

## Our Christian Values:

Justice

Compassion

Respect

Friendship

Thankfulness

Hope

Resilience

Truthfulness

## CHRISTIAN VALUE THIS HALF TERM- RESILIENCE GLOBAL THEME – HUMAN RIGHTS



## NEWS FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Newsletter 5 Autumn Term 2016

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November

Dear parents / guardians,

We are fast approaching Christmas and all the excitement and festivities this brings.

### CHRISTMAS FAIR

A huge thank you to our fabulous FONSS team for the wonderful Christmas Fair they put on last Saturday. It was a great success. Nearly £1000 was raised, so it was well worth the effort. I have a few children's Christmas tree decorations left. If you did not manage to make it to the fair, but would still like to buy your child's decoration, I have them in the office and we are asking for £1 to buy them.

### CLUSTER CAROL SERVICE

On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November our Year 3 and 4 children attended the Cluster Advent Carol Service. It was a lovely event and our children performed beautifully singing a song with our music teacher Mrs Watkinson. Well done to everyone!

### SCHOOL ARTS COUNCIL DESIGN-A CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Last Friday the School Arts Council gave out the prizes to the winners of our first Christmas Card Competition. The entries were of a very high standard and the winners chosen by the Arts Council. The winners were:

Year 6-Toby Lock

Year 5 –Lilly McKittrick

Year 4 –Ellie Lock

Year 3 – Daisy Weightman

Year 2 – William Pollitt

Year 1 – Shea O'Connell

Reception – Sofia Isherwood-Nesom

### SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

Sadly after 12 years in our school Andrea Mansfield our amazing School Administrator is moving on to become the School Business Manager of a large Primary School. We wish her all the best for the future in her exciting new venture. We had some excellent, high quality applicants for her position and last Thursday we interviewed 5 candidates and appointed Mrs Sally Taylor to our staff. Please bear with us in the first few weeks of Spring term as we get adapt to the change and Sally (and I !) learn the ropes.

### SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our School Christmas lunch is on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. It is for school only as we are catering for large numbers already. The children will make hats and placemats; there will also be crackers and table decorations.

### HOMEWORK SURVEY

Thank you very much to everyone who completed our homework survey on parents' evening. Here are some of the headline results which will help us to plan for the future. Although as you will see some parents want no homework, some want lots and of course setting homework is statutory.

Key findings:

"Your support for your child's education is crucial to their progress. Please tell us if there are any adjustments we need to make to help you support your child, for example: letters in large font; letters in different languages; wheelchair access; explaining things over the phone; a discussion with a school colleague of the same gender."

- 96% think yes, the new books are very useful and effective.
- 4% think that most of the time the books seem useful and relevant.
- 35% of parents would like more support about how to help their children
- 61% of parents liked the must/should/could format.

Here are just some of the comments:

*'I love the homework books and like that there are optional extras'*

*'I don't agree with homework below Y6'*

*'We love doing homework'*

*'I feel homework is important, not just for the 1:1 time I can spend with my child, but also it is lovely to see how they are progressing'*

*'Neither my wife or I had homework at school and we both have degrees'*

*'The homework books promote good presentation and make the children feel valued'*

*'My child is really motivated and inspired by their teacher'*

*'I believe my parental involvement in homework is crucial to my child's success. They know homework is valued'*

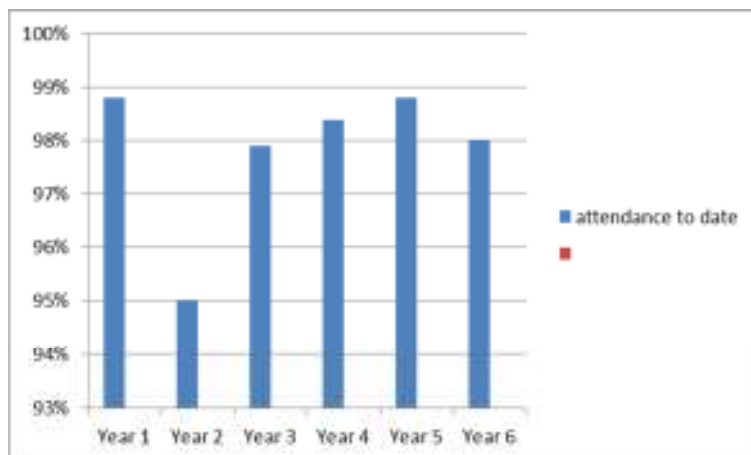
*'Homework isn't stressful, she loves showing me what she can do'*

### COATS

Please ensure your child has a warm coat. They will be outside playing unless it is pouring down or very icy.

### ATTENDANCE.

Our target attendance for all our pupils is 98%. You have to be here to be learning!



### BREAK UP CHRISTMAS

We break up for Christmas on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December- Pantomime in Harrogate

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December-School Christmas Production 2pm

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December-School Christmas Production 5pm

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December- Break up 2.30 for Christmas

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December –Concert at HIC

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December –Carol Service Church at 10.45

Return to school –Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January (Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January is a training day)

Please contact me if you have any concerns or comments,

Kind regards,

Mrs Elizabeth Watts

Heateacher.