



Wanborough Primary School NEWSLETTER

ISSUE
3
Nov '16

Dear Parents

With the sound of Christmas songs and decorations filling the corridor, we are most definitely into the festive period at Wanborough Primary School. We hope you will be able to join us at some of our traditional seasonal events, starting with our Bazaar today.

Whilst amongst all the increasing excitement we will be continuing to work hard. Hopefully you will be able to come in and look once again at your child's books after school in the first week back - January 5th between either 3.15pm-4.30pm (in classrooms) or 5.30pm-6.30pm (in the school hall). Please inform the school office if you will be attending the evening session so we can make the books available.

Next week we will also be sending parents with children in Years 1-6 a couple of booklets on the expectations for Maths, Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar which we hope you will find useful and informative. Whilst we are striving to reach expected and beyond for all our children, we know you as parents are keen to support us in achieving the best for your children. These booklets will hopefully give you a greater understanding of what your child is expected to learn for their appropriate year.

Finally, thank you to all those parents (in Key Stage 2) who have offered to host a French school child for a couple of nights in March. We are still a few short, so the offer is open now to any parents who could perhaps assist from other year groups. If you would like to find out more information please contact the school office. All adults in the household will require a voluntary DBS check to be completed. To those who are hosting we will arrange a meeting in the new year to confirm arrangements once we are fully allocated.

Thank you.

Andrew Doney



This year we raised a whopping £476.06 for Children in Need. Thank you all for your support.



On another fund raising note, Emily H, Year 4, did a sponsored silence recently and raised a fantastic £117.57 for the RSPCA.



Young Photographer's Competition

You may recall that we sent out an application form recently for a 'Young Photographer's Competition' which is being coordinated by the Rotary Club (RIBI). Entries must be with the office by **Monday 5th Dec**. For further information, or a copy of the application form, please contact the school office. This crisp, frosty weather is perfect for some nice Christmassy shots!

Well Done to those in the School Choir...

...who sang with other Swindon schools this week at the Wyvern Theatre. It was enjoyed by all and was a lovely start to the festive season.

Diary Dates

Fri 2nd Dec - 3.15pm - 5.30pm
Christmas Bazaar

Tues 6th Dec
Flu Vaccine for Years 1, 2 and 3

Wed 7th Dec - 2pm and 6pm
Rec and Year 1 Christmas Play

Fri 9th Dec
Year 3 Trip to Sheepdrove Farm

Wed 14th Dec
Christmas Dinner - *children can wear their Christmas Jumpers*

Thurs 15th Dec - 9.30am
Christmas Service @ St Andrews Church

Fri 16th Dec
Whole School Panto Trip
End of term

Tues 3rd Jan 2017
Teacher Training Day

Wed 4th Jan
Return to School

Thurs 5th Jan - 3.15pm-4.30pm or 5.30pm-6.30pm
Parents Invited in to View Children's Books

Mon 30th Jan - 6.30pm - 8pm
NSPCC e-Safety Parents' Evening - *more details to follow*

Teacher Training Days 2016 / 2017

1st / 2nd Sept / 3rd Jan / 5th June / 21st July

PTA News

Bags2School – Thursday 10th November

Many thanks to all who brought in their unwanted clothes, shoes, bags and soft toys to the school. We raised just over £204. Luke Simmonds, Jessica Trowbridge and Maia Goddard all won a Fairtrade chocolate Advent calendar in the prize draw. Look out for the next collection in the Spring!

We did cheekily remove some items from the bags that we spotted in passing – some items that should never have been there in the first place(!) and some that were brand new, complete with labels. Our Bags2School collections are a very easy way for us to make money but we do only get paid 40p per kilo. More quantity over quality! However some of these new items are now selling nicely on Ebay for the school. We also diverted some to the RSPCA charity shop in Swindon where they will hopefully make closer to their true value for a deserving cause that we thought the children would support. Next time, we'll see about having a drop-off box for such items and perhaps get the children involved in choosing the charity for any items that we think won't Ebay. Win win!

Reception & Key Stage 1 Disco – Friday 11th November

Great fun was had by all at our first Disco of the year and there have been lots of positive comments in school about how well the children all behaved. The event raised £791.86. Nationwide and Vodafone's employee-matched fundraising scheme should bring in an additional £1,050!

Where the Money Goes

All 22 recently purchased laptops are now in school and being built. Most of the new Reception classroom and play area equipment has also arrived.

