



As we come to the end of Term, I would like to wish you a very peaceful and happy Christmas. Having worked hard all term, the children will be ready for a break and the opportunity to recharge their batteries (whilst wearing yours out no doubt!). We have had a busy and productive term with lots to tell you about and a few reminders to give too.



The choir have attended a number of events over the past few weeks. In Banbury... At the Big Sing at Oxford Town Hall and in Morrison's. They have helped to raise a lot of money for various charities. Their commitment has been amazing and staff at the school have felt incredibly proud of their behaviour at all of these events which was also noted by many members of the public. Well done and thank you! Thanks must also go to their parents who have turned up to support them and particular thanks to Miss Virginia O'Connell who has given up her own time to train them and attend the events as well.

All of our younger children from Nursery, Reception and year 1 & 2 have and will be performing their Nativity. It takes a lot of courage at this age to stand up on a stage and perform to an audience. It was decided this year for Year 1 & 2 to perform in their class groups to enable more parents, carers and relatives to watch them. The children have all done incredibly well learning a number of songs and their own words. We have really enjoyed watching all of their rehearsals and thank you to the staff for all their efforts in helping to prepare the children for this, and thank you for your continuing support and supplying the costumes.



#### Healthy Snacks.

We will not be selling fruit for the children in years 3,4,5 & 6 from January. The number of children buying fruit has decreased and we are having to throw fruit away on some days. Please do ensure that if you give your child something to eat at breaktime that it is something healthy.

#### TOAST Breakfast Club

Please remember that with effect from 4th January 2016, the price for children attending Breakfast Club will increase to £2.20 per day. We are continuing to introduce a variety of new breakfast foods for the children to try. We welcome feedback from you and your children on these new foods.

**Open Afternoons:** FSR and Year 5 & 6 have held open afternoons to showcase the work they have done. These are valuable opportunities for you to see and discuss with your child their learning and progress.

As one of our children explained:

*On the 9<sup>th</sup> of December, Years 5 & 6 opened the doors to our parents so they could look at our Space learning. We had to present information that we had gathered in school and talk about our homework challenge, which was to create something linked with space. We all enjoyed the open house, even our parents!*

*Holly*

### **Fundraising:**

A group of year 6 children went to Morrison's to help customers pack shopping bags and raise money for Sue Ryder charity. Heaven—Leigh fed back:

*On Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> December, I went to Morrisons bag packing. At first, I was shivering with fear but I found my confidence. I always gave a smile to the public as I packed their bags. I enjoyed helping others and raising money for charity.*

### **Carols by Candlelight.**

We were delighted to see so many parents and children returning to school last Thursday evening to sing Carols and Festive songs. There was a wonderful atmosphere in the hall and £369 was raised from the raffle, refreshments and baubles. Thank you to everyone.



**Christmas Jumper day Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December:** Don't forget children can wear a Xmas jumper instead of their school sweatshirt for a donation of £1 (they need to be wearing the rest of their uniform). We are supporting the ITV Text Santa appeal and the money goes to MacMillan, Make a Wish and Save the Children.

### **Swimming:**

Our girls' team won their area round and went on to compete in the North Oxfordshire Final on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015. Congratulations to them for their amazing effort. Thank you to Mrs McHale for all the work she puts into our swimming lessons at school. Also a big thank you to all the parents and members of staff who went along to support our children.

**Farewell:** We say goodbye to Mrs Gabrielle Rankin on Friday. She has worked throughout the school both in teaching classes and supporting children with their number work. We wish her the very best for the future.

**Punctuality:** Finally please ensure your child arrives in school on time each day. School officially commences at 8.55 am. Children should be in their classroom ready to start their lesson by this time. Lateness not only disrupts the class but also means that your child is missing out on their learning and a structured start to the school day. It is also a legal requirement that all children should be in school and starting the school day at 8.55am.

Please do regularly check our website ([www.hillview-school.co.uk](http://www.hillview-school.co.uk)) for updates on all of the experiences enjoyed by your children in school.

## Key Dates

*This newsletter is also available to download from our school website.*

*[www.hillview-school.co.uk](http://www.hillview-school.co.uk)*

### Term 2 2015

- 16.12.15 - Miss Hanson C2 Christmas performance 3.30pm
- 17.12.15 - Mrs Coles D4 Christmas performance 3.30pm
- 18.12.15 - FSR Christmas performance 9.30am
- 18.12.15 - Little Acorns Christmas performance 10.45pm
- 18.12.15 - Little Acorns Christmas performance 2.30pm
- 18.12.15 - End of Term 2 at 3.05pm

### Term 3 2016

- 4.1.16 - Start of Term 3
- 8.1.16 - Miss Wythe's A2 Class Assembly 10.30
- 12.2.16 - End of Term 3 at 3.05pm
- 22.2.16 - INSET day for staff
- 23.2.16 - Start of Term 4
- 24.3.16 - End of Term 4 at 3.05pm

*Yours sincerely,*

Mrs J Thomas

Acting Headteacher