

# Featherstone Wood Primary School Newsletter



14<sup>th</sup> November, 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Bliss Balloon Race Results

It has been so exciting waiting for the balloon tickets to be returned to school! Mrs Hoare has received letters from some of the finders of the balloons - a copy of one is attached. Thank you to everyone who made this event so successful - a total of £310 was raised by selling 250 balloons.

We have had tickets returned from the local area, Norfolk and ..... Denmark! We have measured the distances and as two balloons were found so close together we have decided to have an adult prize and a child's prize.

The winning child ticket was number 093 which was bought by Kamil Maczan in Year 5. Kamil's balloon travelled all the way to Hvide Sande in Denmark - a total of 442 miles! The balloon was found on the beach there by a German lady who was on holiday in Denmark. Kamil wins a family ticket for four to the Stevenage pantomime - Aladdin.

The second balloon which was found in Hvide Sande, Denmark, was bought by Mrs Barber in our EYFS. Her balloon ticket was found by an 8 year old German girl also on holiday with her family in Denmark. Mrs Barber has won four VIP tickets to Roller City in Welwyn Garden City.



## Christmas Jumper Day

On our last day of term, Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, all children and staff are invited to come into school dressed in their Christmas jumpers, for a donation of 50p each. All money collected will be donated to our charity Bliss. If you do not own a Christmas jumper perhaps you would like to decorate one!

## PofFW Christmas Wonderland

Next Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> November, the PofFW are holding a Christmas Wonderland from 3.15 to 5.00 p.m. Please come along when you collect your children and bring friends and relatives as well! There will be Christmas cards, gifts, jewellery and cakes for sale, a book stall, crafts for the children to make including decorating a Christmas bauble, a lucky dip and more! The PofFW would welcome more donations of good quality books.

There will also be a photographer to take photographs with a lovely traditional backdrop so if you would like to bring a change of clothes for your child, please do so. He will be taking photographs for £10.00 each.

The Christmas raffle will also be launched and you will be able to buy your raffle tickets then. Donations for the raffle would also be much appreciated.

### **Parent Questionnaire 2014**

Thank you to all the parents who completed the Ofsted questionnaire at parents evening. We had a total of 83 replies which is fantastic. It has been helpful gaining your views of the school and the report is now ready for you to look at. The report is on the school website but if you would like a paper copy, please call into the School Office.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

It is always nice to celebrate the children's achievements in school, but we know they achieve so much outside of school too. If your child has taken part in a music event, won a trophy for sports, passed a standard in swimming or achieved anything else outside of school, then please let Mr Hodson know so they can be celebrated in his Monday assembly. Please remember to send in the trophy or certificate in advance of the assembly so that it can be shared.

### **Harvest Festival**

We have had a letter of thanks from Stevenage Haven for the donations which the school collected at our recent Harvest Festival assembly. The donations are put to very good use for their residents both at the hostel and in their move-on properties and to the homeless who call at their door.

### **School Council**

The class representatives have been elected for the School Council and had their first meeting on Wednesday. They are:-

Year 2 - Leila and Deavion

Year 3 - Jesse and Katie

Year 4 - Dylan, Courtney and Eloise

Year 5 - Chloe and Ben

Year 6 - Ashleigh and Thomas

The School Council will be distributing the Yellow Moon craft catalogues and will be in charge of delivering the children's Christmas cards around the school.

### **Star Learners**

Our Star Learners this week are:-

Reception - Benjamin Holmes

Year 1 - Tori Lawal

Year 2 - Sky Newman

Year 3 - Simba Rugube

Year 4 - Lois Fraser

Year 5 - Leyla Johnson

Year 6 - Eleanor Harris

Well done everyone, we are very proud of you.

### **Attendance**

The winners of this week's Attendance trophy are Years 1 and 6 with 98.2%. Well done everyone. Six classes were over our 95% target which is excellent.

### Word of the Week

Last week Eloise and Jamila, (Year 4), researched the word of the week which was 'Empathy'. They did a mind map of the word which will be displayed in the interactive area.

This week's word is 'Gratitude'. All entries should be placed in the white box in the interactive area.

### Dates for your Diary

21<sup>st</sup> November - Christmas Fair

10<sup>th</sup> December - KS1 play - Matinee  
Performance - 1.30

11<sup>th</sup> December - KS1 - Evening  
Performance - 6.00

12<sup>th</sup> December - Carols Round the Tree  
2.00 p.m.

16<sup>th</sup> December - EYFS play - 9.30 a.m.

17<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Dinner

18<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas parties

19<sup>th</sup> December - Term ends 2.00 p.m.

5<sup>th</sup> January - Inset Day

6<sup>th</sup> January - Children back to school

10<sup>th</sup> February - Parents Evening

12<sup>th</sup> February - Valentine Disco

16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> February - Half Term

1<sup>st</sup> April - Exhibition Day

2<sup>nd</sup> April - Term ends normal time

20<sup>th</sup> April - Inset Day

21<sup>st</sup> April - Children back

10<sup>th</sup> May - SAT's Week

1<sup>st</sup> June - Inset Day

14<sup>th</sup> June - Phonics check week for KS1

3<sup>rd</sup> July - Sports Day & Proms

9<sup>th</sup> July - Transition Day/Meet the  
new teacher

11<sup>th</sup> July - Summer Fair

14<sup>th</sup> July - Cinema Trip

21<sup>st</sup> July - Term ends 2.00 p.m.

22<sup>nd</sup> July - Occasional Day

Louise Shuttleworth  
Headteacher