

# MINETY NEWS

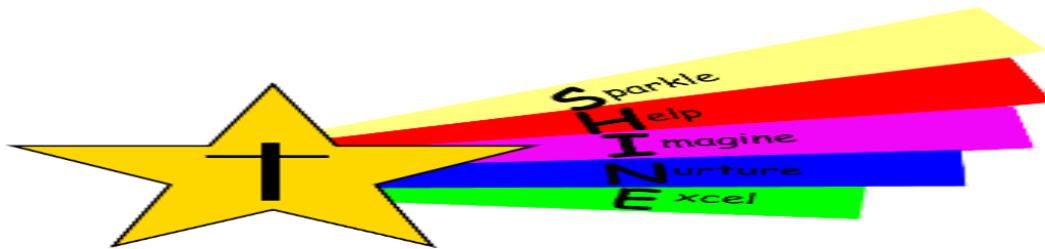


Minety C of E Primary School's Newsletter  
 Friday 8th December 2017/Iss. Dec 1  
 Tel: 01666 860 257 [admin@minety.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@minety.wilts.sch.uk)

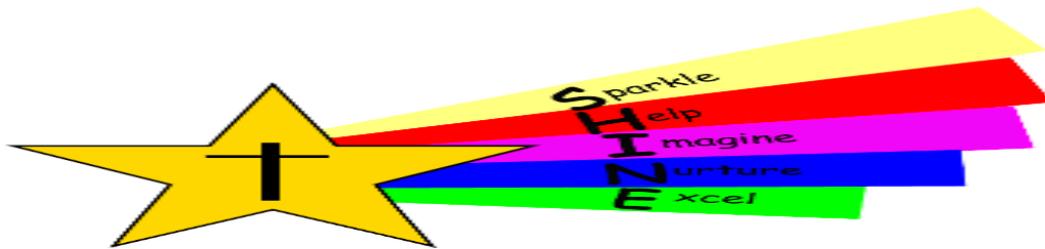
“Sparkle,  
 Help,  
 Imagine  
 Nurture  
 Excel”

## DIARY DATES FOR CHRISTMAS

<p>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December</p>	<p>9.30 a.m. (changed from previously advertised time)</p>	<p>Children from Classes 3 to 5 will watch the <u>final dress rehearsal</u> of our Year R and Year 1 Christmas Nativity Play. Pre-school children are also invited to attend.</p>
<p>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December</p> 	<p>1.30 p.m.</p>	<p>Christmas Nativity Play (Classes 1 and 2) - tickets required.          Refreshments of tea and cakes will be available.</p>
<p>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</p> 	<p>11.55 a.m.</p>	<p>Christmas Lunch - Only sandwich alternatives (rather than hot take away food) are permitted if your child(ren) are not having lunch.</p>
<p>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</p> 	<p>6.00 p.m.</p>	<p>Christmas Nativity Play (Classes 1 and 2) - tickets required.          We would like all the children taking part in the play to be at school by <u>5.15 p.m.</u> to give us time to get into costumes. The play will last approximately 40</p>



		<p>minutes. Refreshments of wine &amp; mince pies will be available</p>	
<p><b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b></p> 	<p>9.30 a.m. with snack food at 10.15 a.m. and party lunch food for Infants at 11.30 a.m.</p>	<p>Christmas party for Owls Class 1 &amp; Cygnets Class 2 plus Otters Class 3. Please contribute some food for our party – food lists will be on the outside of classroom doors on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December.</p>	
<p><b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b></p> 	<p>Departure 12.30 (tbc) – packed lunch needed for all junior children who will have an early packed lunch in school. Gloves and long sleeved top are also required.</p>	<p>Juniors (Junior Children Years 3 to 6 from Class 4, Class 5 and Class 6 ) Ice Skating Trip Returning at 3.30 pm</p>	
<p><b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b></p> 	<p>1.30 p.m. – leave school by coach for 2.00 p.m. start. (If any parent is very keen for their Year 1 or Reception child(ren) to watch their sibling in the service, or to be at the service with you, you are welcome to pick them up from school and keep them with you in the audience).</p>	<p><b>NATIVITY SERVICE FOR YEARS 2 TO 6–</b> at St Leonard’s Church. Family and friends are very welcome to join us at the church for a special Christmas Nativity Service. Year 6 will narrate the Christmas Story and Year 2 will take part in the pageant. Junior volunteers from other classes will also be a part of this special service.</p>	



### **NATIVITY SERVICE FOR YEARS 2 TO 6, 2.00 P.M. AT ST LEONARD'S CHURCH**

The Nativity Service - St Leonard's Church will take place on the penultimate day of term – **please note the service now starts at 2.00 p.m.** Year 6 will narrate the Christmas Story and Year 2 will take part in the pageant. Classes 3 and 4 as well as Year 5 will get the chance to enjoy Years 2 and 6 children retelling this important story. Everyone will have a special chance to reflect upon and celebrate the Christmas story. All children can be picked up directly from the church as soon as the service is finished and a letter with all the finer details was sent out earlier this week.

