Weekly Newsletter 14 (13th December 2019)

Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School

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What's happening in school next week?

- On Monday, we are off to Penistone Paramount to watch a film, a lovely way to mark the end of a busy term.
- Mrs Gilder is teaching in Nursery on Monday and Miss Rogers is teaching in Class 2.
 - Both Mrs Hindmarch and Mrs Ollerenshaw hope to be back with us after the Christmas holiday which will be lovely.
- There is no Monday Mile next week we may be a little late back from the cinema.
- We have Golden Star assembly on Tuesday for parents of children in Year One and Two who have been nominated. The assembly starts at 9.00am and takes around 20-30 minutes.
- Its Christmas lunch on Tuesday with crackers, festive music and table decorations. It is always a lovely lunchtime.
- Mrs Taylor is teaching Nursery on Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Marsh on Thursday and Friday.
- Our Christmas Games Night (on Tuesday) has not had the uptake we had hoped so we have cancelled it. Perhaps we'll try again later in the year.
- On Wednesday, it is Christmas Party Day. Please send the children in their party outfits. Remember we still play outside so please make sure they are warm enough. No heeled shoes please.

We have an entertainer booked for the children and we are hoping a special man in red will make a visit. The children will have a party lunch with jelly and ice cream for dessert. (Our lovely mealtime supervisors make the jellies for the children every year.)

• There is no crossing patrol on Thursday – please take extra care.



Attendance

Class 1: 94%

Class 2: 99%

Class 3: 94%

Class 4: 97%

Class 5: 98%

Class 6: 94%

Class 7: 100%

Class 8: 97%

Our target attendance is 96%

This week's attendance is

96.6%

Well done Class 7!

Christmas Fair

A very big thank you for supporting our fair. So far we have raised more than £700. We are still selling raffle tickets in the school office which will add to our total. We have some fabulous prizes, several of which have been donated by retailers in Fox Valley.

Well done to Holly Staples who won "Guess the Baubles in the jar" and to Charlotte Appleby for guessing the weight of the cake.

Apologies for missing the start of Y2 nativity this morning. A child needed first aid and a teacher needed some help.

Mrs T.

Assembly Theme: The Christmas Story

- On Thursday Chris Standley is in from Imagination Gaming playing board games with the children.
 Lunchtime club for Y2.
- On Friday we have Golden Star Assembly for parents of nominated children in Nursery and Reception.
- Friday is non-uniform day for a fee of £1.00.
- Some of our Y2 children are off to Alpine Lodge to sing to the residents on Friday.
- We break up on Friday for the Christmas holiday. School returns on Monday January 6th 2020!

Mrs Townsend's Pupil of the Week.....

I am very proud of too many children to mention this week for the way they have done their very best to show our visitor what a wonderful school we have!

Nursery News

Our new Nursery children came to visit this week with their grown-ups. It was lovely to have them in school. We are all looking forward to them starting with us in January. We thought we would not have enough spaces to offer everyone on our waiting list but we have. In fact, we have 1 spare place at the end of the week. We can offer this to any parent who has a child who is 3 (or will be by 31st Dec) or alternatively to any parent who would like to increase their child's time and pay for the additional hours. Nursery provision is £4.20 per hour.

A very big well done to all our children who were just fantastic at their nativity performances. We were so proud of them all – they did you and us proud!

Please remember if you want your child to have a hot dinner, you must order one in the morning. If your child brings a lunch from home, please remember to cut grapes in half – they are a choking hazard otherwise. Please use the holiday as an opportunity to check your child's school clothes and make sure you have the right ones. Please name all their school clothes. There is some lost property in nursery – it is hung up in the cloakroom.







This week's praise board







The grown-ups are spotting the children doing something positive and sharing it on a board in the staffroom.

Thank you to James Reed for picking up all the banana skins from the yard.

Ruby (Class 2) for helping put all the nativity props together.

Declan (Class 2) for putting his hand up so many times, answering questions and getting them right.

All of the children for how well they have performed in the nativities over the last week.

Cadie (5) knows every word to every nativity song and sang so well and with such enthusiasm.

Mr Grocock for moving 100+ chairs so many times this week!

Tweak of the Week: Coming into school calmly and quietly is getting better. Let's keep trying!

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course	Traditional sausage and mash with gravy	XMAS DINNER Roast turkey with chipolata sausage, roast potatoes & stuffing	PARTY DAY Assorted sandwiches, pizza, cocktail sausages, herby diced potatoes	Homemade beef and onion pie with mashed potato and gravy	Battered fish fillet and chips with tomato ketchup
Vegetarian Main Course	Vegetable sausage and mash	Quorn roast with veggie chipolata sausage		Macaroni Cheese	Vegetable curry and wholegrain rice
Oven baked jacket potato	Jacket potato with tuna mayo or cheese (V) or baked beans (V)			Jacket potato with tuna mayo or cheese (V) or baked beans (V)	Jacket potato with salmon mayo or cheese (V) or baked beans (V)
Sandwich option	Ham			Ham	Ham
	Tuna			Tuna	Tuna
	Cheese			Cheese	Cheese
Vegetables	Cauliflower Mixed veg	Peas Carrots		Green beans Carrots	Garden peas Baked beans
Desserts	Ginger sponge with custard Fresh fruit/ yoghurt	Xmas biscuit	Jelly and ice cream Fairy buns	Vanilla sponge with custard Fresh fruit/ yoghurt	Shortbread biscuit with fruit wedges Fresh fruit/ yoghurt

What are we learning in math's next week (week commencing 16.12.19)?

