

OLD CATTON NEWSLETTER



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Dear Parents

I have to say, I think this term has flown by. It has been very busy and packed with excitement and lots of work so I feel ready; as I am sure you all do, for a well-earned Christmas break. I hope that you all have peaceful, enjoyable Christmases and I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year. I have a feeling 2016 is going to be a great one for Old Catton Junior School. Thank you for all your support in my first term in my new role.

Stars of the Week!

Congratulations to this week's and last week's Stars. A wonderful array of different reasons for being brilliant!

Rose Codling – 6E

Serle Bailey – 6E

Jackson Dale – 6G

Ellie Coe – 6G

Charlie Arbon – 6S

Lottie Sanderson – 6S

Aimee Davies – 6S

Emma Gray - 4E

Jake Dodds – 4E

Sam Brandish – 4W

Katie Williams – 4W

Harry Craske – 3C

Jack Slater – 3C

Rikin Kumar – 3H

Ella Bisby – 3H



Golden Book

This week and last week the following pupils have had Wow moments to be proud of, impressing their teachers and amazing their peers with special moments of brilliance. Well done!

Carxel Bofenda

Tom Dann

Sophia Harrigan

Ashleigh Bunn



Attendance Cup!

This week's winners of the attendance cup with an attendance of 98.46% were **4W!** Congratulations!!!

Lexia Superstar Awards

Well done to the following pupils for completing levels in their Lexia Programme.

Serle Bailey – Level 10

Dates for your diary:

- Monday 14th December – parents invited into school to watch the gymnastic club and see

what they have been doing this term – arrive at 4pm please.

- Wednesday 16th December – Celebration Assembly for the Autumn Term – 9am.
- Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Lunch.
- Thursday 17th December Christmas Carol Services – Year 3 and 4 at 9:30am. Year 5 and 6 at 2:00pm.
- Friday 18th December – Last day of term. Christmas Jumper day! £1 donation for NSPCC.
- Tuesday 5th January 2016 – new term starts for the children.

Christmas Carol Service

This year we will be holding two carol services as we are now so big that we can't all fit into the church at once! year 3 and 4 will be having their service at St Margaret's at 9:30am and you are more than welcome to join us if you would like. We will be singing carols and listening to readings from staff and children as well as listening to an address from Rev Parsons. Year 3 and 4 will then return to school to continue with the rest of their day. We will then be repeating the service at 2:00pm with year 5 and 6. Again, please join us if you would like to. After this service year 5 and 6 will return to school but you can collect your child from their classroom after the service and take them home rather than waiting until the end of the day. Please note that we can only allow other children to go home with an adult who is not their family member if we have a letter to give permission. I look forward to seeing you there if you can attend.

Christmas Shows!

I would just like to say "Thank You!" to all who came to support the children in the Christmas shows last week. I am sure that you will agree that the children were absolutely superb this year. The acting and the singing were amazing and everyone who took part did a brilliant job of making us all feel incredibly proud of them – well done Old Catton! I would also like to thank my amazing staff who all worked together to make the productions possible. Without their energy, enthusiasm, vision and slight madness, none of this would be possible; so thank you to all the staff too.



I realise that the three production nights are late nights for the children, especially the younger ones. We have such a high demand for tickets every year that we can't



fulfil if we only do two late performances. It is a real balance to deciding on less ticket allocation per family or more shows, so more of you can come. In the past we have also tried having two nights and one afternoon performance but we had a very low uptake of tickets for the afternoon performance and then many unhappy people who couldn't come in the evening. You can see my dilemma! I have attached a form asking for your feedback in terms of what we do next year. Please complete the form, with your preference and I can then take into account the thoughts of our families.

