

18 November 2016 WEEKLY UPDATE



This week: Supporting our topic on **Fire and Ice**, Years 1 and 2 have done super work on the Great Fire of London. Each class went to Wirksworth **fire station** for a tour with Steve Eaton and Karl Dumelow where the wall of water hose was a highlight, and everyone got to see inside the cab. We spotted lots of differences between modern day fire-fighting and how the blaze was tackled in London in 1666! There's been some marvellous writing inspired by the visit and we extend grateful thanks to the station crew for making the experience possible.

Reception have been thinking about **Divali**, the Hindu festival of lights, and have made and decorated some lovely candle holders.

Open Morning: We opened our doors on Weds to children and their parents/carers who will be starting school in Sept 2017. Lots of lovely keen faces came along and seemed to enjoy their visit. If you know anyone with pre-school children who couldn't make this date, please ask them to get in touch to arrange another time to look round.

We've had a **Friendship** theme to the week, with Mrs Waller leading activities focusing on being a good friend and thinking about others.

Our **Eco Council** are working with Ms Crompton this term on energy conservation. It's **Switch off Fortnight** for the next two weeks so the Council will be reminding us all to use the OFF button.

Thank you to all who came to the **PTFA** meeting this afternoon. Money donated by you to PTFA events during the year will go to subsidise our trip to see *The Snowman* later this term. Read all about it in the separate letter sent home today.

Next week (ending 25 November):

Switch Off Fortnight begins—are you doing your bit to save energy at home? Search **Switch off Fortnight** for ideas and more information on how to take part in the national campaign.

Mon 21 & Tues 22: Y1 & Y2 swimming. Please remember to pay for your swimming lessons. Mrs Radley sent home reminders last week, so if you haven't yet returned your money, please do so on Mon. Cash in envelopes please, or cheques to DCC.

Tues 22: Toy library WI 9.30-11.30. Stay & play with your baby or pre-school child. All welcome.

Weds 23: After school: Drama and Basketball

Thurs 24: After school: Christmas Art clubs

Fri 25: Celebration Assembly at both schools from 9.10am. Please join us as we recognise the children's achievements during this week.

• WI Y1 and Y2 visit Wirksworth library

Sat 26: Wirksworth Playgroup are holding their Christmas Fair at the Memorial Hall 10-12noon. Come along and meet Santa!

Sun 27: Christmas market and shopping in Wirksworth 10-4pm. Keep it local this Christmas.

Further ahead: (further details will follow)

2 Dec: PCSO Chloe Community Wonder assembly

Fri 2: Christmas Tree Lights switch on. Join us CE school garden for our Federation pre-Christmas celebration at 2.15pm. Songs and poems too.

Fri 9: Whole school trip to watch *The Snowman* at the Arc, Matlock. Details on separate letter.

Tues 13: PTFA disco Town Hall after school

Fri 16: Federation Christmas service 10am&2pm

Sat 17: Christmas Tree Festival in St Mary's

Tues 20: 3.30pm School closes for Christmas

Children in Need 2016

Well done all who dressed up, painted faces or wore ears. The children looked wonderful and have had a super day of fun activities in school while thinking about others who need support in their everyday lives or are facing difficulties.

We've made Pudsey-styled crafts, covered our giant Pudsey cut-out with coins and change, and baked and decorated cakes. Special thanks to Mrs Knighton for kindly lending us space in the big oven! Thank you everyone who sent in a donation—we hope you'll be able to buy something from our after-school sales at each school.

We were given two Pudsey money boxes by Lloyds Bank, so decided put all the children's names in a hat and drew out a winner from each school.

Congratulations go to Obi Mangnall at WCE and Flynn Hutton at WI.



Every Day Counts: Class attendance for Fri 11—Thurs 17 Nov: Oak—**86.24%**, Hawthorn—**99.23%**, Ash—**96.62%** Beech—**95.54%**, Sycamore—**99.07%**. Well done **Hawthorn**—this week's Top Attenders!

Library help needed: We are still looking for a volunteer to help run the library at CE school. If you have a few hours spare once or twice a week, please come and see your class teacher or ask at the office and someone will be in touch.

APFS Christmas cards: We've been informed that your Christmas card orders will be delivered to school on 5 December, so we'll send them home as soon as we have them. Thank you for your support.

Christmas services: Our church celebrations will be ticket-only, as usual. Tickets will be sent home with the newsletter on 2 Dec. Unfortunately space in church is limited, so please do not invite others to come along. Friends, relations and other family are welcome to join us for the switching on of our tree lights in CE school garden on Friday 2 Dec at 2.15pm. Looking forward to seeing you there!

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