



Dear Parents and Carers



End of Term Events

Thanks to everyone who supported our children's Christmas performances at school and at St. Peter's Church. Thanks also to the Revd. Hilary Wong, Vicar at St. Peter's, for welcoming us into her church again. Very well done to the children and staff for the wonderful performances.

Because of your generosity at the end of the performances, we collected £339.78, half of which will be donated to St. Peter's and half to Queen Mary's Hospital for Children.

Thanks also to our fantastic catering team and lunchtime staff for the lovely Christmas dinner on Wednesday. They served an astonishing number of meals and other staff also pitched in to lay tables with cutlery and crackers, help clear and generally join in the fun. I'm sure some of you were at the receiving end of the Christmas Cracker jokes when the children got home.

Ms Garvey

Ms Garvey has been 'on loan' to us this term and returns to All Saints Carshalton C of E Primary School with everyone's best wishes and thanks for what she's done during her secondment.

Pupil Premium Funding

You may have seen the item on yesterday's BBC Breakfast programme. If you are eligible for Free School Meals and apply for them, our school gains an extra £1300 to spend specifically on your child. We are currently losing around £26,000 per year because not everyone who is eligible has applied. Although Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are eligible for Universal Free School Meals anyway, the additional Pupil Premium funding is not paid to us unless you apply. Eligible benefits include:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

You can check your eligibility on www.fsm.lgfl.net, and there will be some help in doing that in the new year. If you would like help applying, or if you know of someone who would appreciate some help, please speak to Mrs. McDermott or to one of the school office staff. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-30514778>

Headteacher's Awards

Kai	Y4 Wombat	Making Great Progress In Spelling
Sheena	Y4 Polar Bear	Excellent 'Polar Express' Homework
Aleisha	Y4 Polar Bear	Excellent 'Polar Express' Homework
Hanean	Y4 Polar Bear	Excellent 'Polar Express' Homework
Saranjan	Y6 Eagle	His Christmas Stocking Feltwork
Shane	Y6 Eagle	His Christmas Stocking Feltwork
Kayden	Y2 Panda	His Santa Acrostic
Bradley	Y2 Panda	His Santa Acrostic
Afuamarie	Y2 Panda	His Santa Acrostic
Kian	Y2 Panda	His Santa Acrostic
Quiana	Y5 Jaguar	Her Christmas Card Message



Reading Scheme

A message from Mr. Dix, who has taken on responsibility for further improving reading in our school;



Some parents, especially of children in Years 3-5, may have noticed recently that children have been sent home with some new reading books from a scheme, where previously they were free readers. The reason for this is that the reading scheme has been updated and improved this term; where previously many children may have finished the scheme in Year 3 or 4 (around the old National Curriculum Level 3), it has now been extended to include more challenging, higher level books. This has been done to ensure that children progress more sequentially towards free reading, rather than leaping from short scheme books to whole chapter books. The extension of the scheme is designed to bridge the gap between the old scheme and free reading, and is in no way a demotion or backward step for the affected children.

Tips for a Digital Family Christmas

The Parent Zone publishes information on digital parenting and other issues. For their Tips for a Digital Family Christmas, go to http://www.theparentzone.co.uk/tips_digital_family_christmas/5253

Emma Sayer

I am very pleased to let you know that Emma Sayer, our Deputy Head - Children's Centre, gave birth to Felix Sayer early on Saturday morning - Mum and son are doing well. Congratulations to the family.

School Car Park

A reminder that the school car park is for staff and official visitors only. I've received a report of an incident yesterday in which a parent and child were nearly knocked down because of someone's reckless driving into the car park.

100% Attendance



We have 96 children who have achieved 100% attendance this term, which is almost double the figure for this time last year. Well done to those children and thank you to the parents who made sure their children were here and on time. Each of the children has received a small prize in recognition.

Our attendance target this year is 95.5%



Finally

I hope you all have a very enjoyable Christmas holiday. School is closed to pupils on Monday, 5th January and they return on Tuesday 6th January.

Dates for your diary

Friday 19th December Break up for Christmas holiday
Monday 5th January INSET Day - School and Children's Centre are closed
Tuesday 6th January Children return to school at normal time



Term Dates 2014-2015

These are the London Borough of Sutton term dates for the 2014-2015 academic year. **Please note that INSET days are now included in these dates (with the exception of one which is still to be decided).**

Friday 19th December 2014	- Break up for Christmas	Monday 13th April 2015	- INSET Day
Monday 5th January 2015	- INSET Day	Tuesday 14th April 2015	- Children return to school
Tuesday 6th January 2015	- Children return to school	w/c 25th May 2015	- Half term (1 week)
w/c 16th February 2015	- Half term (1 week)	Friday 17th July 2015	- Break up for Summer
Friday 27th March 2015	- Break up for Easter	Monday 20th July 2015	- INSET Day