

Brinkley Grove Newsletter

Reaching for excellence, creating understanding and opportunities for all



This month at Brinkley Grove ...

Christmas is a time of great excitement, especially so at Brinkley Grove.

It has got very 'Christmassy' now as the tree is up, the Christmas Fair is over and preparations are well under way for Christmas Dinner, which will be free for all children again this year. Last week we got things off to a super start with the Year 6 choir winning a competition and being invited to perform at the Lion Walk Christmas Lights Switch On. It was a wonderful evening and the children did a super job. We are looking forward to sharing our nativity plays with you and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

GOVERNORS

It was with sadness that we have been informed this month that two governors of the school are standing down. Paul Shipton has been involved in the school for many years and has given up much of his own time to support the school in various ways. Similarly, Karen O'Neill is standing down after four years as a governor although she will continue to support the school in various ways. Thank you to you both for everything you have done for us.

Looking forward, the school would like to hear from anyone interested in becoming a governor, especially if you have experience in education in some way. If you would like to find out more about what being a governor involves, please let the office know.



MUSIC LESSONS

Some parents may not know that we can offer additional music lessons to children in school. Currently we have tutors for guitar, keyboard and brass instruments. There is a charge for these lessons and they happen during the school day.

Your child can learn a range of instruments from piano and guitar to tuba and violin. Please enquire at the school office for more information.



Children in Need 2017

This year the school put on a cake sale, sold a range of Pudsey-related items and let the children wear any Pudsey merchandise. A super couple of days were had and, after all the money had been counted the final amount raised by the school was an impressive £695.13.

A huge thank you to everyone for supporting this and a special thanks to all the staff who supported Mrs Fenton in coordinating the fundraising.

After school collection

Over the last few weeks a number of children have been late collected after an after-school club. In some cases this has been more than half an hour. Not only is this distressing for the child, especially if we cannot make contact with you, but we do not have the facilities to look after children waiting for collection.

The school's policy has been amended and from January if you are **more than 10 minutes late** collecting on more than one occasion then we reserve the right to withdraw the place. Thank you for support.



Similarly a number of children have been collected very late straight after school. While we appreciate there may be occasional delays on your way to school, we ask that all children are collected promptly. Thank you.

Talk for Writing

This school year, the teachers have been teaching the children English in a slightly different way from years gone by. We are no longer having a 'Big Write' on Friday, but instead are using a system known as Talk 4 Writing.

Mrs Patmore held a number of workshops with parents in November to help parents understand the new approach. Please contact the office if you could not attend and would like to do so, or if you would to know more. An additional parents session will be held on Wednesday 7th February at 6 - 6.45pm

Friends of Brinkley Grove

A huge well done to everyone involved in the Christmas Fair this year. Everyone who came had lots of fun and all the money raised will help the school add to its library stock.

Much of the organisation was done by only two people, Karen Parsons and Sue Young. We are desperately looking for more people to help. Please speak to the office if you are able to lend a hand. All help is greatly appreciated.

URGENT MESSAGES

As explained on a couple of occasions we are glad to offer Class Dojo to the school community and it really helps us keep in touch with you as parents. However, all important and urgent messages need to go to the office. It may be that your child needs medication, has a dental appointment or you have changed collection arrangements and in such cases please let the office know. The teachers have very limited time during the day to check for messages and respond to them. Thank you for your support.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 6th December	Year 3 / 4 Christmas Production 2 pm
Thursday 7th December	Year 3 / 4 Christmas Production 6 pm
Friday 8th December	Christmas Dinner for all school
	Christmas Jumper Day
	Christingle for reception and year 1
Monday 11th December	KS1 Nativity 2.15 pm
	Reception Nativity 5 pm
Tuesday 12th December	Reception Nativity 2.15 pm
	KS1 Nativity 5 pm
Monday 18th December	Reception and KS1 Christmas Parties
Tuesday 19th December	Christmas Party for KS2
Wednesday 20th December	Last day of term
Tuesday 2nd January	Non Pupil Day
Wednesday 3rd January	First day for pupils
Thursday 11th January	NSPCC Workshops for year 5
12th - 16th February	Half Term
Wednesday 28th March	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 29th March	Parents' Evenings
30th March - 13th April	Easter Holiday
Monday 16th April	First day for pupils