

Welcome back and a Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas.

Christmas Events

We hope that the many of you who attended the Christingle and Carol Services enjoyed the events. It was very pleasing to see so many family members and I am sure that you will join with me in congratulating the children in their excellent performances.



Children's Society

Many thanks to everyone who made a donation to the Children's Society. From the money collected at the Christingle Services and from the school staff 'no Christmas cards' fund, £300 was donated – a fantastic effort!



ICT Family Learning

The school, in conjunction with Dorset Adult Learning, would like to offer our mums, dads and carers the opportunity to improve their computer know-how. The five free sessions take place at the school between 1pm and 3pm starting on 28th January. To enrol, please ring 0800 262648 or to find out more 01305 830663.



'Children in Need'

Back in November, the school took part in a non-uniform day for Children in Need. Just over £300 was raised. Many thanks to everyone who supported the event.



'Oh! I wished I'd looked after me teeth!'

Well, you can have expert advice from a dental hygienist who will be presenting an interesting show after school on Tuesday 12th January. The show starts at 3.15pm in the school hall – **everyone welcome!**



Congratulations to Phoenix House

Congratulations to Phoenix House for winning the House Point Cup for December – stopping Gryphon House gaining their fourth straight win! (Gryphon House came a close second).



Arts Week

You may remember that the school held an arts week last summer with a theme around the painting 'The Umbrellas.' Last month, we had a visit from members of the National Gallery in London who took videos of some of the items produced and filmed interviews with staff and children. They were very impressed by the range and quality of the designs.



Holidays in Term Time

As we enter the family holiday booking period, I would like to remind parents/carers that the school can only authorise up to 10 days leave of absence per academic year.

However, the Governing Body wish to encourage full attendance at school. It is perhaps an interesting fact that if a child is absent from school for just two weeks during every year of their schooling (4 to 19 years of age) this amounts to them missing an equivalent of **two and a half terms** of their education over that period of time.



Hear 4 U

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers of the counselling service available in school. Many children have taken the opportunity to talk with Kim Evans, our counsellor, and this has, in many cases, helped the children (and their families) through challenging and worrying times.

If you would like to know more about this service, please do contact your child's class teacher or Mr Saunders.

SEAL 'Going for Goals'

This half-term's SEAL project is 'Going for Goals' where the children will be encouraged to set themselves challenging targets to improve in their learning and personal development. Perhaps you would like to help your child set themselves a target or two for improvement at home?



A Reminder

This half-term finishes at 3.05pm on **Thursday 11th February** as there is a staff training day on Friday 12th February. The school **re-opens at 8.45am on Monday 22nd February.**

