

# Catherine Infant News!

## We are all stars

Newsletter: December 2019



Dear Parents

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2019! It has been a busy and productive term, also a very long term – and both staff and children are ready for a well deserved break to recharge their batteries and get rid of all those winter bugs.

Last week both parents and children enjoyed the Reception production of the Nativity. Sadly, I was unable to be there to enjoy this with you but I am assured they did a fantastic job and everyone was very proud of them. The pantomime “Aladdin” was performed in school by professional actors. The children really enjoyed it, singing some of the songs and joining in with the actions and calling out! Children have enjoyed taking part in the Christmas post – both sending cards to their friends and teachers and dressing up as postmen to deliver the post. Lastly, this week each year group is celebrating with a party and crafts for cards and calendars.

As you all know we were visited by Ofsted on November 19th/20<sup>th</sup> this term. Although our senior leadership team have viewed the draft report we have to wait to have our final report published before we are able to make the results public. You will receive a copy as soon as we are able to provide one.

We would like to thank you parents, for all the support and hard work you put in in bringing your children to school every day on time, participating in all the home learning tasks, supporting the class assemblies and attending parents evening and meetings. Children are most successful at school when parents and school work together in partnership – something we welcome at Catherine Infant School.

We would like to wish all those who are celebrating a very Happy Christmas and a restful and refreshing break to everyone.

We begin next term by welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

With best wishes to you and your families

Mrs J Harrold  
Headteacher

### Halal School Dinners

We have had several requests to provide pupils with Halal school meals. As promised, I have looked in to this with Leicestershire Catering, our meal providers. Having examined our kitchen and considered whether this is viable unfortunately they have concluded that our kitchens are just too small to take the extra ovens, washing facilities, fridges, freezers, pots and pans and storage required to do this. However, they have assured me that all the meat used is HMC certified and that in other schools where they provide dinners this is sufficient.

### Admissions 2020/2021

If your child is in our Rainbow or Asteroid classes and you have not completed an online application for your child’s school place for next academic year then now is the time to do so. The deadline for all applications is **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020**. *Please note if your child is currently in our Rainbow class, an application still needs to be completed for your child to remain at Catherine Infants School next year.* All applications must be completed online on the Leicester City Council’s website, please see the link below;

<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-and-colleges/school-admissions/>

If you require assistance with the application online there will be a parent’s application support session on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 between 2pm-4pm. Please note you must book an appointment in the school office to attend.



### Snow



In the dark and cold months of January and February there may well be some snow. Whilst we make every effort to keep the school open we are dependent on having enough staff able to get in to school to safely supervise the children. We also have to ensure that access to the site is safe. If it snows please look at the school website or listen to Radio Leicester in the morning around 7am to see if school is closed. We do our absolute best to remain open when possible.

Follow us on Twitter @catherineinf

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### Important Dates for your diary

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January** - Children return to school!

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January** - Asteroids WOW Day!

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January** - Comets WOW Day! Parents are invited to come along from 9:00am - 10:15am.

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January** - Parents admission application support session. 2pm - 4pm.

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January** - Stars Superhero WOW Day!

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January** - E Safety Week.

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February** - Sustrans 'Be Bright Be Seen' day.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** - School closes.

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February** - Half Term.

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February** - Children return to school.

### Charity Fundraising

Once again parents and children have been very generous in supporting various charity events:

The Poppy Appeal has raised £262 to support ex servicemen and their families. A thank you card is on display in the foyer.

Festive outfit day – in aid of Save the Children – raised £277.

The Christmas Fair – in aid of school funds, raised £605! This will be used to help us replace some of the computers in our computer suite which are very old and on their last legs!

**A big thank you to all who have supported our fundraising this term.**

# Thank You



### Crossing the Road



In these dark mornings and afternoons please make sure you cross the road with Mrs Dass, our friendly crossing lady and don't dodge through the cars. We teach the children about road safety at school and welcome your support in underlining this when you show them how to cross the road safely every day.

### Attendance and Term Time Holidays

We are celebrating with 75 children who have managed to attend school 100% this term – every day of a very long term. They will receive a certificate to take home and this fantastic achievement has been celebrated this morning in assembly. Thank you to the parents of those children for all the hard work and effort it takes to achieve this. Comet 3 have won the attendance race this term – well done Comet 3 for your dedication and hard in coming to school regularly.

There has been a large rise in parents requesting to take children out of school to visit relatives in foreign countries in term time – some for as long as 8 weeks or more! May we politely remind you that this is against the law and can lead to parents being taken to court by the council. All children of school age are required to attend school unless they are ill. Permission will not be granted and parents will receive a fine from Leicester City Council of £60 per parent per child. Furthermore, school is now getting very full and there are not spare places in year groups. If parents decide to take their children out of school for extended visits they may well find that there is not a school place at Catherine Infant school for their child on their return. This can be very upsetting for both parents and children.



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