

**Headteacher's Newsletter 3** 

December 2023

The next couple of weeks are going to be extremely busy, with lots of fun things going on. Please make a note of these in your diary.

# Christmas Hampers

For the past few years we have made and delivered Christmas Hampers for many families in our community as a result of donations received from parents and staff. Last year I was able to deliver 25 hampers and the joy and gratitude of the families was overwhelming. If you feel that you could help us to do this again this year, we would be extremely grateful. We would be asking for donations of the 'nice' additional things to help to make Christmas special, for example, boxes of chocolates or sweets, mince pies, Christmas puddings, Christmas cakes, selection boxes, Christmas crackers. We will put the trolley out at the main gate in the morning but would of course accept donations at any time. Thank you so much in advance – your kindness really will make a difference.

### **Christmas Cards**

The postboxes are out! If your child would like to write Christmas cards for their friends, please could you make sure that the class is written on the envelope to make sure it gets to the correct child. If you need a list of names from your child's class, please ask in the office.

## Christmas Shop - Wednesday 6th & Thursday 7th

The Friends of Loughton Manor have been extremely busy shopping, wrapping and writing labels for the Christmas Shop next week. If your child is taking part, please could you send in a carrier bag with their name and class on and give it to their class teacher between now and Wednesday. Your child will bring their gifts home on Wednesday or Thursday next week.

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December we will be supporting Save the Children's annual Christmas Jumper Day. Children may come in wearing non-uniform and a Christmas jumper. The suggested voluntary donation is £2. If your child does not have a Christmas jumper, any red or green clothing would be great!

## **Attendance**

Good attendance is 96% or above and this is our target. Our attendance is currently 96.5%

Zebras' Class had the highest attendance last week – well done!



#### **Upcoming Events**

6.12.23 & 7.12.23 - Christmas Shop

7.12.23 - Christmas Jumper Day

12.12.23 - 9.30am - FS2 Nativity (Zebras)

14.12.23 - 9.30am - FS2 Nativity (Tigers)

14.12.23 – 2.15pm - Monkeys' Christmas Singsong

19.12.23 - Colonel Custard Entertainer

19.12.23 -Year One Christmas parties

19.12.23 – Family Christmas Carol Concert at Christ the Cornerstone Church

20.12.23 - Year Two Christmas parties

21.12.23 – FS Christmas Parties

22.12.23 - INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

8.1.24 - First Day of Spring Term

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### **FS2 Nativities**

The FS2 children are busily preparing for their Nativity which will take place on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>. We would ask that if you are a parent of a Zebra that you try to come to watch on the Tuesday, and on the Thursday if you are a parent of a Tiger. If you are unable to watch at the allocated time, please do attend on the other day. If you are attending, please ensure that you arrive in good time as the performances will begin at 9.30am. We would ask that if you have a younger child with you, that you leave the performance if they become upset as this can be distracting for the children and affect the enjoyment of other parents.

## **Monkeys' Christmas Singsong**

This will take place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> at 2.15pm in the main school hall. If your child is a 'morning only' child, please do bring them to join in with the singing if you are able to.

### Last week of term fun!

As there are so many exciting things happening in the last week of term, children are able to wear their own clothes to school. Parties will be funded by the Friends of Loughton Manor – on these days children may choose to wear their party clothes if they wish!

# Colonel Custard - 19th December

Colonel Custard the entertainer who is well-loved at Loughton Manor will be performing for all of the children on this day. We would ask that you make a voluntary contribution of £1.50 via Parentmail, to enable this to take place.

### **Family Carol Concert**

Our Family Carol Concert will be taking place at Christ the Cornerstone Church on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Children will need to arrive in their school uniform at 6.15pm – please do not arrive earlier than this as staff will still be setting up and will not be available to supervise your child. The concert will start at 6.45pm. Monkeys' children are welcome to attend but we would ask that they sit with parents throughout the concert. The concert should last for approximately one hour. **Some** children in Year Two will be asked to wear different clothes. If your child comes home with a costume to wear, we would ask that they arrive at the church, already wearing their costume.

#### **Jeanette Holland**

I'm extremely sad to share the news with you that Jeanette Holland will be retiring at Christmas after 23 years of working at Loughton Manor. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all of her hard work over the years and for having such a positive impact on all of the children she's worked with. I know you will join me in wishing her a very happy and well-deserved retirement.

In January we will be welcoming Rachel Perez to our school who will be working in Monkeys' Class on Thursdays and Fridays.

The last day of school is Thursday 21st December and we return on Monday 8th January.

#### Safeguarding Team at Loughton Manor







