



**Attendance for the whole school for this week was 93.7%**

If your child is too poorly to attend please let us know on the first day of absence on 0115 9794304

**Green is good – Lets make sure all our classes this academic year are green and hit our target of 96.5% or above**

Jellyfish 91.99%		Turtles 92.2%	Octopus 98.5%
Hedgehogs 97.6%	Owls 97.3%	Squirrels 94.7%	Rabbits 93.1%
Eagles 96.9%	Pelicans 95.2%	Falcons 87.9%	Pumas 88.5%
			Leopards 89.6%

**Well done to the Octopus class who have the highest attendance this week with 98.5% so will receive £9.85 for their money box.**

**Reminder: INSET day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December:** Children will finish for the holidays next **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**. Staff will be in for training on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December so school will be closed to all pupils. We re-open on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020. There is another INSET day on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January.

**EYFS Christmas Crafts and Songs:** On **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** children in Jellyfish, Turtles and Octopus classes will be having their Christmas Crafts and Songs morning. Parents of Jellyfish morning and full time children can come at 8:45am, parents of Jellyfish afternoon children can come at 2:15pm. Jellyfish full time parents/carers can also attend the afternoon session if they were unable to attend the morning one.

**Christmas Parties:** Next week will see our Christmas Parties taking place in the afternoons on the following dates:

- **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** EYFS Party (Jellyfish, Turtles and Octopus) Morning Jellyfish children are invited to join us in the afternoon for the party from 1:30pm-3:15pm. Parents do not need to stay with them and any children who are coming in the afternoon can come into school already in their party clothes, this also includes afternoon Jellyfish children.
- **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December:** KS1 Party (Hedgehogs, Owls, Squirrels and Rabbits)
- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December:** KS2 Party (Peacocks, Eagles, Pelicans, Falcons, Pumas and Leopards)

All children can bring their party clothes in a named bag to change into before their party starts. Normal uniform is required during the morning of their party.

**Christmas Jumper Day:** On **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December** we are having our Christmas Jumper Day to raise money for Save the Children. You don't need to get a new jumper, you can decorate your ordinary boring jumpers or swap an old one with a friend. **Normal uniform (apart from the jumper) is still to be worn on this day.** Please send your child with a £1 donation to raise money to help change the future for children.



**Songs Around the Tree:** This will take place at 9am on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**. Please enter the hall by the side door from the KS1 playground, rather than through the main entrance. As stated in the previous newsletters, the tickets for Songs Around the Tree were limited due to there being over 280 children in the hall and therefore ensuring fire regulation safety. We apologise if you were unable to get a ticket on this occasion. There will be no entry to the event without a ticket.

**Songs Around the Tree 2020:** We are reviewing plans in light of the popularity of the KS1 performance and so next year's Songs Around the Tree will just be for our KS2 children. These decisions are part of our ongoing adaptation to being a growing school. We still have to grow by 2 more classes so we may still have to make changes to our calendar of events but as always we will keep you notified through this newsletter and our text messages.

**Last minute Stocking Fillers:** Jo has a little stall in the office where you can buy ready wrapped Cadbury selection boxes for £1.50 and a Fortnite book for £3. All stock must go!

**Christmas Dinner:** Your child should have come home earlier this week with a copy of the Christmas dinner menu which will be on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**. The menu for this day will also be displayed on the outside board and around the school.

**Don't forget that all children in KS1 are eligible under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme to have a free school meal. The cost for children in full time nursery and KS2 unless entitled to free school meals is £2.15.**

Please note if your child does not have a Christmas dinner on this day a packed lunch will have to be provided from home.

So that we can provide the kitchen with meal numbers if you have not yet done so please complete and return the slip attached by Monday. Even if your child is free schools meals please complete the slip so we can provide the kitchen with as accurate numbers as possible.

**As a result of Christmas dinner day being on a Thursday we will be changing Wednesday's menu so that it isn't a roast dinner day. The menu for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December will be a choice of either fish and chips or pizza and chips.**

**Year 3 and 4:** Children in Peacocks, Eagles, Pelicans and Falcons will be coming home today with a letter about a trip to the Nottingham Playhouse on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020** to see the panto 'Sleeping Beauty'

Please could all reply slips that are on the letter be returned back to school before we break up for the Christmas break? Thank you.

