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9 November 2018

Dear Parents

Newsletter 5

Special Armistice Assembly All members of the school community stood in silence at 11 o'clock in remembrance of this particularly poignant year of the 100th anniversary of the Armistice. The children behaved with the greatest of respect and are to be commended. This reflects their growing understanding of the meaning behind the Armistice due to the topic work they have been doing.

Children in Need Cross Country This annual event is in support of Children in Need. Weather permitting it will take place next Friday 16 November. Due to the enthusiasm of the children we are allowing the whole school to take part this year. Children will be wearing their PE kit and PE trainers on that morning; please be prepared for some pretty muddy PE kit to be coming home on Friday evening. The sponsorship forms went out before half term. We would like to have all monies returned by Friday 30 November.

Violins/Cellos We had some very excited Year 3s taking home their musical instruments this week for the first time. Please encourage five or ten minutes practice on most evenings. No matter the noise that is produced at the moment, simply handling the instrument and getting the bow across the strings is developing the required skills.

Theatre Group The children had a wonderful surprise on Monday when we welcomed the Wizard Theatre group to perform Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves. The children were captivated by the singing, acting and stage craft. This event was school funded; there is no charge to parents.

Visiting Artist We are delighted to welcome Mariana Acevedo, a local artist, in to work with Class 3.

Playground Development We are so grateful that FOTH has continued to support the development of our grounds for the benefit of all children. You will have seen Hayley and Rob working away; in fact they came in during the holidays to get started and the project will be completed soon. This is going to give a lot of increased space for playtimes which is so necessary once the weather gets more challenging.

Reminder FOTH AGM next Thursday 15 November in the school hall.

FOTH Cake Sale Many thanks for today's cake sale. Proceeds are going to the Royal British Legion.

Christmas Productions The Nativity, A Christmas Soldier and the service of Nine Lessons and Carols will all be part of our curriculum work. Details re ticketing arrangements will be sent out later this term. A Christmas Soldier is being done as planned (performances in 2014 and 2018) to mark the 100th anniversary of the Armistice this year. The staging for A Christmas Soldier will have fresh elements which I and the Year 6's had hoped would remain under wraps until the production so that they have the biggest impact. Can I respectfully ask that parents do not undermine the special arrangements by talking about who is taking what role. I can say no more or it will ruin the anticipation and surprise of what is planned to be something special.

Online Payment System Thank you for taking the time to set up your accounts with us. We are trying to become a completely cashless school office. You are able to make payments to suit yourself; whether it be daily, weekly or monthly. The lunches are updated on a daily basis and the club fees are a week in arrears. Statements for club fees will continue to be issued on a monthly basis, via the book bags. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this, please come by the office. All matters are treated in the strictest of confidence.

Yours sincerely

Liz Tansley