At the last PTA Committee meeting, it was agreed that we would continue the subscription to Marvel comics. They're going down very well with the children – often appealing to those children who aren't so taken with the more traditional books.

It was also agreed that we would purchase some outside games for the children – 3 large magnetic games to go on the building walls – Snakes & Ladders, 4 in a Row and Turbo Racer. We're also going to purchase 2 new outside table top games. We're just trying to find the best place to source these but it's likely to cost over £1,200.

How You Could Help?

We have a number of requests for help this month. If you can help, please contact us via our email address – contactpta@wanboroughprimary.org.

- **Are you artistic, good at design and/or DIY or could contribute materials?** We're keen to enhance the outside play area but as you can see from the above, purchasing anything is very expensive. Just one of the magnetic games mentioned above, less than 1m², costs over £200. And those bigger items that we would love to purchase are currently out of our price range; Mrs Rendell is very taken with a stage area that she's seen at another school.... However, we're thinking outside of the box! We think we might have some talented individuals amongst us who might be able to create a more exciting playground. Maybe make some more games, or a stage area of our own? Could you help?
- **Do you work for a generous employer?** We know a number of companies offer corporate grants to deserving causes. We know some also encourage their employees to take part in charitable work – Nationwide and Vodafone's employee matched fundraising schemes makes a huge difference to our fund-raising. If your employer does any of the above or you work for Nationwide or Vodafone, we don't already know about you and you'd be willing to help, let us know. A half an hour stint at one of our events can bring in a lot of additional money as you can see from the Disco financial result above. And if we're to provide an all-weather playing surface on the field, we need to come up with alternative sources of income.
- **Do you have a way with words?** We're succession planning and none of the Committee have yet volunteered for our Communications Secretary role which will become vacant next school year. The role involves writing this newsletter, the article for The Lyden magazine, updating our intranet site and any letters, emails and texts that go out to parents. It's a great role if you enjoy creative writing. Interested?

Easy Fundraising

Did you know the school could earn extra funds every time you do online shopping at no extra cost to yourself? To find out more, click on the following link - <https://www.easypfundraising.org.uk/invite/NFAXV2/> Search for Wanborough Primary School PTA and then create a new account. Download the toolbar and then make your purchases through the site and a percentage of your purchase will go to the school. After you have made your first purchase, an additional £1 will be donated as well.

You can also download the app from Google and App Store but try and download on a computer or laptop first as this will help with the extra donation.

The site has been live for just over 3 weeks and currently has earned over £30 for the school. Feel free to share with your family and friends!

Future Events

Film Night – Friday 27th January

We will be showing 'The Secret Life of Pets'. Look out for the posters and ticket details before the end of term.

Quiz Night - Saturday 4th March – note the revised date! This is due to a village quiz being planned for the week following our original date. Cost will be £10 per head to include a Chilli supper and we're looking for teams of 6.

Pamper or Shopping Night – we're investigating holding such an event in April. We're keen to hear if you would be interested, any ideas that you might have or if you could help us pull one together.



Carols Around the Tree

&



Wanborough Christmas Fayre

To help you get into the Christmas spirit there will be a charity



'Carols around the tree' for everyone

21st December

Wanborough Village Hall

From 6.00pm

I am a former student of Wanborough Primary School. This charity event is to help raise funds for my 4 week expedition to Ecuador in July 2018. Over 50% of the rural communities of Ecuador living in the highlands live below the poverty line. Malnutrition is high. Whilst there I will be involved in a 'Kitchen Project' where I will be helping to build kitchens to cook school meals, helping to build greenhouses to grow crops whilst helping to educate children about the importance of a good diet. The second part of my expedition will be helping to protect some of the world's most important and fragile ecosystems from planting trees in the Amazon Rainforests to helping to conserve turtle nesting sites. This is something I never thought I would have the opportunity to do or have the confidence to do when I was wearing my yellow polo top!

So put on your Christmas hats, wrap up warm and please join me for an evening of Christmas cheer. There will be mince pies, hot chocolate, mulled wine & Christmas treats for sale.

Don't forget to design your CD Christmas decoration – available at the Village Shop & Beavers, Cubs & Scouts – or through me on 078246022985

I will also have a Christmas gifts stall plus face painting at the Wanborough Christmas Fayre, Saturday 26th November, Wanborough Village Hall

Annabelle Whitford, Year 11 student, The Ridgeway School



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