



## NEWSLETTER - December 2018

**Business Manager** (sessions) -

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### Update

November has been a very busy month with our areas of learning focusing on 'People who help us' as a common theme to notable occasions such as Bonfire night, Diwali, World Science Day, Armistice Day, Children-in-Need, Road Safety Week, Thanksgiving Day, and St. Andrew's Day. (Learning plans are visible on the Parent information and Learning boards). We have also been preparing for our Christmas performance and gearing up for the start of Advent.

Stef K. has overseen Wellcomm Assessments this term to help track Communication and Language development.

### Tapestry

Tapestry, the Early Years Online Learning Journal which allows us to track a child's progress using the EYFS framework and Characteristics of Effective Learning, has been accessed by the majority of our parents. There are still a few accounts that have not been fully activated, so please contact me should you want to reactivate them (the initial activation email is only valid for a month and a few accounts have lapsed since their initiation). Or, if you haven't done so already, please return your consent forms as soon as possible to activate your accounts. Thank you.

### Christmas Performance

Our Christmas Performance, 'Old Uncle Sam,' is scheduled for Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 10.45am. A separate letter regarding tickets (@ £1 each) and attendance has already been sent out, along with Christmas raffle tickets (@ £1 each). For those able to attend the Christmas performance, we request that parents arrive by 10.30am for us to register and escort you all into the school hall in line with the school's safeguarding policy.

We kindly request that you return any raffle ticket counterfoils to us by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December so that the draw can take place on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December. If you choose not to participate, we would be grateful if you could return any unused raffle tickets so that they may be passed on in good time.

### Christmas Party, Calendars and Fundraising

Our Christmas party is scheduled for Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December (1:15-2.45pm), which also coincides with Christmas jumper day, so we would like your children to come dressed in festive clothing that day. Tickets are being sold at £1 per child, so if you haven't booked your child in already, please get in touch as soon as possible. The children can visit Father Christmas in his grotto (the sensory shed) at 2.30pm, at the end of the Christmas party.

For those who have already pre-ordered handmade calendars, these will be available to collect after the Christmas Party.

The proceeds from the Christmas Performance ticket sales will go towards the children's Christmas gifts from Father Christmas. All proceeds from the party tickets will go towards the children's Christmas party food. The proceeds from the children's handmade calendars and Christmas raffle tickets will go towards our current fundraising for **Sensory Resources**.

### Fee increase

Due to increasing costs and no increases in funding, we will be increasing our fees by 10p an hour for children over 2 years of age, and by 15p an hour for under 2s from January 2019.



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### Extra-curricular Activities

**Fundamentals** Kate U. and Kate V. have continued their physical development programme with the children on Tuesdays.

**Forest School** Please contact me as soon as possible if you would be interested in your child attending Forest school on Fridays for an additional charge. We may be able to implement this in January if we have sufficient interest.

**Languages** We have continued to identify different countries on the World Map (both on the Wall Map and our World Map Rug) and talking about their respective spoken languages. We have been learning to count in French, Spanish, German, Japanese and Chinese. We've also learnt to sing Frere Jacques.

### Health and Safety

Thank you for your continued support in aiming to drop-off and collect your children promptly and swiftly. It really does help in settling the children in the morning and keeping them safe; It allows us to maintain our legal obligation to comply with Ofsted's statutory adult staff to child ratios. In addition, for fire safety reasons, by minimising handover times, we are able to keep the front door as clear as possible as it is a marked fire exit.

#### Diary dates

1/12/18 Start of Advent	3/1/19 Preschool re-opens
2/12/18 Start of Hannukah	4/1/19 World Braille Day
Advent Sunday	5/1/19 National Bird Day
6/12/18 St. Nicholas' Day	6/1/19 Epiphany
12/12/18 Christmas Performance	8/1/19 Bubble Bath Day
14/12/18 Christmas Party (children to come dressed in festive wear)	13/1/19 National Sticker Day
15/12/18 Christmas Jumper Day	14/1/19 National Obesity Awareness Week
18/12/18 End of term	15/1/19 National Hat Day
25/12/18 Christmas Day	20/1/19 World Religion Day
1/1/19 New Year's Day	21/1/19 Tu B'Shevat (Arbor Day) Jewish Hol.
	23/1/19 National Handwriting Day
	25/1/19 Burns' Night
	26/1/19 National Storytelling Week
	28/1/19 Australia Day

**Thank you** to the Croft Carnival Committee for their kind donation presented at this year's AGM. This will contribute to our current fundraising efforts for **Sensory Resources**. **Thank you for all your continued support, Penny and the staff team.**