

Autumn 2016 (4)

Dear Parents and Carers,

SATS Outcomes 2016

The government has begun to release more information about the SATS tests that our previous Year 6 pupils undertook in the summer. There has been a lot of discussion about the content of these tests and the high level of difficulty they presented to pupils across the country. However though our pupils did find the tests difficult in comparison to previous years we knew we had highly successful outcomes. We knew, for instance, that those reaching national standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined was over 22% more than the national average. This included 95% of pupils reaching the new national standard in Reading.

However, the school places most regard to the progress the children make from where they start from and this is the information we have recently received. Our pupils level of progress in Mathematics places them in an incredible top 3% of the country and in Reading the top 6%. This is an amazing achievement and reflects the effort of both the children and The Pilsley Staff Team.

Key Stage 2 Christmas Concert – Snow White

Our Key Stage 2 (with the Y2s from Y2/3 guest starring this year) performance once again raised the bar another notch with wonderful performances all round. There were many pupils who we would never have thought could perform in front of 200+ people who really shone. We are continuously amazed by our children and their capabilities, just when you think you know them they pull a surprise out of the bag!

Foundation Nativity

Our Foundation Nativity will take place on Tuesday, 13th December at 10.30. We have already sold out of tickets for the Church and look forward to sharing the story of Christmas with everyone.

Year 1 and 1/2 Nativity

The Year 1 and 2 Nativity plays take place in the morning and afternoon of Wednesday, 14th December. At the time of writing we had a few tickets left for the Church.

Christmas Dinner

The school Christmas Dinner for the children will be on Thursday, 15th December. Please can we ask you that you complete the form that went out on Friday to ensure we know exact numbers ASAP as we have to order ahead for so many children.

Christmas Parties

Christmas Parties will take place on the following days, details are available from the class teachers:

Foundation 1 and 2: Wednesday, 14th December (morning)

Years 1 and 1/2: Thursday, 15th December (afternoon)

Years 3-6: Friday, 16th December (afternoon)

Carol Concert

The Carol Evening/Singalong will take place on December 19th from 6-7pm. This has proved a popular event and we do have to keep to ticketed numbers due to fire regulations in the sports hall. If you would still like to attend please check with the school office if there are any tickets available.

Reception Class September 2017 Applications

Please note that you can apply for a place in our Reception class from now until 15th January 2017. Applications are made through Derbyshire County Council at:

http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school_places/default.asp

Please note that we have experienced a high number applications from outside of the school nursery and catchment area over the last few years and the earlier we are aware of numbers the sooner we can plan for September 2017, thank you.

Christmas Jumper Day

We are holding a Christmas Jumper Day to support Save the Children on Tuesday, 20th December (the last day of term) instead of the Friday before as advertised on their website to fit in with school timings



Let's get silly for a serious cause. Get a group together, dress up in festive knits and show the world your silliest side.

People everywhere will be getting in on the act and donning Christmas jumpers. The butcher, the baker. The school administrator. Your teacher. Your boss. Your pet dog. Everyone, basically.

By donating £1 (or whatever you can afford) if you're at school or nursery you'll be helping to save children's lives. And the more you raise, the more children we'll be able to help – so why not do some extra fundraising on top.

Whether you're at home, at work or at school, pretty much anything goes – from homemade 3-D reindeer antlers, to that jumper your Nan gave you last Christmas.



Holiday Dates

January 4th – return to school

January 23rd – beginning of Science Week

February 10th – break up for half term

February 20th – return to school

April 7th – break up for Easter

April 24th – return to school

May 2nd – Year 2 SATs month begins

May 8th – Year 6 SATS testing week

May 26th – break up for half term

June 5th – return to school

June 30th and July 3rd – INSET Days, school is closed for Friday 30th June and Monday 3rd July

July 21st – last day of school year

Finally, just as a reminder the school will break up on Tuesday, 20th December and reopen for the children on Wednesday, January 4th 2017. It will be a new year, with new challenges for us all but we will continue to do our absolute best for your children and help them to Inspire, Respect and Achieve.

We wish you a Happy Christmas, a great holiday
and a Happy New Year
from The Pilsley Staff Team