### **LAST FEW INFANT NATIVITY PERFORMANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE**

The last few tickets are available from the Office and you can now purchase as many as you would like – get them fast - as there are only 2 more working days until the last performance. The cost is £2.00 a ticket and the proceeds go directly back into costumes and staging. Owls Class 1 and Cygnets Class 2 are really looking forward to their performance.

### **CHRISTMAS POSTBOX**

The Christmas post box has been in operation from Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December with our older children acting as posties each day. If you want to use this great service please ensure a full name and class number is clearly marked on each envelope. It will help our “post monitors” and ensure that the cards reach the right child.

### **CHRISTMAS LUNCH BOOKING**

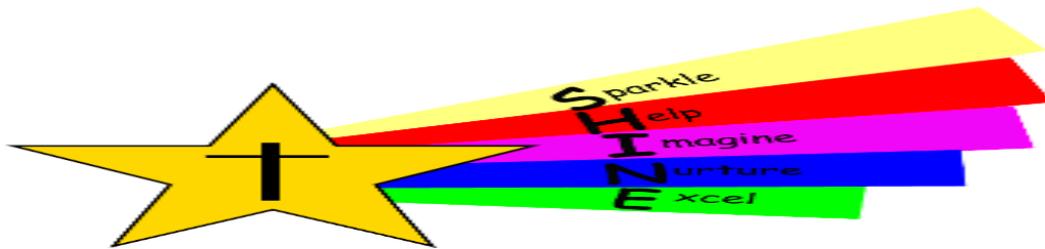
Please note that if your child does not want a Christmas lunch or you have missed being able to book in for a Christmas lunch you will need to provide a festive sandwich lunch alternative that suits your child. Due to our healthy eating policy governors have stated that hot take-away alternatives e.g. Burger King, KFC, McDonald's etc. are not suitable for children to eat within the school setting.

### **OFSTED VISIT**

On a happy note, you will have received your paper copy of the Ofsted Report – we are extremely proud of our children, staff and parents who supported us with many positive comments being physically handed in or posted on line. It is encouraging that we had already identified our development points in our 2017-18 School Improvement Plan (drawn up in September 2017) and that there were so many very good comments posted about Minety Primary School. Parents in the last couple of days have mentioned how lovely it is to read such a “glowing” report. Thank you to everybody for everything you give to our school.

### **PARENT WORSHIP**

Thank you to Class 4 for their wonderful worship today. It was stunning – Year 3 have learnt so much about the chronology of the stone, bronze and iron ages through their theme “Tribal Tales.” We were so



absorbed by the worship with excellent learning points on how very different tribal life was through excellent creative and factual writing, marvellous models, a time line and wonderful shields and pottery. The children spoke so clearly and understood their learning so brilliantly that it was a real pleasure to see just how much they had learnt in their topic to date. We also very much enjoyed the Rap! Thank you to so many parents, families and friends for attending and for the wonderful costumes that were provided. Thank you Mrs Rayner and Mrs Woodhouse for all your hard work in leading this.

### **Year 2 Visit to the Pantomime Dick Whittington – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

Year 2 had an amazing visit to Dick Whittington yesterday – the play was very funny and of a very high quality. The children were congratulated on their behaviour and all enjoyed this seasonal piece of live theatre as well as the interesting tour of the difficult one-way traffic system in Cheltenham! The seasonal Christmas songs and carols kept everyone in high spirits on the coach and everyone eventually made it back to school well before home time!



### **PTA NEWS**



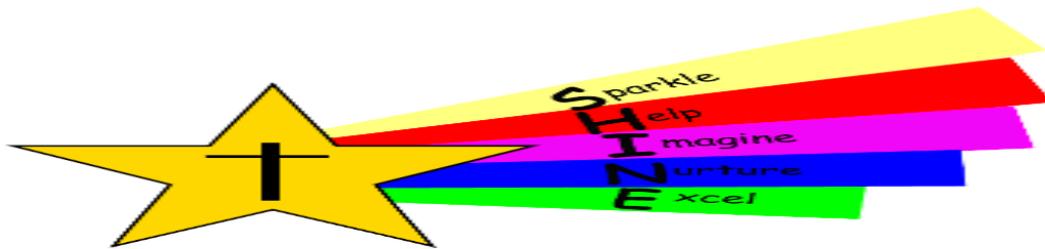
Starting with a massive thank you to everyone who helped make the popcorn club such a success on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November - the children all appeared to have had a great night. We had to have 17 helpers to keep us legal, so you're all stars for staying and letting the event go ahead.

So, December is upon us and that means it's Nativity time and I'm going to start the begging for helpers to do refreshments and donations of festive goods, so here goes. We need to arrange cover for the performances on the 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Dec. As usual we will be offering refreshments at both showings so any donations of festive cakes or biscuits would be greatly appreciated. Please read packaging carefully regarding nut content – no nuts as we have children in school with extreme nut allergies. Wines will be offered at the evening (Wednesday) performance and hot and cold drinks for the matinee. Thanks in advance for your offerings.

