



Dear Parents and Carers,

Only 6 more sleeps until Christmas – and I am sure there are a lot of little people who can't wait!

And so, in the words of John Lennon – this is Christmas. And what have we done? An enormous amount! An incredibly busy term packed with excitement balanced with hard work. Now, after two terms totalling 73 days it is time for everyone to enjoy a well-earned rest. We recognise that Christmas is a busy time with trips to see relatives and a very important break for family time, so with that in mind, homework is very limited.

Christmas Productions

We have been delighted, enchanted and overawed by the confidence, the singing and the magnificent talent of your children! In the last two weeks we have been treated to 'The Little Fir Tree' performed by Reception, 'Baubles' performed by Years 1 and 2 and 'The Apprentice' performed by Years 3 and 4 – without any reference to Sir Alan Sugar! On Wednesday morning Round Ash Pre-School performed 'Whoops a Daisy Angel' which they performed with great aplomb! Beautiful costumes! Year 5 worked so hard in preparation of leading the school in a formal Carol Service yesterday, which was uplifting for all and reminded us about the traditional and true meaning of Christmas.

Goodbye

I know that you will be as sorry as we are to hear that Mrs Michelle Constant one of our Higher Level Teaching Assistants will be leaving us at the end of this term. She is planning to spend more time with her family and whilst we wish her well, we will also miss her greatly. Her unfailing caring and gentle approach in everything she does has made a difference to so many children. Her artwork and scenery design has been legendary – but she has promised to come back and visit us and we will look forward to seeing her.

Mrs Burrell is also qualified as a HLTA and will take over some of Mrs Constant's current duties. Year 3 will be supported in class by Mrs Knight, who is new to our school, for the latter part of each week.

Just another reminder as winter approaches.....

Parents can go online to check if the school is closed, obtain information about road gritting and other KCC closures (www.kent.gov.uk/winter). You can also tune in or visit the sites of KMFM, BBC Radio Kent and Heart FM for updates and closures. We will continue to use Home Connect as we did last year and many parents felt this worked well. If you have not yet signed up for Home Connect and you would like to, please let the School Office have your email address. KCC suggests parents might like to sign up for text message alerts on www.kentclosures.co.uk. Please be aware there is a charge of 20p plus the standard network charge. KCC also recommends

parents should visit the BBC or direct.gov.uk websites for home learning resources to support children's learning while the school is closed!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Start of Term

A reminder that our Spring Term starts on **Monday 5th January 2015**.

Movie Night

Following a very successful end of term disco, the next PTA event, the **Movie Night**, will be on Friday 9th January 2015. Please can all ticket requests be received **before Friday 19th December** – this will assist the PTA in ordering sufficient refreshments for the evening. One of the films is a PG. If you are not sure whether or not this is suitable for your child, please opt for the film designated as 'U'. There are trailers which you can watch online which may help you in making up your mind.

Maths Information Evening

This will take place on Wednesday 28th January at 6.30pm. More information will follow early in the new term.

Parents Consultation Evenings

Dates for your diary: Tuesday 24th February 2015 (5.00 – 8.00pm) and Thursday 26th February 2015 (3.40pm – 6.30pm).

We wish you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2015
from everyone at Hartley Primary Academy.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Hollingworth
Principal