Swimming Gala

On Thursday 10th December, 15 children took part in the Norwich East Swimming Gala held at Thorpe St Andrew School. The children competed in backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and front crawl races, against 8 other schools. It was the first gala that we have participated in so I was a little apprehensive and didn't really know what to expect! However, I was proud and delighted by the standard of swimming; it really impressed me! The children behaved fantastically and supported their team mates and other schools throughout the event. I hope there will be more swimming events to compete in so I can see more swimming talent that we have at OCJS! I will find out this week if any of the children have qualified for the Norfolk Gala which will be held at UEA... watch this space! Well done to: Jacob Coe, Ava De Cooper Wride, Fred Viner, Jeya Kandola, Cara Tipple, Mia Baxter, Tom Dann, Daisy Viner, Freya Chapman, Lottie Sanderson, Amelie Orr, Annie Tipple, Joe Sanderson, Caitlin Carruthers and Ben Miller. Miss Gedge.

decided to give some other children the opportunity to participate in this cross country event; I was really proud of their efforts considering it was the first time they have competed in an inter-school event. Don't forget Cross Country Club is on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning (at 8.30am) with Mrs Wright - it would be great to see some more children take part! Well done to everyone who took part: Lucy Moscrop, Lottie Sanderson, Luke Copping, Sam Sillett, Amelie Orr, Rebecca Batalia, Rachel Lee, Evan Arthur, Sam Leverett, Rohan Day, Jeya Kandola, Toby Thompson and Emmy Allen. Miss Gedge.



Cross Country

On a bitterly cold Friday afternoon, 13 children ran in a cross country race at Eaton Park. The course was just over 1600m long; the children had to battle against hills and the wind but they were brilliant and didn't give up! I

Change to the menu

Having assessed the children's reaction to the new items that have appeared on our menu, we have decided to take the chili off the menu and replace it with savoury mince. Nutritionally this is exactly the same as the chili option (just without the chili!) The children did not seem to like the heat in the dish, so we thought we would try it without to see if it was more popular.

Mrs Wright's Maths App of the Week!

2048 - An addictive game that will ensure that children know their powers of 2.



Clubs for next term

Letters will be coming out this week in order to see who would like to take part in the after school clubs next term. I have kept the names of children who wanted a place on the gymnastics club but who missed out this term. This means that we already have 10 names taking a place for gymnastics leaving 10 spare places still available for year 3 or 4 children only. Dance club will also be starting again next term for any year group and Miss Emrick's Italian Club and Miss Cooper's Art Club will also be available again. Please look out for the

letters and fill them in to let us know if your child would like a place. The clubs that take place at lunchtimes do not need booking in this way as children can sign up for them in school.

We will begin running some of the outdoor sports clubs again once the light improves after February Half Term.

Gymnastics Club for years 3 and 4 only – Monday 3:20pm-4:20pm – starting on Monday 11th January.

Dance Club for any year group – Tuesday 3:15pm-4:15pm – starting 12th January.

Art Club for any year group – Tuesday 3:15pm-4:30pm

Italian Club for any year group – Thursday 3:15pm-4:15pm

Please do not hesitate to come into school and speak to me or another member of staff if you have any questions or concerns. Have a great week!

Mrs K Connelly.

TALK HOMEWORK & 'WOW' WORDS



Each week we send a Talk Homework activity and 'Wow' Words home and we would be very grateful for your support.

We are trying to help all our children develop excellent speaking and listening skills, which in turn will help them with their writing. "If a child can't say a sentence then they can't write it either!"

Please spend at least 10 minutes talking with your child about the questions below;

Look at the picture of the beautiful winter scene. (It is on the back page of your newsletter.) Use it to talk to your families about the setting. Where could it be? Who are the people in the picture? What are they doing? Where are they going? Who live in the houses? Can you think of any questions you would like to ask about the picture?

(Curious, intrigued, interested, burning with curiosity, agog.)

In Big Talk, we use '**WOW**' Words to improve our vocabulary and 'big up' our sentences to make them more interesting!

Our '**WOW**' Word this week is;

Inquisitive

Please encourage your child to use this word, in the right context, as much as possible.

- The 'Talk Homework' and 'WOW' words will be set every Monday in the newsletter; children will then share their 'Talk' with their class on a Friday afternoon.
- We will encourage the children to use the WOW word throughout the week.

Thank you for your support in helping your child.



