

St Mary's CE (A) Primary School, Mucklestone

Mail on Tuesday

14th November 2016



Dear Parents and Carers

I was incredibly impressed and proud of the respectful and mature manner with which the children marked our remembrance of Armistice Day. The concept of respecting the memory of the men and women who have sacrificed their lives in order to protect our freedom can be difficult for children so I was delighted to see how keen our children were to learn about it. In our assemblies we explored different aspects of remembrance from the origins of the poppy symbol to the ongoing work of the British Legion and many children completed homework tasks where they researched the history of World War I and why we mark a silence at 11 o'clock on the 11th November.

Marvelous Maths Magicians

Last Thursday Miss Manley took four children from Years 5 and 6 to compete in Round 1 of the National Young Mathematician's Award competition. The children faced stiff competition from the other schools taking part and had to tackle some extremely challenging problems. It was hard and so I was absolutely delighted to be informed that they were the winning team and have gone through to Round 2! A big thank you to Mrs Turner for organising our entry and to Miss Manley for accompanying the children. We will let you know how Round 2 goes.



Children In Need



We are always keen to show our support for the amazing work done by charities and will, of course, be supporting Children In Need. On Friday the children are invited to come to school in non-uniform (spots and stripes are optional) in return for a donation of cakes and biscuits. These cakes and biscuits will be 'sold' at playtime by the Year 5 & 6 children for a donation (10p suggested) with all proceeds to go to Children In Need. If your child has a food allergy then please send them in with a suitable snack from home.

School Photos

Academy Photography will be in school this Wednesday to take our annual photos. If you would like a family picture with younger siblings please arrive at 8.30am as the photographer will be available in the school hall from then.



Nativity Costumes



Class 1 have already started to prepare for this year's Nativity performance and will need some additional costumes for the show. Please could you let Mrs Turner or the school office know if you have any costumes that you would be prepared to donate or lend to us to bring the performance to life. Thank you.

Madeley Maths

Unfortunately this week's Madeley Maths session has been cancelled due to staff illness. The next session is planned for 14th December.



Christmas card: Our wonderful children looked very jolly in their hats and scarves but alas, too many blinks, sneezes, coughs and general fidgeting meant we won't be able to proceed with this, proving the old Hollywood adage of "never work with children or animals"! Huge thanks to our photographer Mark Smith who so kindly gave up his time for this project.

Chinese Banquet, 13th December: Do keep ideas for lots coming in. We have had some great ones so far but anything else you can think of would be greatly appreciated.



Tickets are £22.50 and selling fast so please let the school office or Graham Sedgley know by the end of the week if you would like to purchase one, it's a great night out including a sumptuous dinner in the refurbished New Ambrosia in Loggerheads.

Well done to all who received Awesome Alchemist Awards:



Awesome Alchemist: Class 1 – William, Lorna, Jessica, Martha and Tom H.

Class 2 – Mia, Dylan, Joe W.

Class 3 – Alex, Fraya, Grace, Jess, Nancy, Cameron, George, Sophie

Winning House: Water

C. Newman

Diary Dates

Please note key dates for this term, these are also available on our website. **(New dates are in blue)**



15 th November	Assessment for Parents Meeting 6pm
16 th November	School Photographs – family shots from 8:30am
18 th November	Flu vaccination (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)
6 th December	Class 1 and Class 3 trip to Blists Hill Museum
8 th December	Nativity performance 2pm and 6.30pm
13 th December	FOSMS Chinese Banquet
14 th December	Parent Voice Meeting, 3.30pm
14 th December	Christmas lunch, children only
15 th December	Children's party afternoon
16 th December	Last Day of term – Christmas jumper day and 2pm Carol Service in church, parents welcome
3 rd January 2017	First day of term
3 rd January 2017	Keele Space Dome in school