

# Handcross Primary School Newsletter

## December 2018

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy term this has been! As we move into the last full week of school I would like to thank all the staff, Governors, volunteers, parents and the children for a wonderful first term as Head at Handcross Primary School. It has been an absolute pleasure to get to know the school community and we have accomplished a great deal within a short time frame.

### Book fair

Thank you for participating in the Scholastic book fair held last week. Families bought over £1000 of books altogether, which is a fantastic success. There were some great bargains and the school benefitted as 10% of sales are given by Scholastic to purchase additional books for the children to read, which is wonderful.

### Parking

Parking outside Handcross Primary School is an on-going concern. We ask that parents please always park in a safe and respectful manner at drop off and pick up times. There are statutory "no parking" lines outside the school which need to be adhered to. Please note that council parking enforcement officers are aware and may patrol the area.

We have embarked upon the Living Streets Walk to School project to help combat parking issues, to inspire respect for the environment and to encourage children to be more active. We are participating in the WOW challenge, which recognises children for walking to school at least once a week for a whole month. This can include parking further away and then walking some distance, as we recognise parents may need to drive. If the children achieve this, they will be recognised in an assembly and will achieve a WOW badge each month.

### PTA

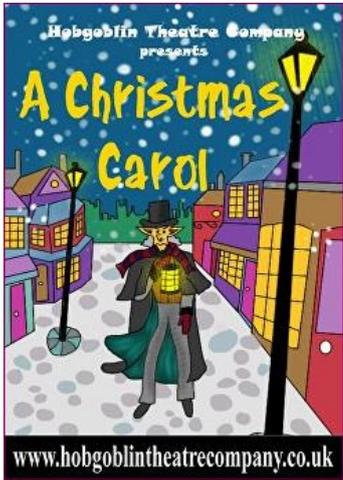
Our new PTA has got off to a roaring start; we really appreciate the enthusiasm and the hard work shown by our new PTA members. Thank you to the whole school community for getting involved in the first fundraising initiative, the Hamper raffle, which has been a roaring success. There is still time to purchase raffle tickets, the raffle will be drawn on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December at Celebration Assembly!

### Christmas at Handcross!

Thank you so much for the beautiful decorations that adorn the tree in the school hall and in the front entrance. The school is certainly reflecting the Christmas spirit. We have lots of exciting things planned for the end of term, some you might be aware of, however some information is new so please read carefully:

- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December - **Nativity performance** led by Key Stage One and EYFS. Please get your tickets at the school office.
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December - **'Save the Children' Christmas Jumper Day**: children are able to come to school wearing a festive jumper alongside their school uniform, in exchange for a suggested £1 donation. Half of donations collected will support Save the Children and half will support the school, see separate letter.





- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December – **Chartwells Festive Christmas Lunch**. If your child has packed lunch, you may want to consider a Christmas theme on this day!

- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December – We are delighted to announce that Hobgoblin Theatre Company have offered a performance of “**A Christmas Carol**” on Friday afternoon. This will be a special Christmas treat for the whole school and we are enormously grateful to Hobgoblin Theatre Company for offering this experience to the children, completely free of charge. What a delightful Christmas treat for both children and staff!

- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December - **Carols and Candlelight Celebration**

We hope you can join us for our Carols and Candlelight celebration. The children will be singing songs and there will be some Winter Poem readings. We will explore the meaning of candlelight at this time of year and there will be lighting of candles at the front of the hall while the soloists sing verses from traditional carols.

🕯️ **Hedgehogs, Robins, Seagulls and Caterpillars will be having their Candlelight Celebration at 9.15am, with some chosen soloists/readers from Key Stage 2 to support.**

🕯️ **Roe Deer, Badgers, Foxes and Kestrels will have their Candlelight Celebration at 2.30pm.**

As we will not be lighting individual candles this year, the restrictions on adult numbers has been lifted. However, please be mindful that there will be some candles at the front so we would respectfully ask that alternative arrangements can be made for pre-school children, where possible.

- Tuesday 18 December - **Christmas Party Day & shared lunch** (See separate letter)

- Tuesday 18 December - **Christmas Disco: Yr R, 1 & 2: 2.30–3.15, Yr 3 - 6: 3.15-4.30pm**

- Wednesday 19 December - **Toy Day**: On the last day of term, the children are permitted to bring in a toy or game to share with their friends. Please make sure that your child does not bring anything valuable because we don't want them to be upset, if (in the unlikely event) a part goes missing or gets broken.

- Wednesday 19 December - **Last day of term** (no wrap-around care on this day)

Here is a reminder of other useful dates for the remainder of this term and Spring / Summer term dates:

Week beginning Mon 10<sup>th</sup> December - **Last week of clubs**, a new letter regarding clubs for next term will be sent out at the end of the week.

#### **Celebrations of Work dates:**

Mon 10 Dec Kestrels Celebration of Work 2.45pm

Tue 11 Dec Robins & Seagulls Celebration of Work 2.45pm

Wed 12 Dec Badgers Celebration of Work 9am

Caterpillars Celebration of Work 2.45pm

Tue 18 Dec Foxes Celebration of Work 9am

**Spring Term 2019:**

Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Fri 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019 (Inset days)

***Children start Mon 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019***

Half term: Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019

End of Term: Fri 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019

**Summer Term 2019**

*Children start Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019*

Half term Mon 27<sup>th</sup> May – Fri 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019

**End of term: Fri 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

(Inset days Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019)

The staff and I wish you a very merry Christmas and hope you have a wonderful time with your family. We will have many more exciting events planned in the Spring term, starting on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Bondonno". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'S' at the beginning.

Mrs Bondonno