

Courtney Primary School, Courtney Road, Kingswood, BS15 9RD 3 01454 866670 @ <u>office@courtneyps.org.uk</u> Twitter@CourtneyPrimary Headteacher Mrs Deborah Wood

Newsletter 10 – 18th *November* 2016

'We are resilient and celebrate our efforts.' Diary Dates



Resilience

Bag Collection for Second Hand Clothes (see below)
Year 3 Visit to Library and Holy Trinity Church
Year 4 Maple Class trip to Bristol Zoo
Year 1 Oak Class Pedestrian Training
Year 5 Sycamore Class Assembly
Choir at Clifton Cathedral Carol Concert
Infant Nativity Afternoon Performance
Infant Nativity Evening Performance
Infant Nativity Evening Performance
Non-Uniform Day for Tombola bottle donation
PTA Christmas Fayre
Carols by Candlelight
School Christmas Dinner

Thursday 24 th November
Friday 25 th November-am
Friday 25 th November
Friday 25 th November 1.00pm
Monday 28 th November 2:40
Friday 2 nd December pm
Tuesday 6 th December 2:00pm
Wednesday 7 th December 6:00pm
Thursday 8 th December 6:00pm
Friday 9 th December
Saturday 10 th December 11am-1pm
Wednesday 14 th December 7.00pm
Thursday 15 th December

INSET Days Tuesday 3rd January 2017

Headteacher's News

Last year, when our brilliant Year 6 children were showing prospective parents round Courtney, I overheard one saying: "And this is the kitchen where we cooked gingerbread men in Reception." My heart sank. We needed to do something about it. So, as part of our curriculum remodelling, we have made sure that each year group has at least two cooking experiences which teach both the skills needed and where food comes from. In the last couple of weeks, Year 6 have all made Shepherd's Pie (it's amazing how much English, Maths and Science can come out of this) and Year 3, as part of their WOW event, have used a seasonal product, apples, to make a crumble. Roald Dahl could write a chapter on the slurping and lip-smacking going on! What has been thrilling is to hear comments such as: "they don't normally like this" and "they wouldn't normally eat this at home". This is what makes my job so wonderful. Have a good weekend **Deborah Wood**



Reading Certificates

Cole, Marieanne, Sam, Harry, Lacey, Jack, Harry, Ruby, Megan, Pathum, Lucie-Jo, Chelsea-Jo, Dean, Ebony, Mia, William, Evie, Ashley, Ellie, Imogen

Christmas Fair

It's not until you actually work in a school or volunteer that you realise what a huge amount of work goes into preparing the Christmas Fair. We have a small but dedicated team who have been buying, wrapping, printing, begging and cajoling for weeks now. If you have got any time at all to spare to do your bit, please could you either see Kath Hodds (chair of the PTA) or contact the office staff. They would appreciate help on the day particularly at the clearing up stage but also helping to set up on the Friday before.



Internet Safety

This week marks the end of Anti-Bullying Week so we would like to take the opportunity to remind parents/carers about the importance of knowing what your child is doing online. We have had a number of incidents this term where some of our older children are having on-line conversations which are clearly not being monitored by adults at home. These unmonitored 'chats' often result in stress and anxiety and the children do not always know who they are communicating with. In our digital age, it is really important that we all help our children to navigate this connected world in a safe and responsible way. Below are tops from the NSPCC website.



Talking to your child is one of the best ways to keep them safe. You can also use parental controls on social networks, online games and browsers and on both hardware and software that can filter or monitor what your child can see.

Preventing your children from using the internet or mobile phones won't keep them safe in the long run, so it's important to have conversations that help your child understand how to stay safe and what to do if they ever feel scared or uncomfortable.

- 1. Have the conversation early and often
- 2. Explore online together
- 3. Know who your child is talking to online
- 4. Set rules and agree boundaries
- 5. Make sure that content is age-appropriate
- 6. Use parental controls to filter, restrict, monitor or report content
- 7. Check they know how to use privacy settings and reporting tools

Caravan

This weekend, a caravan is arriving at Courtney. It is one of Mrs Radford's amazing ideas to help make playtimes a happier and more-inclusive time. She is planning to turn it into a reading/games type place. Thank you to the PTA who have helped provide the money to buy it but the scheme still needs more funding so please try to bring in some old clothing for the collection on Thursday to help raise money to fund it. Please could you make sure that you give it a wide berth (pardon the pun) while it is being made safe and ready.



How it works TAKE A BAG(S) HOM 1. Look out for the bags which will be sent home with children FILL THE BAG IN 2. Fill the bag with good quality second hand textiles. Items accepted **BRING THE BAG BACK** TO SCHOOL are clean and tidy re-usable clothes, paired shoes, belts, handbags and soft toys. COLLECTORS WILL 3.Bring the bag back to school on Thursday 24th November. RAISE PICK THE BAG UP FUNDS4SCHOOL

4. This will raise funds for lunchtime play/clubs.

Children in Need Day

Thank you so much to all you who sent your children to school in spots today. We have had some amazing spotty outfits and clearly that has been quite a lot of hard work behind the scenes. Thank you also for your generous donations. We have raised an amazing £157.45. We are so lucky to have received just under £10,000 from Children In Need so it is fantastic that we can give something back.

Online Payments

We are slowly rolling out our Online Payment Service across all our school payments. We now have 3 trips that can be paid for online and we are hoping that over the course of this week parents will be able to pay for Breakfast and Afterschool Club and school uniform via School Money too. You will be notified by text and/or email every time a new items is made available with School Money. Do look out for these messages and we do hope this payment system makes paying more flexible and easy for parents.