Dear Parents and Carers

Well it’s the last week of term and as you would expect there has been much to do and much to celebrate!

**Third Week of Advent**

This week we lit the third candle on our Advent Wreath as we celebrated Laudate Sunday. The special pink candle reminds us of the joy that comes with knowing that we are moving closer to celebrating Christmas Day.

**Key Stage 1 Nativity**

On Monday and Tuesday we were all treated to a wonderful joyous retelling of the Christmas story as our youngest pupils sang, danced, acted and read beautifully. We even had a talented band of percussionists who provided a perfect beat throughout the songs. Well done to all our pupils for helping us all to remember the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you to everyone for joining us for these performances and helping to create such a wonderful atmosphere. We were also pleased that children from St Wilfrid’s Nursery and parishioners and residents from Corbett Court could attend on Monday morning. Thank you to all staff, especially Ms Cannon who coordinated the whole event.

**Carol Service at St Wilfrid’s Church**

On Tuesday pupils in key stage 2 led us in a beautifully reflective Carol Service and once again the church was full to the brim for the occasion. We were all so proud of the pupils, whose singing, reading and acting was of such a high standard. As I said at the evening service, it was hard to believe these pupils were still at primary school, such was the standard of their engagement and delivery. A big thank you to Mrs Novis for coordinating the whole service, including leading the brilliant choir and also to Mr Simpson for the wonderful musical accompaniment.
**Choir singing in the local community**

On Thursday the school choir walked to Woodlands Nursing Home to sing a selection of Christmas songs and carols for the residents. They then made their annual visit to entertain the residents at Corbett Court. Well done to them all and also to Mrs Novis and Mr Simpson. At St Wilfrid’s we believe that it’s really important that we use the gifts and talents that we have to bring joy to others and what better time to do this than at Christmas?

**Christmas Fun**

Pupils enjoyed Christmas lunch on Wednesday and for key stage 1 there were the Christmas parties and pantomime on Thursday. For those older pupils lessons continued as usual, but with a few extra treats. Class 5LC couldn’t wait to show off their brilliant art work though!

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**Prize Winner!**

Well done to Isabelle Bradford, who won the competition held by the Arundel Wetlands Centre. Isabelle received a number of special souvenirs as her prize and also won a free trip for her whole class! We will be planning this for later in the school year. Isabelle had to design an enclosure for the next 40 years. A big well done also to Lennart who also entered the competition on behalf of class 2JC.

**Always Breakfast**

Last week I forgot to mention that six pupils joined me for breakfast to acknowledge their consistent hard work and commitment to their school work and their positive attitude to learning. Well done to Leon, Ava C, Alex, Summer R, Hayden W and Zoe. We all had a fun time chatting about our favourite hobbies and TV programmes.

Finally, we are also looking for an additional parent helper for Monday afternoons to assist with Forest Schools. If you have any spare time and enjoy working ‘close to nature’ then Mr Fox would love to hear from you!

Well done to Indi Tasker for raising £8.20 for CAFOD.

Also, well done to Melanie, Alexa and Oliver for their project ‘A flame of light, love, happiness, kindness for a brighter future’ which involved them making and selling eco-friendly soya candles. They have raised £55.90 for the Premature Baby Unit in Haywards Heath Hospital. Thank you to everyone who has bought a candle - all orders will be delivered this weekend.
Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year.

School resumes on Tuesday 3rd January 2017

Best wishes

Angela O’Hara

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Meetings for parents:

Reading and Phonics for all parents - Thursday 19th January 2016 6.30pm

Maths meeting - Thursday 26th January 2016 6.30pm

Important Dates:

Protective Behaviour Lessons for the year (4 lessons)
Lesson 3 - 24th January
Lesson 4 - 15th March

INSET DAYS 2016-17

Friday 17th February 2017 - Music & Reading/Phonics

Monday 24th/Tuesday 25th July 2017 (these dates tie in with St Paul’s College)

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Friends of St Wilfrid’s update...

Thank you to all of the families who made it possible for their little ones to join in with the Christmas Discos last night. The children certainly had a brilliant time! Thank you also to the adults who kindly volunteered to help – we really do appreciate your time.

The Friends would like to wish everyone at St Wilfrid’s a very Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year. It has been an amazing term and we would like to take No 14 for week ending Friday 16th December 2016 this opportunity to thank you all for your support. Together we have been able to raise a fantastic amount of money for the school this term especially as the Christmas Bazaar was one of the most successful we have ever had.

We have lots to look forward to next term as well. Some of the exciting activities that we have planned including Discos, Uniform Sales, a Mother’s Day Workshop and a Bingo Night. We look forward to seeing you in 2017.

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Reminders/Information from the school office:

Chartwells Children’s Favourite:

The cut-off date for ordering this meal for 19th January for KS2 children via the Chartwells website is by midnight on Sunday 8th January.

http://www.mealselector.co.uk