Date	Event
Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January – Christmas holidays		
T3 W1	Monday 6 th January	First day of term 3 – all clubs re-start
	Wednesday 8 th January	Forest school for Year 1, Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6
	Wednesday 8 th January	Y3 and Y4 swimming for 6 weeks every Wednesday
	Thursday 9 th January	Whole school pantomime at school - afternoon
T3 W2	Friday 17 th January	Year 2 to visit Young at Heart – details to follow
T3 W3	Wednesday 22 nd January	Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics at HCC – details to follow
T3 W4	Tuesday 28 th January	Nursery & Reception wellie walk – details to follow
T3 W5	Wednesday 5 th February	Y5/6 Netball at HCC – details to follow



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T3 W6	Thursday 13 th February	Last day of term 3
	Friday 14 th February	INSET – school closed for children
Monday 17th – Friday 21st February – Half term		
T4 W1	Monday 24 th February	INSET – school closed for children
	Tuesday 25 th February	First day of term 4
	Wednesday 26 th February	Forest school for Nursery, Reception, Year 3 and Year 4
	Wednesday 26 th February	Y5 and Y6 swimming for 6 weeks every Wednesday
	Friday 28 th February	Year 1 to visit Young at Heart – details to follow
T4 W2	Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day – details to follow
T4 W3	Wednesday 12 th March	Y5/6 Big Dance at HCC – details to follow
T4 W4	Tuesday 18 th March	CLASS+ Coffee morning at school – details to follow
	Thursday 20 th March	Y2 Little Sing – details to follow
T4 W4/5	Friday 21 st March – Wednesday 26 th March	Book Fair – details to follow
T4 W5	Tuesday 25 th March	Reception to visit Young at Heart – details to follow
	Wednesday 26 th March	Y5/6 Tag Rugby at Heathfield Rugby club – details to follow
	Thursday 27 th March	Cross Country final – runners parents notified
T4 W6	W/C Monday 31 st March	Reports sent to parents in Y1 – Y6
T4	Friday 4 th April	Last day of term 4
Monday 7th - Monday 21st April – Easter holiday		
T5	Tuesday 22 nd April	First day of term 5
T5 W3	Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday – School closed
	Wednesday 7 th May	Y3/4 Tennis at Cross in Hand Tennis club – details to follow
	Thursday 8 th May	VE Day 80 th Anniversary celebrations – details to follow
T5 W4	Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th May	KS2 SATs week
T5 W5	Tuesday 20 th May	Class photographs
T5	Friday 23 rd May	Last day of term 5
Monday 26th – Friday 30th May – Half term		
T6	Monday 2 nd June	First day of term 6
T6 W3	Friday 20 th June	Sports Day (Reserve date 27.6.24)
T6 W5	W/C Monday 30 th June	Reports sent to parents in Nursery & Reception
T6 W6	Thursday 10 th July	Y5/6 Production
T6 W7	Thursday 17 th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly
T6	Tuesday 22 nd July	Last day of term 6
Wednesday 23rd July – Thursday 4th September – Summer holidays		
T1	Thursday 4 th September	First day of term 1