Year 1 will be learning to name and identify features of 2D and 3D shapes.

Year 2 will be consolidating their understanding of addition and subtraction and their relationship to each other.

Imagination Gaming Family Club

Chris is keen to restart this in the New Year. Does anyone want to come along with their child and enjoy board games for an hour or so on Thursdays after school? If you're interested, please let a member of the Office Staff know. We'll see what the interest is like and let you know it if is a viable club. There is no charge for the club.

Penistone Paramount trip on Monday

We are all looking forward to our trip to the cinema on Monday. We have 4 coaches arriving at school and as you can imagine, this will be tricky! Please help us by parking away from school to leave plenty of room for the coaches to park and get the children safely boarded. Please make sure your child is in school on time. We will be leaving at 9.00am prompt.

After School Clubs

Please check your child's book bag for a letter about after school clubs for the new half term when we return in January. Places are limited and the clubs fill up quickly. Please bring the completed slip along with payment to school from Monday morning if you would like your child to attend.

A family Christmas at the Stocksbridge Christian Centre, Cedar Road.

Sunday 22 December - 10:30 AM - Nativity Service with tableaux by the Boys' and Girls' Brigade and handbell ringers.

Wednesday 25 December - 10 AM - Christmas Day service and communion.

Tuesday 31 December - 4 PM - New Year's Eve for the family. 'Carols by Candlelight' - sketches, songs and readings - and refreshments!

Ofsted

So two weeks before we break up for Christmas, amidst nativities and children excited by advent calendars we've had Ofsted! The outcomes must remain confidential whilst quality assurance checks go on. School and yourselves will receive a short report in 2-3 weeks. We are all still smiling and alive!

Many thanks to all the parents who offered words of support, chocolates to keep us going and who took time to speak with Miss Morris, our inspector.

The children have done us proud as they always do. They were keen to welcome Miss Morris into their classes and share what they know and like about our school with her. She enjoyed their company I know.

I can't begin to tell you how amazing all the staff have been —teaching, support staff, office staff, Mr G and the premises team and our MTS. Almost every member of our team came in on Monday afternoon, Tuesday and Wednesday whether it was his or her days to be here or not. The feeling of camaraderie and team spirit has been palpable. Everyone has looked out for each other, helped each other and together we did a good job.

How we are inspected has changed. Previously much of the weight lay at my door with a big focus on data, numbers, and justifying whether these were high enough, going up or down etc. Now inspection is very much about the wider deal children get in school. What is it like to be a child at Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School? The focus now is much more on what we teach the children. Do we have it right? The inspection relies on lots more of the teaching staff – and that's hard especially when you have never done it before, never had to have an interview with an Ofsted inspector. The changes to how schools are inspected is very new – it only came in in September and we have been working hard to prepare but being inspected at the beginning of December has given us 13 weeks.

All our teachers stepped up to the mark and did themselves and our school proud. Every teacher spoke with Miss Morris. Mr Barker shone with the work he is doing around supporting our children with Special Educational Needs (ably supported by Mrs Priest). Mrs Heavens knew her 'stuff' around the subject she leads in school. Mrs Hutchinson nailed her conversations around English and reading – such a big focus in our school and in the new Ofsted framework. Miss Palmer! Miss Palmer's saying is 'I've got this' and she certainly did. As a recently qualified teacher she left us all a little in awe of what she did over the two and a half days.

Staff have worked very long, hard hours this week and I for one, am very grateful.

Balance Bike Festival

There is a Balance Bike Festival at Stocksbridge High School on Tuesday 14th January 3.30-4.45pm. It takes place in the Sports Hall at the back of the car park. Unfortunately we have some art inset planned for that evening (which we have already had to rearrange twice) so on this occasion we won't be able to take the children and supervise. But, parents can take any Nursery or Reception child along to enjoy the festival and the fun. The session is also open to any child in Year One who cannot yet ride a bike.

Looking after property

Since September, Mr. Grocock has had to replace several toilet roll holders from the top corridor girls' toilet. These are screwed and glued onto the dividing walls between the toilets. A considerable amount of force is needed to break them off. It can be no accident and could be seen as the start of vandalism. We are also wasting money buying paper towels that the girls are throwing all over the floor. There are groups of girls, mainly in Year 1, who spend a lot of their time inside at lunchtime....being regularly asked by adults to go back outside. I have spoken with all the Year 1 girls this week about what is happening. Since our chat, nothing else has happened but I wondered if you would speak with the children at home about looking after school property. I have explained that whilst we are spending money on toilet roll holders and paper towels, we can't buy new toys -we all like new toys! Many thanks in advance for your support.

Assembly Theme: The Christmas Story