

Headmistress' Newsletter

Week Commencing Monday 8th January 2024

Dear Parents.

Happy New Year. Welcome back to another exciting term at Winterfold! I hope you have had a wonderful Christmas break. It has been lovely to see the children return with such excitement and enthusiasm.

As you will no doubt have noticed, the Penryn Hall project is progressing nicely, with the new entrance and reception area being fully utilised and looking very smart. It is now clear to see the outline of the new hall itself, and we are looking forward to watching this progress as the weeks go by. The work is on track to be completed by September this year.

☆ Stars of the Week ☆

1G - Alfie C; 1W - Penelope F; 2C - Zahra A; 2J - Thomas W; 3B - Magnus S; 3W - Sam P; 4B - Oliver L 4W - Grace M; 5F - Alfie T; 5L - Alexandro N-G; 6L - Florence B-A; 6S - Charlie L; 7D - Tilda M

7M - Sophia I; 8B - Arun N; 8S - Phoebe P

Congratulations to this week's winning Pack - Eagles.

Winterfold has been featured in the Royal Horticultural Society's newsletter to schools. You can read the article <u>HERE</u>.

Over the Christmas holidays, Year 4 were tasked with baking their own version of the Galette des Rois. Every 6th January, it is a French tradition (since the 14th century) to eat a Galette des Rois (either bought or homemade) to celebrate the Epiphany which, on the 12th day of Christmas, commemorates the arrival of the Three Kings to the manger where Jesus was born. A lucky charm ('la fève') is hidden inside the cake and whoever finds the charm becomes King or Queen for the day. Very well done to the children who baked some very yummy Galettes des Rois and celebrated this fun French tradition with their families.











A reminder that it is our **Open Morning** on Saturday 3rd February from 10.00am to 12 noon (Years 4-8 only in School). Please do share this event with family and friends.

In Sports this week, the U13 A&B girls enjoyed two convincing wins at The Elms, whilst the U13 C&D netball matches against Lucton School were both closely fought games. The U11B girls hosted the Elms and with excellent skills, were able to solidify a strong win. The A team were equally as successful with excellent teamwork and movement around the court to secure a well-deserved win. The Year 5 girls had a great afternoon at Wolverhampton Grammar School playing their first Stingers Netball game of the season.

Six teams competed for the U13 Ingle Shield Football Tournament on Wednesday. Our boys enjoyed victories against Bedstone, Beaudesert, Moor Park and The Downs Malvern, and throughout scored 15 goals and conceded zero: a fantastic effort by the boys giving them their third consecutive victory in the tournament.

The Year 5 & 6 boys enjoyed fixtures at Wolverhampton Grammar Junior School. All four teams scored some excellent goals and we look forward to improving again next week. Next week, we are hosting the annual U11 Matty Thacker Football Tournament held every year in memory of former pupil Matty, who tragically died in a car accident in 2008.



Year 2 have impressed their teachers with their progress in reading, and in PSHE, the children have been thinking about what goals they can set for the year and how these can be achieved. They have begun a new topic on fractions in Mathematics and have also prepared for the start of their times table scheme.

Year 1 children embarked on an exciting journey to Antarctica in their English sessions, and in Mathematics, they focused on the concept of a quarter in both geometric shapes and numerical values. In Science and some engaging Forest School sessions, the children learnt about the changing seasons.





In Early Years, Reception children have been investigating zero in Maths and have been finding out about giraffes as part of their 'Amazing Animals' topic. The children in Kindergarten 2 enjoyed listening to the story *Kipper's Toybox*. In Literacy, they matched phonic sounds to toys and continued to develop their Mathematic skills by sorting mice into groups to gain an understanding of more and less. In Kindergarten 1, the children listened to the story *Dear Zoo*, sorted animals by size and played animal charades. They made a zebra sticky wall, adding black stripes with glue and made animals out of playdough.

In the Nursery, the Ducklings began their new topic 'All About Me' and made faces using paper plates. Goslings have focused on winter animals and created snowy owls, penguins, and robins, as well as enjoying some chilly walks around the School grounds. The Cygnets have looked at *The Gruffalo* story and made a large Gruffalo display for their room. They also collected sticks and leaves for their *Stick Man* topic.





Lost Property - Henry T (Year 3) has misplaced his named rugby kit - please check.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Denise Toms Headmistress