

30th November 2018

Dear Parent/Guardians

Thank you to all those children (and parents) who braved the chilly conditions last Saturday for the Southwold Switch On; the children did the school proud with their carol singing and I received many compliments on their behalf. It was shame that numbers were low but, all in all, those in attendance created a wonderful Christmas spirit.

This morning in Chapel Mrs Meldrum mentioned the word “Scurryfunge” to us all. Scurryfunge is an old English word which means to rush around cleaning when company is on their way over. Something I’m sure we are all guilty of doing! Mrs Meldrum explained to us that we should try not to act like this during advent; racing around and leaving everything to the last minute. Her message was for us to think about how we act during the time of advent and what Christmas means instead of rushing around worrying and stressing about presents and dinner plans. A thought for us to slow down and enjoy the Christmas time we have together.

Also in Chapel today I handed out some more certificates; my congratulations to the following for achieving their Bronze Certificates; Toby West, Jude Groom, Beatrice Cross and Isabelle Cole (all Year 4), and Frederick Whyte-Wood (Year 6). Bruno Ashford (Year 3) was presented with his Silver Certificate. Well done to all!

Music

A couple of weeks ago two members of Clough, Edgar in Year 3 and Saffron in Year 5, took part in a production called *The Happy Prince* with the Jubilee Opera. They both demonstrated wonderful commitment to the weekly rehearsals. Saffron, who played the character of the ‘Match girl’ mentioned that it was an exciting role and she enjoyed being part of such a professional production.

Today the ABRSM music examinations took place and various pupils across both the Prep and Senior Departments performed for an external examiner to complete their grades. It was a very busy day for all of the music staff who worked extremely hard to keep to a demanding schedule, whilst trying to maintain a calm and anxious-free environment for the instrumentalists. We wish all of them the best of luck with their grading results.

Sport

Last Friday we hosted a very successful Cross-Country event with over 450 children representing 15 different schools in their respective races. All of the children who took part ran incredibly well for Saint Felix! It was a very competitive event with over 45 participants per race. Special mentions go to; William Foskett, Hamish Barnes and Sophie Everett who came 4th in their races, William Last who finished 2nd in U9 Boys’ and Isabelle Last won gold in the U11 Girls’ race. My thanks to the estates team, PE staff, sixth form pupils and the PTA who worked incredibly hard to make this afternoon successful.

Last Friday Ben Every travelled up to Leeds to represent Saint Felix for the British Biathlon Championships on Saturday 24th November. He went into the competition ranked 4th and did exceptionally well finishing in 8th place nationally. This is quite an amazing achievement for Ben so a huge well done to him!

On Wednesday the U10 and U11 Rugby fixtures versus Woodbridge, The Abbey were cancelled due unsafe pitches and poor weather. A huge shame to end the season with a cancellation! So instead the boys enjoyed an afternoon of football with Mr Barbrook. The Year 5 and Year 6 Girls’ collaborated with Year 7 and Year 8 for netball which was an exciting experience for them!

Tomorrow, on Saturday 1st December, Isabelle Last, Sophie Everett and Hamish Barnes (all Year 6) will compete in the Cross Country 'A Races' which take place at Ipswich High School. The Saint Felix competitors managed to race extremely well in the first round where they all placed within the top 50. It was particularly exciting as they ran up an age group in the U12 category! We wish them the best of luck tomorrow!

Topic of the Week

This week our focus has been on behaviour at school. As you can imagine with the end of term drawing closer the children have been a little more tired and less tolerant of one another. In my assembly on Monday we discussed various behavioural topics; being respectful towards staff and each other, how we should behave around the school, looking after ourselves and others, positive behaviour in the playground and that if we hurt someone we must make sure we take responsibility to look after them and apologise for our actions. I am pleased to say that as the week has gone on there have been some wonderful moments of thoughtfulness and more positive behaviour is rebuilding around school - I hope that this continues to grow until the end of term!

Fundraising

Mr Currie and the Sixth Form are arranging a collection of the following items to donate to the Access Charity; any clothes (adult, child, baby), scarves, gloves, blankets, socks, shoes and sleeping bags. Please bring these items to Clough House and I will pass them on your behalf.

The totals are in for the recent Children in Need fundraising. The overall amount was £293.05! We have decided to split part of this money which was raised by the Year 3 cake sale; who also wanted to help support the RSPCA. Therefore, we have two totals, one of £207.67 raised for Children in Need and the other of £85.38 for the RSPCA. Thank you for all of the kind donations and support.

Christmas Fayre

Tomorrow the Christmas Fayre will take place in the Saint Felix sports hall from 11am-3pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and join in with the Christmas fun and festivities. On behalf of the PTA I would like to say a huge thank for all of the efforts which have gone into making such wonderful Jolly Jars and for all of your Christmas raffle donations. We are very grateful for your continued generosity and we look forward to seeing you tomorrow!

Next week:

Monday 3rd December

2pm – U9 Inter-House Football

Tuesday 4th December

4pm – Prep Music Concert in Chapel. All children are involved in the concert, please can the children come to school smartly dressed with shoes polished. Parents are welcome to come along to watch.

5pm – PTA meeting in Clough Art room.

Wednesday 5th December

2.30pm – Bronte Dress Rehearsal, Clough House to watch in the Silcox theatre.

2.30pm – U12 Girls Football vs Flegg High School (away) selected girls from Year 5 and 6 to play up.

Thursday 6th December

1.15pm – Year 6 Carol Singing at Broadlands Care Home, Oulton Broad.

6.30pm – LAMDA showcase in the Silcox theatre.

Friday 7th December

9.30am – Clough and Bronte watch the performance of “*Arabian Adventure*” by West Midland’s Children’s Theatre.

Last Week of Term:

Monday 10th December

XMAS Jumpers Day – All children to wear a Christmas jumper for the day!

10.30am – ‘Santa Run!’ Parents are welcome to come for a jolly run with carols and cardio! The event is on site and will finish just after 11am.

Tuesday 11th December

11.50am - Pre-Prep and Prep Department Christmas Lunch – please bring a fun CHRISTMAS HAT to wear.

Wednesday 12th December

No school bags please!

11.00am, Carol Service, St Edmund’s Church, Southwold; All parents welcome.

12noon – Please arrange to pick up your child from the Church.

END OF TERM

Very advanced notice:

Our Prep Department production will be in the last week of the Spring Term 2018; PLEASE do not book any holidays that leave early! Further details will be available when we have finalised our plans.

Yours sincerely

Miss Jade Wong
Head of Preparatory Department