**Outstanding Afterschool, Breakfast Club and Dinner Money payments:** Please ensure you have paid any outstanding balances in full for Afterschool Club, Breakfast Club or school dinners by the end of term. If you are unsure of any necessary payments, please contact the office and they can let you know the balance of your account. **Don't forget that we no longer take cash and all payments need to be made using the Schoolcomms app therefore please make sure that you have downloaded it.** If you have a smartphone, please download School Gateway from your app store (Android and iPhone). If you do not have a smartphone, you can still pay online via the website [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com). The app shows the same information as the website PLUS it saves the school the cost of a text message.

If you are unable to register, it may be because your details do not match those we have on file for you therefore please contact the school office who will check your details with you

**After school clubs:** After the Christmas holidays, Mr Battison and Mr Leviers will be starting a 'Heathfield Debating Society' afterschool club for children in years 5 and 6. The club will start on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January between 3:15pm and 4pm.

Please sign the attached slip if you would like your child to take part. You will be sent a text on the first day back to let you know if your child has got a place in the club.

**Choir after school club:** There will be no choir after school club next Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December. It will start again on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 ready to prepare for the Young Voices concert in Sheffield.

**Festive Feedback:** Following the success of the Key Stage 1 performance on Thursday and in light of the events coming up next week, I wanted to share this which I found on Twitter. 😊 (Not a parent at Heathfield)

*This morning I went to see my daughter and her classmates in their Christmas performance and I remain convinced that teachers are expertly programmed machines who plug themselves into a charging station once their classes leave each day. They managed over 120 children on that stage this morning. 120! Every child knew what to do and when to do it. They were a dazzling, electric bunch of eager happy little faces who gave it their absolute all and whole thing was slick, fast-paced and professional.*

*Meanwhile, at home, my children are incapable of flushing a toilet. And I won't even mention the trauma of having them put on their own shoes in the mornings. I can't imagine the work that goes into these things by the teachers.*

*Next time you're sitting at your desk sipping a coffee and tapping at your keyboard thinking you're stressed, ask yourself whether your boss interrupts you at random intervals throughout the day to ask you to tie their shoe laces.*

*And next time you have a deadline to meet and feel gravely hard done by, consider how you'd feel if the co-workers you were relying on for help asked to go to the toilet 45 times an hour and repeatedly came sobbing to you with stories of how someone had made off with their favourite coffee mug.*

*It takes a very special person to be a teacher. I would challenge any of the overpaid politicians in this country to be able to put on a Christmas play involving 120 children with only a couple of weeks to prepare and produce such a wonderful, inclusive show by the end.*

Our staff do work incredibly hard at this time of year to ensure that you have memories which last a lifetime. The staff are not trained actors, directors, sound engineers, costume makers, conductors of choirs or set designers yet each year a fantastic show is prepared in limited time for all children in Key Stage 1. It is easy to complain sometimes but the positive comments mean a lot to the staff so if you can spare a second to say thank you to the teachers and teaching assistants, it would go a long way to let them know they are doing a great job. Thank You! *Miss Dickens* 😊

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**Reply Slip for Christmas Dinner Day – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December:**

Child's Name:.....Class:.....

**Please tick as appropriate. If you need to pay for your child's Christmas dinner please do so using the Schoolcomms app**

- My child will have a Christmas dinner and will require the meat option
- My child will have a Christmas dinner and will require the vegetarian option
- My child will bring a packed lunch in from home

Signed:.....Date:.....

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**Reply Slip for Year 5 and 6 'Heathfield Debating Society'**

I give permission for my child . . . . .in class. . . . . to take part in the Year 5 and 6 Heathfield Debating Society that starts Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January between 3:15pm and 4pm.

Should we receive too many reply slips, we shall draw names out of a hat to ensure it is fair for all children.

Signed by Parent /Carer. . . . . Date . . . . .

Collecting arrangements:  I will collect my child at 4pm       My son/daughter is going to afterschool club