

Isham C of E Academy

December Newsletter 2014



Welcome

Welcome to our December newsletter. What a busy month December has been! There have been so many things going on in individual classes so please ensure that you check your class monthly newsletters on our website for a real flavour of what your child has been up to. Our Class Acts of Worship and open classrooms have been very well attended over this half term and we received lots of brilliant feedback; parents valued being invited into school to share and celebrate the brilliant learning that is taking place and the children have loved their families along to share in their learning. Thank you for all of the positive feedback we have received particularly around the use of filming the children in their classrooms and creating short film clips to aid with Worship.

ATTENDANCE



Each week, you will receive an update about attendance in the class newsletter and those of you who have attended our Worship on a Friday will know it is the most eagerly anticipated award of the week finding out which class has won. We are working so hard to achieve our new target of 98% and some classes are exceeding this every week!

Coffee mornings

The Family Support team held their third monthly coffee morning where the focus was a drop in session with our school nurse. It was wonderful to welcome so many of you and to share a mince pie!



A note from the Rev John (the Rector at St. Matthias)

Hello!

I've really valued our partnership with the Academy in my first year here, so thank you very much for your support. I know how much the Anode Food bank appreciated your donations of food at Harvest. The children also helped to make Remembrance Day very special and I look forward to my first Isham Academy 'Christmas specials'.

Can I flag up a few other events that might interest you?

The church also has a Christingle service at 5pm on Christmas Eve, as well as the other Christmas services.

We're also starting a brand new monthly 'family friendly' informal service on Sunday 4th January 'Breakfastzone' - come along for a bacon butty or toast at 9.15am, for a service running from 9.30 – 10.10am in the Hall.

And if you'd like to explore more about the Christian faith yourself, we're holding another 'Alpha' Course on Tuesday evenings from 20th January.

Take a look at the website www.st-matthias-church.org or contact me for details 01803 293119 May I wish you a very Happy Christmas, and great New Year!

God bless,
John



Isham C of E Academy has been appointed as *Read Write Inc.* Model School as a result of their excellent literacy teaching in 2014.

The *60 Read Write Inc.* UK Model Schools vary hugely in their demographic and size. All have transformed their teaching by implementing the whole school approach advocated in *Read Write Inc.* Phonics, a reading and writing programme created by Ruth Miskin and published by Oxford University Press.

All Model Schools are keen for teachers from local schools to observe their lessons to see first hand the impact *Read Write Inc.* has had on results, behaviour and pupil engagement.

For your Calendar	5 th January 2015 Start of Spring Term	12 th January Fire Service Visit Yr 2 & 3	22 nd January Yr 4 Bikeability	28 th January Oaks Residential Meeting	11 th February School Disco	16 th – 20 th February Half Term
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Worship Friendship – our Christian value



Nativity and Christingle

Thank you to all of you who attended our annual Nativity and Christingle services.

SUPA Club at Ilsham Academy

Miss Jones, Youth Worker at St Matthias Church Hall, will be coming in on Friday lunchtime to run a SUPA (Script Union Primary Age) club for Year 6. The SUPA club will use a Scripture Union series called "So Why God?" to look at who God is and some of the questions children have about God, with a game and activities and a Bible story.

Reading

As you are all already aware Reading is an important part of a child's learning process. Reading is a way for children to make connections between what they already know and what they read about in books. These connections help children understand the world around them. In addition, through books, children are exposed to characters and cultures that they may not otherwise interact with in real life. One of the keys to helping struggling readers is to provide them with books that they can and want to read. Fiction for struggling readers must have realistic characters, readable and convincing text, and a sense of the readers' interests and needs. Non-fiction books, newspapers, magazines, even comic books can hook students on reading.

With this in mind we have set a challenge for the Christmas holidays around Reading. Please check your child's book bag for further details on what this exciting challenge is all about. It would be brilliant if every child in the school could take part.



Child of the Month:



Miss Coombe presenting the trophies to Lucas Weedon Hare from The Rowans, Phoebe Sidebottom from The Maples and Annie Udomdej from The Oaks

Merry Christmas

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support over the past year and to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and we will see you in the New Year!



Save the Date



Act of Worship

Parents are invited to their children's Act of Worship followed by open classrooms on the following days.

Friday 23rd January Maples
Friday 30th January Monkey
Puzzles