

COMBE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL



Head Teacher Mrs W Foster



Newsletter 7

27th November 2008

Dear Parents

Advent Service Assembly: We are fast approaching that magical time of year, Christmas, and with this in mind, we will be having our Advent Service Assembly on Monday 1st December in the afternoon at 2.15pm. The children will listen to Advent stories and readings as well as sing carols and songs. The choir will also perform one of their favourite Christmas songs. Once again, the school will decorate Christmas trees supplied by Blenheim Estate, and as the weeks go by we will add more items to them. Our Christmas craft groups are busy making a beautiful tree which symbolises many special things about Christmas. You are very welcome to come and join us in school for our Advent assembly on Monday afternoon.

New members of Staff: I am delighted that Mrs Lucy Wilkinson starts with us on Monday 1st December. She will be teaching in the Year 5 and 6 class as well as helping out in other key areas. We wish her a very warm welcome and hope that she settles into the school and its vibrant community with ease.

We have been very lucky for the last few weeks to have Mrs Alex Jeffery working in school; she volunteered her services to us before returning to teacher training in September. Mrs Jeffery has worked in most classes and has been a real asset; we will enjoy having her in school until the end of term.

Children in Need: Well done to those of you who contributed to the Children in Need fund raising; we managed to raise £157.20 for this charity. Thank you to Mrs Evans for organising the cake making, decorating and selling, and to the children who looked so fabulously..... spotty!

Some dates for your diaries:

Church Walk, Combe, Oxon OX29 8NQ Tel: 01993 891644

Email: office.3142@combe.oxon.sch.uk Website: www.combe.oxon.sch.uk

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Friday 28th November: Years 5 and 6 will be taking part in a music workshop run by the Welsh National Opera. The children will have the opportunity to learn songs and music from 'The Magician's Cat' and later in the term perform extracts from this opera at The Sheldonian Theatre Oxford. This is a fantastic opportunity not only to develop our musical and singing skills but to see how an opera is put together and performed.

Sunday 7th December : FOCS Christmas Bazaar: Please donate any items listed on the flier sent home, and most important please attend on Sunday 7th as I believe this to be a very special time for the children and also the chance for us to raise money for vital equipment for the children to use later in the year.

Methodist Church Carol Service: This is on Wednesday 10th December at 7pm in the Methodist Church in Combe. I would like to invite the Year 5 and 6 pupils to take part by singing and jointly reading one of the lessons. If you would like to take part, please come and see me for a permission slip, there are promises of drinks and mince pies at the end of the service!

Christmas Lunch: Food with Thought, our school lunch providers, will be serving a traditional Christmas lunch (and vegetarian alternative) on Thursday 11th December. We will make this a special occasion with crackers and music, so if you would like your child to have Christmas dinner on this day, please fill in the form issued to your child today.

Christmas Disco: This will be held in the evening of 11th December, tickets are available at £3 each, this includes a drink and snack available at the event. Thank you to Simon Oliver for providing us with such a fun evening; I know how excited children can get at the thought of watching their teachers dance!

Christmas Concerts: We will be having our end of term Christmas concerts on Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th December. The matinee will be on Tuesday at 1.30pm and the evening performance on the Wednesday at 6.30pm. As with all school events, the entire family is most welcome, however if you feel that very young children may be noisy and distracting then I am so grateful to Sharon Williams who has offered her childminding services in school for the matinee on Tuesday. Please see Pippa or Sharon directly if you would like to make use of these childcare arrangements.

Carols on The Green: Once again The Cock Inn has arranged a Village Carol Concert on Thursday 18th December at 7pm on The Green. The school choir has been asked to perform during the interval, please let me know if you are able to attend. The Cock Inn will be providing refreshments and a 'Special Guest' will perform the Tree Lighting ceremony.

New After School Club in January: I have been asked to inform you about a new after school club offered to Combe Primary School, which will be run by Tom Franklin from Oxford Active . Many of you know Tom from Combe Football Club and have said how

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pleased you are with this organisation. Tom would very much like to offer another club, just for our pupils, which will be a mixed sports club open to boys and girls from Y3-Y6. As with his football club, he will charge a fee for a block of lessons, running for the term. Pupils will be collected from school and taken to the playing fields and returned to school for 4.30pm.

If you are interested please could you indicate on the reply slip. I must reinforce that this is **not** instead of any Combe Primary School activity; it is an additional club which he wishes to offer. The school will still be running sports and games clubs as part of our extended curriculum.

Year 3/4 Girls Football Tournament: Last week a team of Year 3/4 girls took part in a 6 a side Football Tournament; Olivia Henderson, Amelia Hitchens, Jessie Penton, Claudia Fifield, Holly Adams, Hannah Calvert, Milly Thompson, Ella Gosling and Isobel Kennedy who all played well and enjoyed the afternoon. Our thanks go to Mrs Penton and Mrs Gosling for assisting with transport.

Mud ,Mud Mud: It is very muddy outside the school at play and lunch times and we are trying to keep the school as clean as possible. Please can every child bring a change of footwear everyday to school, to change into for play and sports activities, thus keeping our clean shoes for inside the buildings. I thank you for your cooperation with this.

Swimming: Witney Leisure Centre is now closed for swimming until the New Year. There are no more swimming sessions this term. We will start again in January when the pool has been refurbished. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks and gratitude to Mrs Sally Thompson, Mrs Nickie Hitchens and Mrs Rachel Gooder for accompanying us swimming each week.

U11 Hockey Tournament: Our team that took part in the U11 Hockey Tournament yesterday after school; Anna Lingard-Bright, Thomas Dingwall, Freddie Ashcroft, Cameron Newton-Grain, Joe Bennell, Alexander Woodd, Fynn Bennell, Jasper Gooder, Sebastian Evans and Daniel Wilds played excellently and won the Tournament. Well done! Thank you to Mrs Woodd and Mrs Dingwall for assisting with transport and thank you to all the parents that came to the Tournament and gave their support and encouragement to the team.

Websites for parents: A number of parents have asked for additional information and guidance on a number of school/ learning issues and I have directed you towards various websites and organisations. It makes sense to share this information with everyone, as you too may find some of the information helpful.

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www.parentsintouch.co.uk

www.mychild.co.uk

www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

www.direct.gov.uk

www.nea.org/parents

www.primaryresources.co.uk

www.iamdyslexic.com

If you require help with any other learning related area, then please do come and ask. Most of these websites have excellent links to others.

I hope you will find the remaining weeks of term as calm and as stress free as possible. Being part of a Primary school during the build up to Christmas is a very special place to be; I love the excitement and magic that goes with this time of year, and hopefully we will all arrive at the end of this term, knowing we thoroughly deserve rest and relaxation!

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Foster

JANUARY SPORTS CLUB

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Yes, I am interested in the Sports Club organised and run by Oxford Active.

Name of Child: _____

Signature: _____

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