



30th November 2018

Newsletter 3

Dear Parents,



'Tis the season to be jolly!
 There was no doubt at all that the festive spirit was upon us this morning when the hoops arrived. They are now festooned around our hall and looking great ready for the Christmas Fayre tomorrow. Thank you so much for all your efforts. We hope to see you there, please bring along family and friends, they are all welcome!

Cathedral Nativity Figures 2018



Following the huge success of the angels display around Guildford Cathedral last year (it was spectacular and attracted the highest visitor numbers for December that the cathedral had ever had, as well as getting press coverage both locally and nationally) we were once again asked to contribute this year. Plans are even more ambitious

this year schools have been asked to create a nativity scene with the holy family (and donkey), shepherds (and sheep), kings (and camels) and lots of angels! Newdigate rose to the challenge under the leadership of Mrs Priestley and along with a team of creative adults and children we are sending off our amazing shepherd today to join the display. (Mrs Moon has promised she will not lose the sheep along the way!)

Thanks go to Mel Frost for creating the papier mache frame and Mrs Bowhill for the artistic additions.

The nativity figures will be displayed in Guildford Cathedral from 4th December 2018 – 7th January 2019 . Please go along and enjoy what is undoubtedly going to be a feast for the eyes and soul! Why not pop along to the Nativity Family Fun Day on Sunday 9th December and see them during your visit.



Open Days

We were full to the brim for our open sessions and have had many more prospective parents through the door since then. Many of them have told us that the main reason for looking at our school is that we come highly recommended by our families. As usual word of mouth is the best marketing strategy! We would be really grateful if you as parents could continue to promote our school with any friends or family that may be looking for a new school next year or in the future, either face to face or on any social media platform. We are more than happy to organise tours and meet with prospective families at any time that suits them before the application deadline of January 15th 2019.

Pippa Bennett has very kindly set up an open facebook page for FONS that allows parents to write a review. This has been lovely to see as staff but also a very positive thing to share with prospective families. If you have the time please add to the page.



Little Governors

Once again the children have been voting for their representatives to sit on the 'Little Governors' group. This year our little Governors are **Bella Gibbs-Power** (Owls), **Alexandra Jackson** (Owls), **Edward Chambre** (Owls), **Harrison Kent** (Foxes), **Persephone Madden**, (Foxes) and **Ethan Letts** (Foxes).

The Little Governors will work with Mrs Priestley to be an active voice, representing all the pupils in our school, offering opinions and ideas to help us improve our school and also to help others in the wider community. They are currently working on persuading our school milk supplier to reduce the plastic used by finding an alternative to straws. Brexit may be next on their list! Below is a summary of what they do and how they will work:

'Newdigate Little Governors:

- *We represent all the children in our school.*
- *We want to make sure our school is a safe and a happy place for all children whatever their faiths or beliefs.*
- *We take time to listen to the children and gather their opinions through questionnaires, suggestion boxes and votes.*
- *We try to make it happen or explain why we can't.*
- *We feedback to pupils to let them know what has happened about their views.*
- *We offer our own ideas and respect each other's opinions*

Being an active Little Governor helps us to develop our self-confidence and important skills such as: listening, getting our point across, negotiating, organising and working as a team.'

Thanks to our wonderful community!

Can we take this opportunity to say a sincere thanks to the many people within our community who have offered their services and skills to help the school; your help is invaluable and we are very grateful for your generosity. As a small school we rely on our volunteers and you never let us down.

Join in with our 'Grand' plans.



We will be holding another **Grandparents Day** just before Christmas on **Tuesday 18th December from 1.30 p.m.** to help us to make our Christingles. Hopefully they can then hang around and make a day of it by joining us for the service **at 6 p.m.** It is the 50th anniversary of Christingle service this year so we want to give it our full support.

As I mentioned in my last newsletter we would also like to include grandparents on a more regular basis so please feel free to ask them to join us for our open sessions and if possible encourage them to come and help regularly at school with reading, gardening, art or anything else you can think of. Let's make our school a **Grand** place!

Snow or bad weather conditions



It is that time of year again when we start to plan for the cold winter weather. Please can we remind you to check our website regarding school opening in the event of adverse weather. Text/email will also be sent via parentmail but in the past these messages have been delayed due to overloading of the parentmail system at busy times.

Hope to see you at the fayre tomorrow.
Many thanks,

Newdigate Leadership Team