



# Stoke Hill Federation

# NEWS



## **Advent**

Counting down the days until Christmas has begun in many homes this morning. Counting the days on a calendar for any reason helps us all to make time for the events we value and want to join.

So please do take a fresh look at the Annual Calendar for Parents produced in July each year.

We trust that securing dates well ahead of time enables families to plan to join their child at various points in the year as they celebrate their fabulous learning.

## **Christmas!**

Our Christmas post boxes will be open on Monday, ready for the children's cards. Please make sure you write the name of the child and their class on the envelope to ensure the cards can be delivered.

The **Year 1 Christmas Concert** 'Babouska' takes place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>.

The **Year 3 Production** takes place next week on Tuesday and Wednesday at 6pm.

The **Junior School Christmas Lunch** is on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> and the Infant School Christmas Lunch is on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>.

We will be holding a **Federation Christmas Assembly** on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>. This will be a lovely opportunity for the children to enjoy singing and celebrating together.

The **last day of term** is **Friday 15<sup>th</sup>** when your child can **wear a Christmas/favourite jumper** to school if they wish.



**Discover** what's at the bottom of your stocking...

For families that celebrate Christmas or for a gift at any time of the year please remember the pleasure a simple packet of pencils and paper can bring. Felt tips, marker pens, crayons and coloured pencils plus books to be creative in, will give your child both pleasure and practice as they use their imaginations and practice their skills to draw.

The world needs designers, architects, hat makers, illustrators, set designers... Drawing what you are thinking will never go out of fashion and is how everything begins.

## Mathletics Challenge

Thank you to everyone who encouraged their child to take part in the International Mathletics Challenge.

Over 400 schools took part, and we were really pleased to find out that we finished **27<sup>th</sup> place in the world** for the number of maths points scored. This reflects the hard work of the children and their ever-increasing fluency in number work, which will be so helpful to them as the mathematical concepts get more and more complex.

## Thank you to our marvellous PTFA

Last Friday at the Infant and Nursery School, we raised a totally inspiring **£1,205!** at our Christmas Fair. Every penny will now be used to buy fabulous resources and extend opportunities to all. There are so many ways this money will make a difference.

If you helped at or supported the Fair in any way we are all grateful.

Look out for updates of how the money will be spent and the fortunate children who will be enjoying all the extras this money will bring.

**St James Church Christmas Bazaar is tomorrow**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

**2pm until 4pm. A warm welcome and lots of stalls and Father Christmas too await you!**

## Succeed without slipping!

On icy mornings at the Infant School the top playground and the main playground will be closed to keep everyone safe.

These areas can become very slippery and so on icy mornings please use our main front and back entrances which will be gritted ~ thank you



## New Stage Lights

Earlier this week we were really pleased to take delivery of a new set of digital stage lights at the Junior School. These have been funded by a grant, which Mrs Finning was clever enough to secure for us.

The lights will allow us to make our productions and assemblies look more slick and professional, as well as saving energy.

They light up in lots of different colours, and you can also add shapes and special effects.

Year 3 parents will get a first chance to see them in action during the Year 3 Production next week.

They certainly look very impressive during the rehearsals.

If you are interested in buying the old lights and controller – they still work but they're a bit more cumbersome than the new ones- please see Mrs Finning to arrange a viewing.