

Dates for the Diary

January:

Thursday, 11th 5RE to Stanley Head Outdoor Centre
Friday, 12th 5HA to Stanley Head Outdoor Centre
Tuesday, 16th Year 1 Dinosaur Day
Tuesday, 23rd Training session for grandparents hearing readers
Monday, 29th FILM NIGHT: Paddington 2
Tuesday, 30th Reception to Stanley Head Outdoor Centre RDL

February:

Thursday, 1st Reception Year Group assembly for parents at 9.15am
Tuesday, 6th Reception Height Screening
Wednesday, 7th Year 6 to a 'Safe and Sound' event
w/c Monday, 12th Valentines Discos week
Tuesday, 13th Reception to Stanley Head Outdoor Centre RRD
Tuesday, 13th Year 6 to Manchester Museum
Friday, 16th School closes for the Half term break—non-uniform
Monday, 26th School opens after the Half term break

March:

Friday, 9th Nursery / Reception Mothers' Day service at the church at 9.45am
Friday, 9th Years 1 and 2 Mothers' Day service at the church at 2pm
Wednesday, 14th Year 1 Year Group assembly for parents at 9.15am
Monday, 19th Parent Consultations start
Wednesday, 21st Parents' Evening
Thursday, 29th School closes - non-uniform day
FS & KS1 Easter Bonnet competition
KS2 Decorate an egg 'feature' competition




**School closes for Easter on
Thursday, March 29th and re
opens on Monday, April 17th.**

GLADSTONE PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2018



Dear Parents / Carers,

At the start of the Spring Term may I wish you all a healthy and happy New Year 2018. It is difficult to believe that we are now at the start of yet another new year

Finally, thank you to all of you who supported the many fundraising events during the Autumn Term. The final total for the Christmas Fayre was an incredible £1,943 with a special mention going to Year 4 who were our 'Top Apprentices' winners having made £103 profit on their stall. Thank you also for donations totaling £108 that we received for the Alzheimer's Society for our non uniform day at the end of the Christmas term.

As this is a new year we have decided to try something new with our monthly newsletter. To save much needed funds and to be more environmentally friendly we have decided that, after this month, we will not be sending out a colour paper copy of the newsletter to all children, but will be putting a link to an electronic version on the website instead. We will text you as soon as a new newsletter is available. We do realise that some of you many not have access to the internet, so we will be printing out a few copies which can be collected from the small display stand by the front Office.

Elaine Preston

DANGER!

Safety around our School Grounds

PLEASE remember that children **should NOT** be allowed on the climbing frames at the beginning and end of the school day without a member of staff present. Similarly, please remind children not to climb the grassy banks and to use the bins available for any litter.



WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

As most of you know, at the end of term we had to say 'Goodbye' to Mr Rammell as he moved on to work as P.E. Subject Leader at Springfield First School in Yarnfield. As a result we appointed Miss Sarah Jamieson to work as a class teacher as part of our Year 4 team. We also welcome two new apprentices, Mr Tom Gerrard and Miss Shannon Harper working as our Sports Apprentice / Nursery Apprentice respectively. Mrs Kirsty Heath has also joined our Foundation Stage, working alongside Ms Laws in RDL. Mrs Heath replaces Ms Sarah Davies who has moved in to our Nursery to cover for Mrs Carla Rammell during her maternity leave.

BRILLIANT ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to the 110 pupils who will be receiving a special prize for 100% attendance during the Autumn Term. A special 'Well done!' also goes to 6KH who have won the termly class prize for attendance, winning the 'Best Class Prize' 5 times last term. They will be rewarded with a free trip of their own choice.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

As you know the children raised an incredible amount of money to enable us to purchase our school defibrillator - so much so that we now have £589 left over! The School Council has met and decided that the additional money should go towards a cancer charity (to be decided by them) and the British Heart Foundation.

I am sure that you will agree with the children that these are two very worthy causes.



BATTLING THE WINTER WEATHER

Thank you to those of you who managed to 'battle through' the Wintery conditions to make sure that the children came in to school during the snowy weather before Christmas. As you can imagine closing the

school is always a difficult decision — particularly when the weather is so unpredictable - and as Headteacher I make no apology for keeping the school open when safe to do so. As many of you know, we have only closed about 5 times in the last 20 years, so a school closure is rare. I would ask that if we experience any more snowy weather and the school remains open that you continue to make every possible effort to bring the children in to school. Obviously, the final decision about safety has to rest with you and I fully understand that sometimes parents / carers may not feel that walking in is safe.

My thanks, as ever, go to all of the staff from all areas of the school - teachers, technicians, teaching assistants and office staff - who helped our Site Supervisor Mr O'Donnell by coming in to school as early as 7 a.m. to clear ice and snow and grit the main paths. It is as a result of their dedication — many of them travelling over 10 miles, by car, bus, taxi, train or just walking — that we were able to keep the school open.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Thank you to everyone who came along to one of our Christmas events to support the children. I think you will all agree that the FS / KS1 production was a great success and the standard reached by our youngest pupils was a credit to them and the staff. Similarly, thank you to those of you who came along to support our Christingle Services. Judging by the number of parents who came along to the Key Stage service we will now be considering having separate Y3/4 and Y5/6 services next year. Finally, thank you to those of you who came to hear the children singing on the balcony at the end of term—sadly, we could not arrange any snow this year to add to the atmosphere. Next year perhaps!

