



## SMART CODE

**S**peak politely and listen carefully

**M**ake school enjoyable for everyone



**A**ct safely



**R**espect and care for each other

**T**ell someone your worries



## Term 2, Newsletter 3 (2023-24)

13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents

We have had a very busy fortnight with Haymead and Ozleworth Classes visiting the Roman Baths at Caerleon and the whole school invited to watch Arthur Christmas at our PTFA film night. Both of these events were a huge success and thank you to everyone who organised them. The visit to The Everyman Theatre, in Cheltenham was wonderful and the children really enjoyed watching 'Mother Goose'.

The children in Apsemore, Barnhill and Boxwell Classes are working hard on their nativity play and are looking forward to performing it.

Next week, we will all enjoy the Christmas Carol Service with local schools in Tetbury, our Christmas lunch on Wednesday and are looking forward to our Party Lunch and Christmas parties on Thursday. We invite all families to join us for Singing Round the Tree at 1.30 pm on Friday afternoon and children are very welcome to come home with you after this.

### ATTENDANCE

Our registers are regularly monitored to check that children attend school regularly and our current attendance has dipped further to 95.3%. Each school day, children's learning builds on the previous day and children who miss a day miss out on important learning. Thank you for ensuring that your child comes to school every day.

### SCHOOL FOCUS

#### SCHOOL DAY

From September 2024, we will be extending our school day by 10 minutes so that school will finish at 3.10 pm each day. This will bring us into line with government expectations that children will be in school for 32.5 hours each week. We will use the extra 10 minutes each day for 'reading for pleasure,' which is a focus for us at Leighterton Primary School.

#### HALL ROPES

The ropes in our school hall have been dismantled and we have a couple of ropes and a trapeze that are available for a donation to school. They are ideal for attaching to a tree in the garden. Please let me know if you are interested in any of these.

#### SCHOOL BUS NEXT FRIDAY

Please would you let us know, as soon as possible, whether your child will need to go home on the school bus on the last day of term so we know whether it will be needed and can cancel it in advance if necessary.

#### PRE-ORDER CHRISTMAS PARTY LUNCH

A party lunch comprising of a filled baguette, crudities, fruit and biscuit will replace the normal school lunch next Thursday. Please could we ask you to pre-order a filling of cheese, ham, egg or tuna by contacting the school office before Monday.

## **ACTIVITIES**

### **CHRISTMAS FAIRS AND FUND RAISING**

Our wonderful PTFA have ran stalls at Didmarton and Leighterton Christmas fairs to support our school during the last couple of weekends. Thank you to all their hard work. The money they raise is spent on supporting the children, for example, paying for the coaches to go to the pantomime. Thank you to Naomi and her mum, as well. They have raised over £100 for the school and we plan to use this money to buy books. Each fortnight, each class receives a mystery book which is wrapped up. The children unwrap it and enjoy listening to it being read and it is added to the class library.

### **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

The Christmas card post box is in our corridor, next to the Christmas tree and children may post cards to their friends to be distributed. Please would you double check that the child's class name is marked on the envelopes.

### **HOUSE KEEPING**

#### **VACANCIES AVAILABLE WITHIN THE ATHELSTAN TRUST**

There are a number of vacancies available within The Athelstan Trust and the adverts for these posts can be found on the vacancies page of our website.

### **ROAD CLOSURE**

The A46 from the Calcot crossroads to the border with South Glos is still closed until 15<sup>th</sup> December. The will not effect drop off but WILL have an impact on collection as the road is closed between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

### **WELLINGTON BOOTS**

Please would you send a named pair of wellies into school for your child. This means that they will be able to wear their wellies on the school field when the grass is damp.

### **FOODBANK VOUCHERS**

Many families are finding the cost-of-living crisis challenging and I would like to remind you that Leighterton Primary School are voucher holders for the foodbank and vouchers are available for any family who need them. If your family would like a voucher, please contact me directly. All requests are confidential.

With best wishes

Meryl Hatfield  
Headteacher

14 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity production 1.30pm
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity production 1.30pm
19 <sup>th</sup> December	SWR Carol Service @ St Mary's Church Tetbury Yr 3 and 4
20 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Christmas lunch
21 <sup>st</sup> December	Class Christmas parties and party lunch
22 <sup>nd</sup> December	End of term – Singing around the Christmas tree 1pm
8 <sup>th</sup> January	Term 3 Begins
10 <sup>th</sup> January	Yr3 and 4 Gymnastics at SWR 9.15am – 10.15am
10 <sup>th</sup> January	Knex challenge final
13 <sup>th</sup> January	Cross Country @ Dursley RFC 10am
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Athelstan Y3 Maths Challenge
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Reception and Yr6 NHS Height, weight and Sight
17 <sup>th</sup> January	Cross Country pacing session Yr 5 and 6 @SWR 3.45pm – 4.45pm

13<sup>th</sup> May – 17<sup>th</sup> May    Yr6 SATS week