



Lavant

C.E. Primary School

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CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2017



Dear Parents,

As another busy term draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support of all we do at Lavant C E Primary, and for all you do to support your child's learning in so many ways at home – hearing them read, supervising homework, testing tables and spellings. Thank you also to those of you who give up precious time to come into school to work with individuals and groups.



It was lovely to see so many of you last week at St Mary's Church for our annual Carol Service. I'm sure you will agree with me that the children excelled themselves this year. I was very proud of them all.

In addition to the Carol Service, we have had lots of other exciting events going on at school over the last few weeks and who better than the children to tell you all about what they have been up to.

Squash Tournament

The 2017 Squash tournament, played at the Racquets and Fitness club, included four teams: Westbourne, Jessie Young Husband, West Dean and Lavant. The pupils from each school had friendly individual and team activities to participate in:

- *Squicket (A mix of squash and cricket)

- *Sweat ball (A territorial game of a mix of Netball and Rugby)

There were also some individual coordination activities, one of which was finding how many serves for forehand and backhand you could do in two minutes. At the end of the competition, Westbourne took first place taking them to the semi-finals. We had a fabulous day and really enjoyed learning how to play the game of squash.

(By Jack & Felix, Year 6)

Japanese twinning

This year Pheasant Class got up early to continue our tradition of meeting with our friends at Minami Hirabari School in Japan. For many years now we have been partnered with this school, and we regularly send them letters and even gifts.

We met up on Skype to see what it is like to live in Japan. Sadly, the connection wasn't very good so we couldn't see the children, but they could see us. Anyway, we still had a great time. We were fascinated by all the differences between our schools. We sang two Christmas songs for them: 'Midnight' and 'O Little Town of Bethlehem'. They sang a traditional Christmas Japanese song for us too. It was a fabulous morning and well worth the early start.

(By Jenny, Honey and Holly)

Hockey tournament

On 7th December, 6 children in Pheasant Class took part in a hockey tournament at Westgate Leisure Centre. Our school was a good team who worked well together and won our first two matches 1-0 and 4-0. We had a great time and hope that we can do this again. We got to make more friends, learn more about how to play hockey, (how to hold the hockey stick correctly and how to hit a ball with a hockey stick) and enjoyed some competitive games. We had a fabulous afternoon of sport and can't wait to do something like this again!

(By Stan and Harry)

Performing at Lavant Lunch Club

On Wednesday 13th December our school choir visited the 'Lavant Lunch Club' to sing Christmas carols as the entertainment for their Christmas lunch. This year our recorder group joined us too, to play some of the songs they have been learning in school.

This year it was a wet and cold journey but we enjoyed singing and playing traditional and modern carols. Our recorder group played some other popular songs such as 'Old MacDonald'. Everyone enjoyed the performance and sang along too. Of course, at the end we are given chocolate; but that's not the only reason we go! We love singing and playing for them. **Thank you** to Mrs. Holden and Mrs. Smith for working so hard with our school choir and Recorder ensemble.

(By Lucy and Olivia)



A huge **"THANK YOU"** to The Friends, and all those who helped organise such a fabulous Christmas Fair and Disco. We also thank The Friends for all the Christmas treats that have provided for the children this year, including a special surprise treat that has been planned for the children on Wednesday afternoon.



Attendance – This Autumn term has been really long (15 weeks) and there have been lots of bugs flying around so a very big "Well done" to the 21 children who have had 100% attendance this term. Unfortunately, due to the number of bugs going round our overall attendance has dipped below green this term for the first time in a number of years. Hopefully we can all remain healthy in the New Year and get our attendance back to its usual high standard. I am very pleased however to announce that this term the class with the highest attendance has been Woodpecker Class with a class attendance of 96.85%. **Well done.**

Spring Term Clubs – Clubs will begin again from Monday 8th January. I know many children are signed up for morning and afterschool clubs run by outside providers. A full clubs list will come home at the very start of the spring term.

Breakfast Club

Many children are now using this facility and spaces are filling up fast. Please do give the office plenty of notice if you would like your child to attend breakfast club and please note that, once booked, the place must be paid for even if not attended. If your

child is in receipt of Pupil Premium, please speak to the school office, or myself, about discounted rates.

Golden Learning Opportunities (GLO) – GLO will be running again in 2018 during the second half of the spring term. Many thanks to those of you who have already expressed an interest in running or supporting a Golden Learning Opportunity, however, we will be looking for many more helpers to make this another successful year of learning opportunities. Please look out for further information about GLO early in the New Year.

Dates - Term finishes at normal time on Wednesday 20th December, and the spring term starts for the staff and children on Thursday 4th January 2018.

Website: Please remember that news of all school events can be found on our school website, as can copies of all letters sent home. www.lavant.w-sussex.sch.uk

On behalf of all the staff and governors, have a great Christmas and peaceful new year.



Adrian King

Learning Together in Faith – Always Aiming for the Best

