LEIGH NEWS

News No 69 www.leighprimaryschool.com 01732 832660 Friday 19th December 2014

ANGEL EXPRESS

On Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon the children from Squirrel Class performed their Nativity Play 'Angel Express' at St. Mary's Church. The play is about a group of angels who have to quickly practise a new song for the birth of the baby Jesus. The play involved animals, shepherds, kings, Mary and Joseph and, of course, angels! The children's acting, singing and dancing were simply brilliant and they were a real credit to the school and to themselves. Many thanks to St Mary's for allowing us to stage this in the church, to all the parents for the wonderful costumes and to Miss Oyler and Mrs Marsh for directing the play. There are plenty of photographs for you to see on the school website so please do take a look when you can.

PANTOMIME

Last Friday the whole school visited the STAG Theatre to see their production of Cinderella. It was a terrific afternoon and the children thoroughly enjoyed getting involved in the cheering and booing. Many thanks to all of you who accompanied us on this trip and we hope, by now, your ears have recovered!

PTA BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

On Sunday morning the PTA hosted 'Breakfast with Santa' in Jessica's Hall. It was an extremely well attended event and, as you can see, the children had a magical time. All the children were treated to a Christmas story, received a personalised present from Father Christmas and had plenty to eat. To get the real Santa to visit Leigh this close to Christmas was a fantastic achievement and real credit to Rachel Murray and all her hard work! Santa was supported by his army of elves as well as the PTA to help serve breakfast and to set up the hall. So many thanks to all who contributed to this and if you'd like to see more photos then there are plenty on the school website for you to look at.

End of Term Service

The end of term service is this afternoon at 2pm. All are welcome to attend. Please could we ask that the children are collected from St. Mary's Church at 3pm unless they are playing in the football match.

Football Remembers – The Christmas Truce

THIS AFTERNOON we are inviting all pupils, family members and friends to take part in the 'Leigh Football Remembers' game to commemorate this historic event between the soldiers. We would like as many people as possible to be involved and all you'll need are some football boots and shin pads. We'll start straight after the end of term service and will finish at 4.15pm with a rendition of 'Silent Night'.

GAMBIA UPDATE

Attached with this Newsletter is an update from David Bennie about the work he and his team have been doing in The Gambia. We contributed to this work by raising money through our Harvest envelopes so it's always good to hear how it has been spent.

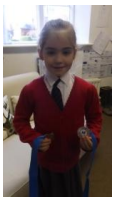
Michael Lake

A huge congratulations to Michael Lake who has passed his Grade 2 Tenor Horn with Merit. Michael has been learning the Tenor Horn with Ed Davis for just over a year and has made some extremely pleasing progress throughout his time with him. He played 3 pieces for the exam: Jumping Jack Rap, Hallelujah and the theme from Blackadder as well as scales, arpeggios, sight reading and an aural test. Congratulations Michael.

Forest School

This term our Forest School sessions have continued to provide countless opportunities for our children to extend their educational experiences to the outside world. We continue to be astounded by the way these sessions contribute to the way the children develop confidence and self-esteem through hands on learning experiences. However, as you can see, these sessions are equally popular with the staff and we've all enjoyed getting involved in them this term! A huge thank you to Rachel and her team of volunteers who give up hours of their time to support the children with Forest School; we're extremely grateful to all of you. Next term the Forest School sessions will continue so please make sure the children have the correct clothing in school. Thank you.

Bella Padden



Congratulations to Bella Padden who has participated in the Beckenham Festival of Modern Dance and been awarded these two spectacular medals. As we know Bella is a very talented dancer and can currently be seen at the Royal Victoria Hall Theatre in Southborough in the pantomime Peter Pan. We wish Bella all the very best with these shows over the Christmas period and look forward to hearing all about it when we return in January.

Music Theory Lessons

Sarah McKenzie-Jones will be offering a music theory class to children learning an instrument at Leigh to compliment their lessons. The class will initially start with the basics of music theory, and will take the children through the basics required for formal music theory exams. These lessons will run on a Monday lunchtime from 12pm to 12.40pm, leaving the children about half an hour to play after. The cost will be no more than £15 a term for 10 weeks of lessons. Parents are also warmly welcome to join the class and refresh their own music theory skills or just learn from scratch with the children, for no extra charge. Please let Sarah know by phone or email if you are interested in joining us. Sarah hopes to start the class in January 2015. Sarah McKenzie-Jones 07956 187 488 hipchickmck@hotmail.com

Choir Singing

This is a photo of the School Choir singing at High Hilden Residential Home last week. The choir performed brilliantly and stayed afterwards to socialise with the residents. We received a lovely letter from Jennifer Burchett, the manager of High Hilden, which read: *A very big thank you all for coming to High Hilden to sing to the clients. I know they thoroughly enjoyed listening to your beautiful singing and meeting you all afterwards, thank you once again.* Attached with this Newsletter is a letter from Wendy Chown about singing lessons at Leigh. If anyone is interested in receiving singing lessons then please do complete the slip and return to the office in January. Thank you.

Election of Parent Governors

Many thanks to all of you who participated in the recent election for the Parent Governor vacancies on our Governing Body. The two candidates who received the most votes and are therefore elected to our Governing Body are:

Leslie Edmonds and Ian Matthews

Congratulations to both of them and so many thanks to all who participated in this.

Netball Match

On Wednesday evening the Netball team travelled to Penshurst School to play their first netball match of the season. It was a fantastic match and the children played brilliantly, especially in the second half. They were narrowly beaten 4-2 but had plenty of opportunities in front of goal! Well done to all the team and to Angela Ray and Gabby Kirby for preparing the team.

May we wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a very happy new year. We look forward to seeing the children again on Monday 5th January 2015.

Events

19.12.14	End of Term Service at St Mary's Church (2pm) Christmas Truce Football Match (3.30pm)
5.1.15	Term 3 begins
7.1.15	Football match v. Four Elms (away)
8.1.15	First swim for Years 3&4
13.1.15	Cycling Proficiency Week (Yr 6)

Further dates will be published on the website under School Calendar