

Head Teacher: Mr Stewart James BA (Hons) QTS

Acting Deputy Head: Mr Michael Walton

> **Barcombe Cross** Near Lewes East Sussex BN8 5DN

Tel: (01273) 400287



Friday 13th December 2013

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are gradually coming to the end of another very busy term! The children have all worked tremendously hard with their studies as well as enjoying all the excitement of school at this time of year.

## PTA Christmas Fair

The PTA Christmas Fair took place on Saturday 30th November. It was very well attended and there was a fantastic community atmosphere that was commented on by lots of people. The fair raised over £1600; we are planning how we can spend the money to enrich the education of the children in the coming year. I would like to say a huge thank you to our wonderful PTA for the organisation and commitment to making the day a fantastic event.

# Tote Bags

The PTA is selling Tote bags festooned with the faces of every child in the school on them. They look great and would make an excellent present or simply for your own use. Please support the school and buy a bag! The PTA will be selling the bags after school every day until the end of term!

## New Parent Mornings

I am very pleased to say our open mornings for new parents were very well attended and the parents enjoyed guided tours by our Year 6 children. I have received a number of comments and emails from prospective parents commenting on the atmosphere and quality of the school as well as the pride the children showing them around demonstrated. I think this is a powerful example of how great our children are!

## African Adventure

Our learning journey African Adventure is drawing to a close, the children have really enjoyed learning about the culture and history of Africa as well as enjoying an art project and a drumming work shop. This year each of the classes have made Christmas decorations with an African theme to dress the school. I am extremely proud of our beautiful displays and decorations throughout the school; I believe by showing the children great quality we set an expectation that transcends into their class work and learning behaviours.

## The Terrific and Terrible Tudors!

Our new learning journey for January will be 'The Terrific and Terrible Tudors!' the teachers are busy planning lots of exciting events and learning opportunities to ensure we bring this exciting time in history to life and make it really memorable for the children in the new year; more information about this coming soon!

# Break Out Of Barcombe

The children in Hedgehogs class have spent this morning building mud huts at 'Wild About Barcombe'. This is the first of many 'Break Out' experiences this year linked to the children's learning journeys; our belief is that the children should be enjoying real educational experiences in their local environments. The school believes that by creating real life experiences the children will be enthusiastic about the work they do back in the classroom.

## Key Stage One Christmas Performance

It was fantastic to see so many friends and family at the Key Stage One Christmas Performance. The children put on a fantastic, fun show! They remembered their lines, read very clearly, sang beautifully and looked amazing. Thank you to everyone who made and supplied some really wonderful costumes, it really was a magical performance!

## Key Stage Two Christmas Carol Service

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December all the children at school will attend the Key Stage Two service at St. Mary's Church. It would be fantastic if parents could join us for the service and if possible help the children walk back from the church afterwards. The children will need to wear their shoes to the service and bring their Wellies in a plastic carrier bag with their name clearly labelled on it. When the children arrive back at school, those who have chosen to will enjoy their Christmas dinner.

## The Big Christmas Sing

Last night our Year Six children took part in 'The Big Christmas Sing', a fantastic evening was enjoyed by all. The children sang beautifully, looked extremely smart and demonstrated fantastic behaviour. A big thank you to everyone who helped make another memorable event.

## Listening to Readers

If any parents or grandparents have any spare time to come into school on a regular basis to listen to readers I would greatly appreciate any support given. It is essential the children are heard to read as much as possible to develop their literacy skills.

## Date to Remember

Please remember, school restarts on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

I am sure I will get to see and speak to many of you before the Christmas break. However if I do not I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Best Wishes

Mr S James Head Teacher