

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. I hope you all had chance to enjoy your break and in particular the beautiful autumn colours, the blustery winds and the last of the long days before the clocks went back at the weekend. This is one of the busiest terms and the children can become very over tired so please make sure they pace themselves.

Our worship focus this term is Compassion and how we can look after each other in school, in our family, in our neighbourhood and in the world. Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Thank you to everyone who responded to the 'Affordable Schools' survey. We have collected the responses and can see that uniforms and trips are the items that have caused the most concerns to you.

Just to mention that we have a nearly new uniform sales every month, you can also request items through this scheme from anyone in the PTA or send a request in via the office and we can forward this on for you. We are trying to look for other ways we can help keep the costs down for you too.

We try to make trips as cost effective as we can. It is always the cost of travel there and back that adds the pennies. We will try to give more advanced warning that trips are coming so that saving for them is easier for you.

This Thursday evening we have our Fireworks Night. Please complete the form from ParentPay and hand in to the office with the payment before Wednesday **midday** for the advanced ticket price and join us in this fantastic evening. If you are able to help on the night then please sign up and let the PTA know. The PTA have worked hard to plan the evening and would welcome anyone able to help on the night during or clearing afterwards – thank you.

The following week ends with our Christmas box day on the Friday – please come in to help if you can. We need wrapping paper and items to go inside the boxes, please see the list below. The Trussell Trust has said that they often have fewer boxes for boys – so let's try to address the imbalance if we can. Poppies are on sale at school. Send in some pennies for the pot if you would like one.

As the mornings and evenings are getting darker please make sure you are seen on the roads and paths coming into school.

We have children in school with a severe **NUT** and **EGG** allergy and I must ask everyone to make sure that there are **no nuts or nut products in school or eggs** – even for show and tell. Thank you.

In the event of some snow we will communicate to you using ParentPay and through our website. We will try to stay open as long as we can but if we have staffing issues and the weather becomes too dangerous to get in and out of the Valley then we may have to think about closing the school

## **Key dates**

Monday 30th October - Children return to School

Thursday 2nd November - Fireworks and Bonfire Evening

Friday 10th November - Christmas Boxes

Friday 10th November - Remembrance Service

Friday 1st December - Christmas Bazaar

Friday 8th December – Afternoon Christmas Performance for Y1-Y6

Monday 11th December – Pantomime production in School

Wednesday 13th December – Evening Christmas Performance for Y1-Y6

Thursday 14th December – Evening Christmas Performance for Y1-Y6

Tuesday 19th December – Christmas Lunch (the menu for today will not be as stated on ParentPay the children will be offered Roast Turkey, vegetarian and allergen options will also be offered)

Wednesday 20th December - Lake Class Nativity

Wednesday 20th December - Last day of term

Thursday 4th January - Return to School

## Shoebox donations

Toiletries Toys New or good quality 2<sup>nd</sup> hand clothes Miscellaneous Other Stationery Soap / shampoo Toothpaste / toothbrush Face cloth / sponge Deodorant Comb/brush Razors / shaving gel Pens / pencils Notepad / colouring book Eraser / sharpener / ruler Sweets / chocolate Make-up Sewing kit Candles Household tools Cleaning / baby wipes Jewellery / hair accessories Gloves / hat / scarf Underwear / socks Baby-grows Cars / vehicles Dolls / teddies.