



Dear Parents,

### Attendance and Attitude towards Learning

Last week's winning classes/attendance

Head's Classes		Attendance	
Foundation	RH	Attend	5P
KS1	2A		96.8%
LKS2	3A	Overall	90.4
UKS2	6B		

The attendance overall absence this week just illustrates how many children have been poorly! We have had children being sick during lesson time, break time, dinner time; in fact, on Monday morning we had 30 children off school just from KS1....50% of these were our Nativity Cast! However, this is still beaten by 2 years ago, the same time of year, when we had 100 children off on the same day!

**Performances-** Nonetheless, KS1's performance of *The Magical Christmas Box* was still 'magical', with the remaining



children continuing to act their way through the play without any difficulties whatsoever. Meanwhile, Nursery and Reception's rendition of *The Christmas Variety Show*, written by our very own Lauren Hogan, was absolutely fantastic! I cannot thank staff and parents enough for supporting the children throughout

the practising and performing of these shows! And as for the children, well, I have been bowled over by their confidence and maturity. Well done everyone!



### School Choir

As usual, at this time of year, the choir children have had an exceptionally full calendar! Take a look at the events that the children have sung at:

- The switching on of Balsall's lights, Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November;
- Young Voices, Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December;
- Rose Court and Michael Blanning, Wednesday and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December;
- Blooms Garden Centre, last Saturday morning.

And, this Sunday at 3.30pm you can join the choir at Balsall's Methodist Church!

Thanks must go to all parents and staff who have been in attendance at these events, to Mrs Aviss, Mrs Riggs and Miss Davis and to **all of the children** for their exemplary behaviour, attitude and voices!

### Swimming Team

On 4<sup>th</sup> December our swimming teams competed at St Martins, against St Martins A and B teams and King Henry's. AS a result of some of our swimmers being at Young Voices, we secured permission to enter a mixed, rather than an all girls' team. We won the first 5 races with ease and then continued to win, or come close to winning, throughout the Gala. All swimmers,

without exception, gave 110% and swam with noticeably good technique, which really impressed swim coach Kim Strong. Support from parents was also excellent and Mrs Strong would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Duggan and Mrs Evans for their help with organising the children for their races on poolside. Very well done all swimmers, and thank you Mrs Strong for your high quality swim coaching.

### School Trips

Our children have been out this week on a variety of school trips. Year 5 went to the Space Centre on Tuesday as part of their Science topic. Nursery and Reception visited Warwick Arts Centre on Wednesday to see 'We're Going on a Bearhunt'. And....Years 1-6 were at the Leamington Spa Centre to see Snow White! What a busy, busy time in school we are having. The children have been exemplary on every occasion. Thank you to everyone who has accompanied us on these trips.

### Healthy Eating

Please remember that we are a healthy school and that snacks should reflect this. In addition, please do **NOT** send anything into school that has any **peanut content** of any type! We have children in school with peanut allergies who could end up in hospital if they as much as touch a surface that is contaminated with peanut oils.

### Next Week

- Our KS2 Carol Concerts Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> at 18:00.
  - PTA Christmas Meeting, with nibbles, 7.30pm, here at the school.
- Break up Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>, back in school Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2013!

**Two Shopping Saturdays remaining before Christmas Day!**

**Have a great weekend!  
GT Burgess**

**A-Plan, Independent Insurance Consultants**  
A-Plan will make a contribution to the PTA for every policy taken out. Ring James Shaw on 0121-742-7961 to see if A-Plan has anything which matches your requirements

**Balsall Common Primary  
School Sponsors**

**Atkinson Stilgoe, Village Estate Agents,** is once more sponsoring our school generously over the next 4 year period. Please ring Anita McKeogh on 01676 535234 to see current listings of homes for sale.



**Nursery - Ted & Toby Bear's Star of the Week Awards**

Morning - Olivia & Alfie

Afternoon - Tilly & Kieran

**Robin's Stars of the Week**

Delilah O'D, RM

Mason D, RH

Ole W, RD

**Maths Wizard**

Keira P, 2K

-

Immy D, 2M

**Writers of the Week**

Dylan H & Louis J, RD

-

Lucy McGuinness, RM

Matthew C, 1M

-

Mia S, 1S

-

Haydon P, 2K

-

**Good Choice Stars of the Week**

Sophie B, 1B

Maisy M, 2M

Freya M, 3C

Adam C, 4D

Ella N, 5P

Aimee M, 6B

-

Ethan A, 2K

William N, 3P

Joshua M-H, 4B

Alice W, 5K

Ellis G, 6M

-

-

Maddy D, 3A

Caitlin B, 4F

Hannah S, 5K

Francesca C, 6I

Darshan P, 4F

-

Jack R, 4F

**Diary Dates 2012- 2013**

**AUTUMN TERM**

Friday 14 December	Party Day	Years 1 & 2
Sunday 16 December	15:30	Choir at Methodist Church
Monday 17 December	14:30 & 18:00	Yrs 3 & 4 Christmas Carol Concert
Tuesday 18 December	14:30 & 18:00	Yrs 5 & 6 Christmas Carol Concert
Wed 19 December	Party Day	Years 3 - 6
Thursday 20 December	School Ends - please note that this is a day later than other Solihull schools	
<b>SPRING TERM 2013</b>		
Thursday 3 January	School starts	
Thursday 10 January	17:30	Parents' meeting with Ray Maher
Friday 11 January	Conference in Hall No Hot Dinners today	
Friday 18 January	09:10 1M	Class Assembly
	14:45 3A	Class Assembly
	Targets home to parents	
Friday 25 January	09:10 1S	Class Assembly
	14:45 3C	Class Assembly
	19:30	Headteacher's Quiz
Tuesday 29 January	18:00	Dunfield meeting for Year 4 parents
Friday 1 February	09:10 1B	Class Assembly
	14:45 3P	Class Assembly
Friday 8 February	14:45 6M	Class Assembly
Mon 11 & Tue 12 February	16:00-19:00 Parent Consultations	
Friday 15 February	14:45 6I	Class Assembly
	Break up for Half-term	



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