

The Archer

School Newsletter No 5

DEAR PARENTS/CARERS

We are rapidly approaching Christmas after a very busy Term 2.

EYFS and KS1 Christmas productions

I have been privileged to see outstanding nativities from both Early Years and KS1 in the past few days. My thanks to the staff for their hard work in making these possible. The links for watching these productions will be sent out this week.

KS2 church service

It was fantastic to be back at Christchurch for the KS2 carol service, led by years 3 & 4. The children performed and sang brilliantly. Thanks to the lower KS2 staff for their hard work and to Reverend Mortimer for allowing us to visit the church again after our enforced COVID break last year.

PTA events

Thanks to the PTA for selling grand draw tickets and for organising the Christmas card artwork. These have raised £1200 which can be spent directly on the children.

UNIFORM SALE

We have accrued a substantial amount of lost property, particularly school uniform over the last 18 months. PTA members very kindly sorted this, with all named items being returned to the children as soon as possible. Remaining items will form the basis of our used uniform shop which the PTA will run periodically for small donations.

13th December 2021

Christmas Animatronic Tree

Today Chris Bowles is bringing his singing animatronic tree into school to support each of the classes in singing their favourite Christmas carols.

ADMISSIONS – NEW RECEPTION CHILDREN STARTING IN SEPTEMBER 2022

If you have a child born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 then now is the time to start your applications. Please go to your home authority's website Bexley or Kent (who do you pay your council tax to?) to start the application process. Applications close on 17th January 2022 for both Bexley and Kent. Please let the office know if you will have a sibling starting next September.

Dartford Community Cup

Congratulations to our boys and girls football team on winning the Dartford FC Community Cup on Thursday 9th December. The boys came 3rd in their group competition with their points carrying through to the girls tournament later in the day. The boys played 4 matches, winning 3, drawing 1 and losing 1.

The girls played 4 matches, winning 3 and drawing 1. The combined efforts making our school victorious. Well done to all the boys and girls who participated!

Our Year 3/4 team competed on Friday afternoon in the Champions Cup and came 3rd – well done!

Pantomimes

We are looking forward to our pantomimes this week with the Hobgoblin Theatre presenting King Arthur to KS2 with two performances on Tuesday and a further performance to EYFS/KS1 on Thursday.

Additional Sports Opportunities

Our Year 3 children have enjoyed a term of cricket coaching through the 'Chance to Shine' cricket programme. This has helped the children hone their batting, bowling and fielding skills.

Our Year 4 children have enjoyed their taster rugby sessions provided by Bexley Rugby Club, an opportunity we are very grateful for.

OUTDOOR ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITY OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking forward to Terms 3 & 4 with Year 4 participating in a two-day adventure activity programme at the Ashford Kingswood Centre in February and Year 6 travelling to PGL Windmill Hill for their four-day outdoor adventure in March. I know the children will have a thoroughly enjoyable time.

The last term has been particularly challenging with significant numbers of both children and staff having to isolate as a result of COVID. This has seriously impacted on staffing levels across the school. I am extremely grateful to all our staff for their flexibility and commitment to the children.

Thank you to all our parents and friends who have, as always, shown such outstanding support.

May I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

We look forward to seeing all the children for the start of Term 3 on

Tuesday 4th January 2022