



Droxford Junior School
Union Lane, Droxford, Hants.
SO32 3QR

☎ 01489 877537

✉ adminoffice@droxford.hants.sch.uk

🌐 www.droxfordjunior.co.uk

Headteacher: Matthew Dampier

December Newsletter 2018

Dear Parents

The **Christmas Service**, led by the children in the Years 3 and 4, will be at 10.30am on Friday 21st December at Droxford Church. Parents of the Year 3 / 4 children are most welcome to attend, as it is those children who will be singing and performing.

Please park responsibly in the village and be mindful of children being escorted to and from the church. This is always a popular event and seating is limited. Because of this we will make the dress rehearsal on Thursday 20th December an opportunity for grandparents and for those who cannot attend on Friday, to see the service.



Please note this will be a dress rehearsal and that the first few rows will be taken up by Newtown Soberton Infant School Year 2 children and possibly Meonstoke Infant school Year 2 children. Our Year 5 and 6 children will also be in the pews as they won't see the service on Friday. This rehearsal starts at 2pm so we are allowing attendees in to the church at 1:30pm. The Evening Echo will also be in to take a group photograph of the children and this always adds a layer of organised chaos!

After the service the children will return to the school.

Before **both** services FODS will be serving mince pies and drinks to help raise money for the school.

School finishes at 2.30pm on Friday 21st December

Christmas Cards

If your child wishes to send cards to children within the school there is a Christmas post box operating as of now and can be found in the school reception. They will need to neatly **write the recipient's full name and learning base on the envelope**. The last 'collection' will be on Wednesday 19th December.

Our **Christmas school lunch is on Wednesday 19th December**. We will be dressing up in festive colours rather than in a school uniform on the day, with a suggested **donation for the Meon Valley food bank**, being a kind, caring and festive cause this year. If your child already has a Christmas jumper then they can wear it, however we don't want people to go out and buy jumpers just for the one day – save your money!



On the subject of the Meon Valley Food Bank – we (you) received a special thank you acknowledging the year round support we give. We also raised £123 for Children in Need

Fundraising news!

We have been successful with our Aviva Community grant bid. Your votes counted and we secured the £1000 – fantastic news – thank you and a big thank you to those that organised the application!!!



The funds will be used to pay for a County Landscape Architect to support the school produce a landscape strategy to develop the outside learning / play environment. This strategy will put the school in a strong place when applying for larger grants in the future. There will be a planning meeting involving the school council, **governors**, FODS and school staff taking place in January.

Two workshops for **all** members of the school community follow in the Spring Term with the architect producing the strategy for the school to use, in the summer term. If you know you could potentially help with any future landscaping projects then please let me know.

More information will follow in early 2019!



FODS news

FODS have been busy again this half term. The Meon Neon Disco is on this Friday (7th in school), still time to get your tickets! Dancing, shopping, tombola, festival face paints and crafts all at one party! A big thank you to Su Lancashire for being our Disco coordinator and bringing it all together.

School Disco: No mobile phones or iPads in school please only cameras. Phones, if needed for safety reasons, can be left in my office.

Our raffle team have also been very busy gathering fantastic donations for the upcoming raffle, to be drawn during the Christmas Lunch on 19th December. Prizes include a Kids Christmas Hamper and a Luxury Food Hamper. During the Christmas Lunch FODS members get the pleasure of serving 'our little darlings' their lunch. Always lots of fun and encourages the Christmas spirit of giving.

FODS will also be serving mince pies, coffee/tea and wishing you all a Merry Christmas at the Christmas service.

Thank you to everyone who bought a glass poppy recently and even bigger thank you to FODS for supporting this project which has taken over a year to plan and organise. The window in the school reception is complete with final installations due in the school later.



Health and Safety

I know it's dark, cold, wet and windy but please can I appeal to your better nature – wear coats, wrap up, wear High Vis (if possible) and walk up to school. Please keep the garages clear and safe for our children to walk through and let your children walk safely up from the parking areas we recommend; adjacent to the fire station or the square in the village. Thank you to everyone who is currently doing so.

Emergency School Closures

Information regarding emergency school closures can be found on the school website. If we need to close the school - information will be on the website, and we will email and text parents.

There is a link on our website on the parent's page www.droxfordjunior.co.uk or

<http://www.hants.gov.uk/education/schoolclosures/>

...which will list all school closures in Hampshire.

Ice and Snow Plan

There is a Droxford Junior School Ice and Snow Plan that is designed to safeguard our school community and keep the school open whenever possible. During icy or snowy conditions parents must not attempt to drive up the lane to the school; children and parents should walk up. On arrival at school the following access routes will be available:
Level 1 Pathways and normal access routes will be gritted but the adventure playground and playground will be out of use in icy conditions.

Level 2 In more extreme conditions a pathway will be cleared and gritted from the school gate to the front entrance for parents and visitors. A pathway will be cleared from the disabled car parking space to the disabled access route at the front of the building. Children will use this route to gain access to the school building.

The children need to wear normal school shoes in the school building. Wellies or walking boots can be worn on the journey to school and during playtimes; the field can be enjoyed during periods of snow and ice. It is important that children are able to change into a pair of dry shoes. **Mr Vardy (site manager) will always make routes clear and obvious for all.**

Wet breaks

Do you have any old – appropriate comics or magazines (in good condition) we could use in the library and also our stock of DVDs we show is old. Could you help with a donation?

Administration

Thank you to everyone that has registered for an online account. We would like to confirm that there is no surcharge for paying online and payment will show immediately on our system and will generate a receipt. Please could we remind you that school dinners are payable in advance. If you have not yet registered for an online account and need your activation code please contact the office.

Library

Will you please ensure that your child **return all school library books by Monday 10th December.** Thank you



Calshot

The Year 6 children have recently returned from their 5 day residential visit to Calshot. It was a very busy and exciting week for them! They were able to have a go at skiing, orienteering, climbing, cycling on the velodrome, ringo-ing and archery as well as climbing up to high platform in 'All Aboard.' They also conducted several field study trips in and around the New Forest, including a beach study, trawling and identifying sea life, a river study and a hillside scientific experiment.

Well done for all the year 6's for making this such a positive and memorable week!



And finally...

May I wish all our families, our volunteers and our fantastic staff, a peaceful Christmas and best wishes for 2019!

Matthew Dampier
Headteacher

