Newsletter

Newsletter 5 **7th November 2025**

Assembly Themes: Next week: Remembering
Week after: Problems & Solutions

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you had an enjoyable half term break. The children have had a busy and successful week, with sports events and a trip to Crucial Crew by Year 6 – read on to find out more… We have lots of things to look forward to in the term ahead, with Christmas events and activities alongside the range of other trips and sports opportunities.
In the light of feedback from families, we have made an adjustment to the timings of the KS2 plays, and also to the arrangements for the Year 3 & 4 play – details below. As always, we value your feedback and are open to ideas and suggestions to make things work for everyone.

Sporting events

We are very proud of our Football and Boccia Teams, who took part in events this week.
The Junior Football team, from Years 3 & 4, did extremely well in the Rural Schools tournament, making it through to the finals, and coming away with silver medals.
Next, it was the turn of the Boccia Team who went to the Stevenage Sporting Futures Boccia Festival. These children were split into two groups, with Year 3 enjoying a skills session and Year 4 competing against other schools. We were delighted to win bronze medals, with the children trying their best, right up to the end!
Thank you very much to Mrs Broad for being the coach for the Football team, to Mr Massey for leading the Boccia, and to both for taking the children and giving them so much encouragement.

Key Stage 2 Plays

Change of Timings

We are all looking forward to our Christmas Plays – the Office Staff and I really enjoy hearing the songs being practised as we work! A number of parents fed back that the evening performances are quite late for the children and they can be very tired – particularly, those in Years 5 and 6. Therefore, this year we will be trialling starting the two evenings half an hour earlier – 6.30pm for the Years 3 & 4 play and 7.30pm for the Year 5 & 6 play. Following the plays, we would really appreciate it if you could let us know if this works better for your family.

Tickets for Years 3 & 4

As we have double classes in both Years 3 and 4, we will be trialling a ticket system. This is to ensure we meet the fire safety regulations, regarding the number of people in the hall. Closer to the time, we will send home two tickets for each performance – free of charge – and ask that any unrequired tickets are returned to school. If you would like additional tickets, these can be requested via the school office; there will be a small number of

additional tickets available, plus any that have been returned. We will try our best to accommodate specific requests – for example, where parents and older siblings, or grandparents are planning on coming on the same evening.

Tickets will not be needed for any other Christmas productions this year, including the Year 5 and 6 plays.

PTFA Film Night – 7th November

The PTFA will be holding a Children's Film Night tonight from 6-7.45 p.m. The films being shown are: *Paddington in Peru*, *Dogman* and *Trolls Band Together*. All children who attend the school are welcome to come along, provided they can maintain concentration for the length of the film. Snacks are included in the price of £3.50. As part of our commitment to sustainability, children are asked to bring their water bottles with them, which can be re-filled as needed. Mobile phones may not be brought by children – if anyone needs to contact their adult, I will be happy to do so using the school phones. Entry is payable on Arbor by 3pm or cash on the door.

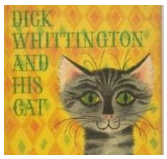
PTFA Christmas Shopping Evening

We are all looking forward to the Christmas Shopping Evening on Thursday 27th November from 7 to 9 p.m., and have fantastic stalls booked to come along. Father Christmas has confirmed his attendance and is keen to see his grotto and meet the elves who will be helping him.

The Christmas Present Wrapping Competition is always a joy to judge. Children are invited to donate a small gift wrapped as creatively as possible. These items are then sold on the PTFA stall. The entries need to be brought into school on the morning of the 27th November labelled with the age the gift is suitable for. There is a winner selected for each class.

The healthy snack rule is also suspended on Wednesday 26th November, so children can bring in two chocolate items – one for them to eat and the other to donate to the Chocolate Stall. Please could chocolate containing nuts be avoided due to allergies? Thank you in advance for your support.

We would welcome offers of help to set up, help during the night and clear up after the evening.



***Dick Whittington and His Cat* Pantomime**

One of the absolute highlights of Christmas is the whole school trip to the Pantomime at the Gordon Craig Theatre. This year, we will be going on Tuesday 16th December. To secure the booking and get the best deal possible, we book the places a year in advance for every child. If there is any reason why your child will not be going, please let us know as soon as possible, so that we can arrange for a supply teacher to be in school to look after your child.

Further details regarding the arrangements will be coming out nearer the date. In the meantime, should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable weekend. Please remember that I am always happy to discuss any issues with you. Thank you for reading this newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

Liz Pollard
HEADTEACHER

Dates & Events

Dates Fixed	Event	Time	People involved
7.11.25	PTFA Film Night	6.00 – 7.45 p.m.	Children & PTFA
11.11.25	PTFA meeting	7.00p.m.	PTFA
17.11.25	Dodgeball	TBC	Years 5 & 6 team & staff
18.11.25	Nasal Flu catch up session	TBC	Children & Staff
24.11.25	Bench ball	a.m.	Team & Staff
27.11.25	PTFA shopping evening	7.00 – 9.00 p.m.	Everyone!
28.11.25	Occasional Day – School closed	All day	Everyone
2.11.25	Football Rally	9.30 - 12	Team & Staff
9.11.25	Year 6 Carol singing – Poynders Meadow	a.m.	Children & Staff
10.12.25	Dress Rehearsal day	All day	Children & Staff
11.12.25	Reception Play	10.30 a.m	Parents, children & staff
11.12.25	Year 1 Play	2.30 a.m.	Parents, children & staff
11.12.25	KS2 Plays	6.30 p.m.	Parents, children & staff
12.12.25	Nursery Play	10.30 a.m.	Parents, children & staff
12.12.25	KS2 Plays	6.30 p.m.	Parents, children & staff
13.12.25-14.12.25	Hitchin Christmas Tree Festival	All day	Families
15.12.25	Year 2 Carol Service with school	9.30 a.m.	Children & Staff
15.12.25	Reception Party	a.m.	Children & Staff
15.12.25	Year 2 Carol Service with families & Year 6 presenters	6.30 p.m.	Years 2 & 6 Parents, children & staff
16.12.25	Panto!	a.m.	Children & Staff
17.12.25	Christmas Lunch	12.00 p.m.	Children & Staff
18.12.25	KS1 & KS2 Parties	p.m.	Children & Staff
18.12.25	PTFA Christmas Disco	5.30 – 7.00 p.m.	PTFA & children
19.12.25	Nursery Party	a.m.	Children & Staff
19.12.25	Term Ends	1.15 p.m.	Parents, children & staff