

Rodings Primary School Newsletter

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20/12/2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come towards the end of 2017 (where has that year gone?) it is a great opportunity to reflect and take stock. Schools are always busy but 2017 seems to have been busier than most. As the school expands we have had to make a number of changes, inevitably some have gone smoother than others but there is a real buzz about the school at the moment and for the exciting things ahead. The Peer Review on the 30th November was a great way to finish the year, validating our own judgements but reinforcing what a special place Rodings is.

Even last week, we had the excitement of our own radio station being delivered and the first group of children being trained up to produce broadcasts. Our amazing new library was realised this year as well. A brand new classroom arrived on the back of 4 lorries in the middle of August and is such a great space for Puffins class. Furthermore, we continue to be as popular as ever with waiting lists of children wanting to get into the school.

These things don't just happen so I would like to take this opportunity to say 'Thank You'. Firstly, to the staff for being so dedicated and hard working, you really are a talented bunch. To the Governing Board for their free time in volunteering and supporting the school's strategic vision. To the Friends of Rodings for the amazing job they do in raising so much money for us, so that we can indulge in extras such as the library, school jackets and a radio station. Whilst most schools are struggling to have a Friends committee, ours continues to be well supported and continually coming up with new ideas to raise even more money. To you, the parents, for your continued support and for encouraging your children to do their best. And to all the visitors from the wider community that help to enrich our curriculum. Finally, I would like to thank the children for making our jobs the best in the world.

I would like to wish you and your families an enjoyable and restful Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you all on Wednesday 3rd January 2018!

Kind regards
Mr Raraty

Headteacher

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Governors' report

Our last meeting of 2017 was held on 11th December and one of our main items of discussion was the recent School Peer Review. This was shared in last week's newsletter and governors were very pleased with the outcome and the positive comments in this review as well as the recommendations made to continue to move the school forward. We all thanked Mr Raraty and his staff and all the pupils for their continued commitment to our school.

As part of a whole school initiative, the governing board has recently worked together on updating our Strategy and Vision for Rodings and this has been based around the school's core values of **Respect, Enjoyment, Care, Confidence and Challenge**.

A group of governors recently made a very positive visit to the school. It is always a pleasure to see the children working happily and enthusiastically in their different settings and although this visit took in the whole school, we were able to focus on the progress of different ability groups as well as spend some time with the reception class children.

During our meeting we also reviewed the school's policies on Anti-bullying, Educational School Visits, On-line Safety and Collection of School Meals' Money. We had a report from our Finance Committee, our Safeguarding governor and an SEND update. Governors have recently attended training on Safeguarding, Child Protection and 'Prevent', the new Data Protection Regulations and a session on School Vision and Strategy. Further training for the spring term will include Governor Induction training, Safeguarding and a Guide to the Curriculum.

Parents may be interested to hear that we currently have **two vacancies for parent governors** and these will be advertised fully in the new year. School governors are volunteers and we are involved in decisions about all aspects of managing the school - such as setting standards and targets, overseeing the budgets and supporting staff. We decide the school's long-term goals and make sure that the school is moving in the right direction. Governors bring skills from all areas of their personal and professional lives but the most important qualities for being a governor are enthusiasm, commitment and the capacity to work within a team.

Being a parent governor can be an extremely rewarding way of being involved in your child's school and if any parent would like to have a chat about this role, please don't hesitate to contact me via the school office.

The Board of Governors would like to wish all pupils, staff, parents and their families, a lovely Christmas and a very happy and healthy new year.

Steph Green, Chair of Governors

Peter Deal Effort Cup

We are very pleased to announce the winners of this term's Effort Cups.

Peter Deal was a past Governor, who on retiring, donated the cups to be awarded to a KS1 and KS2 child who staff feel have made a big effort in some aspect of their school life, be it academic or social. This half term the children nominated were:

Yr R Freddie Lawson

Yr 1 Rosina Rudd

Yr 2 Isabelle Ovenden

Yr 3 Henry Baker

Yr 3 Sam Spilling

Yr 4 Horatio Chastin-Deakin

Yr 5 Dairy Gunn/ Mabel Bellieu-Clarke/Ragan Ward

Yr 6 Ryan Turner

Yr 6 Maryellen Ward

A final decision has been made and we are pleased to announce that the cups have been awarded to Freddie Lawson in Year R and Horatio Chastin-Deakin in Year 4.

Well done to all the children. We hope you enjoy having your star pin badges that you can keep and wear on your uniform. Winner's cups can be enjoyed at home and we ask that they are returned to school by the Friday 2nd February.

Thank you.

House Cup Winners

We are pleased to announce that this terms winner of the House Cup is
Tilty

They scored an amazing 3214 points.

Good Manners Award

Mrs Matthews and our wonderful kitchen staff have awarded their Manners Cup to the following children who have shone in the dinner hall this term:

EYFS & KS1 The whole of Goslings and Bronagh Daly

KS2 Emma O'Sullivan

Dates for the Week Commencing 1st January 2018

Wednesday Back to School

Thursday KS2 Film Club 3.30 - 5.00pm

Remember no Clubs until w/c 8th January.

*Wishing you all a very
Happy Christmas
We look forward to seeing you
all on Wednesday 3rd January 2018*

Menu for week commencing 1st January 2018

Wednesday

Jacket Potato with Grated Cheese, Sweetcorn, Baked Beans, Tuna Mayonnaise,
Mixed Salad, Coleslaw
Lemon & Orange Shortbread Biscuits

Thursday

Roast Chicken, New Potatoes, Sliced Carrots, Savoy Cabbage, Yorkshire Pudding,
Gravy
or Roasted Vegetable Turnover
Melon Platter

Friday

Omega 3 Fish Fingers, Oven Chips, Sweetcorn, Garden Peas
or Cheese & Onion Quiche
Homemade Chocolate & Orange Sponge & Custard