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December Newsletter 2020

Christmas

It is at this time of year the children are preparing for the school's Christmas Service that takes place in the village Church. Unfortunately, for the first time ever, we cannot perform in front of parents. Undeterred we are in the process of filming a Service that you will be sent a secure link to, in order to watch it at home. We hope you will enjoy it from the comforts of your own home – a pity we cannot be in the lovely church – next year hopefully!

Don't forget that our school Christmas lunch is on Tuesday 15th December - lots of children have already made their own eco friendly Christmas cracker to pull on the day...you still have time.



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 16th December.



Fundraising

During this festive period FODS help to raise in the region of £2000 for the school to help provide resources and enrichment for all the children in the school. This is achieved, through lots of hardwork and dedication, through organising the Christmas Fair and disco; selling mince pies and teas and coffees at the church service; FODS film night and other festive fundraisers.

FODS raise over £7,000 a year with your help of course. Since the Lockdown in March we have missed out on so many enjoyable fundraising events which the children and yourselves really enjoy (Easter fair, author visits, film nights, school production, disco, christmas fair, summer BBQ) and we also organise events ourselves. This funding stream is now down by nearly £10,000 which is a worry.



There are a few events happening in school in the last weeks before the end of term where you can help to support the school.

- Get as many people as possible to sponsor your child for the Christmas fun run taking place in classes this week. Sponsor forms and monies will be collected week beginning Jan 11th
- The White Horse Pub, Droxford are donating 100% of their takings tomorrow night from the special curry menu. You can still order today – CASH on collection.
- FODS also have a further two small initiatives happening – the first buy a christmas ribbon and your child ties it to the school railings outside and secondly pay a pound for non school uniform, christmas dinner, festive dress up day.

FODS have a new committee so please support Tanith and her team who are endeavouring to do as much as possible for our children and also a big thank you to FODS and the team from myself and everyone at Droxford Junior School.

Marketing and school places.

We recently invested some time and school resources to employ and film maker from London to create a new marketing video for the school. I will use this when presenting a prerecorded tour of the school for our prospective new Year 3 parents and children.

The new marketing video will be on our school website and will be a fantastic way of 'selling' our amazing school. We currently have places available in Years 5 and 6. The way our school budget is generated is mainly by places filled by children in school.

In the next few years forecasted numbers are worryingly low. We will not be full as a school and this will severely hamper our staffing, enrichment and resourcing provision. Therefore, if you know of parents or families out of catchment who would love their children to come to our school let them know, amazingly we won't be full and would really welcome applications for places. Just get them to call me!

Christmas Panto

For some Christmas cheer I cannot recommend a panto in your own home more highly!! Please follow the link below to find out more...

www.universe.com/beauty

And finally...

It has been the most challenging year by far as a headteacher: may I wish all our families, our volunteers and our fantastic staff, many, many thank yous and to enjoy a peaceful Christmas break.



Matthew Dampier
Headteacher



<https://childrenssociety.org.uk/advent/>