If we have any parents or grandparents that would be happy to help at either event please let the School office know or email [charlotte@charlottewilliams.org.uk](mailto:charlotte@charlottewilliams.org.uk). You don't actually have to be the parent of one of the performers on the night, just if you've a little bit of free time it will be greatly appreciated. We have a very generous raffle prize thank you to Aldi and Grandparent for asking. So please bring a lucky £1 to the performances.

The Minety Primary School Self-Portrait Tea Towels are on sale and proving very popular at a cost of £4 each or £10 for 3. Thanks to Jules Bray for organising this.

Lastly, remember Festive Fun Friday for the children to come to school in home clothes on the 15<sup>th</sup>. There will a prize for the most festively dressed, if you enter, a small donation of your choice will be the entry fee (we don't want to hit any pockets hard this month). We do have a beautiful Harrods collectable bear as a prize. School Council have volunteered to organise this and feel as it is such a beautiful bear – a "Guess the Name" game would be great fun. They will be selling tickets in the classes from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December after lunch – at a £1 guess – one guess per day until Wednesday when the game will be open to as many turns that children want at a £1 a guess during break and lunch time. The winner will be announced by the end of school on Festive Fun Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December.



Please remember to register with The Giving Machine, it is a totally free way to give to the PTA, shop online and those shops will donate a % of what you spend to us.



#### SAFEGUARDING AND HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION

Each year we update our Health and Safety and Safeguarding information e.g. our policy and procedures in line with the Wiltshire recommendations. This information is on the website, but if you have any queries or questions please ask me or Ben John – all of us have current Child Protection qualifications and will do our best to help with any questions you might have. You can also contact our Chair of Governors Sally Maynard-Smith, Ellie Malloch our Vice-Chair of Governors or Sarah Whiting our Child Protection Governor on the new Governor email address [governors@minety.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:governors@minety.wilts.sch.uk).



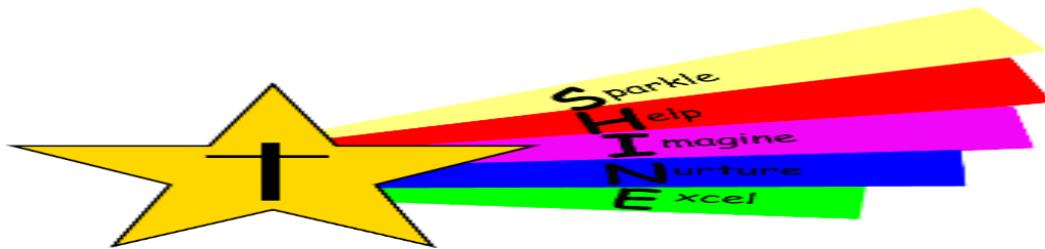
#### THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL – PERFORMANCE THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

The Year 3 children have been very fortunate and received a heavily subsidised drama workshop – at no cost to the children (through the Rural Arts Project) linked to the classic Hans Christian Anderson story run by the Last Baguette. The children focussed on the sequencing of a story through drama and how the characterisation of a Fairy story is achieved. The performance by the Last Baguette on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of December at 6.30 p.m. in Minety Village Hall was a fantastic chance for the children to see a live play at a cost which is less than a cinema ticket and right on the Minety doorstep! The production was great fun with lots of humour but also lots of touching moments - children and adults who attended have commented very positively reference this opportunity.

#### REMAINING TEACHER TRAINING DAYS FOR 2017-18

The children are not in school on:

**Monday 19th February 2018**



**We finish the academic year on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**It is a day earlier than previously noted – please note this date change.**

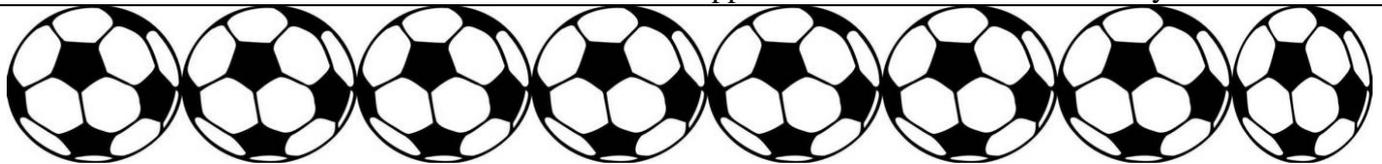
**NATIONAL SATS TESTS 2018**

The tests for Years 6 take place during the week of 14<sup>th</sup> May – please ensure your children are in school during this week and do not have medical appointments or dental appointments or are out of school for any reason.

At present it is proposed but not yet confirmed that Year 2 will undertake their tests and be assessed during the month of May 2018

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION for 2018 ADMISSIONS**

Do you have younger children who will be four years old before September 2018? If so you must apply for a primary school place. Apply online at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk) or collect a form from either the school office or Sue Tinson at Pre-School. The deadline for applications is Noon on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018.



**FOOTBALL SUCCESS**

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December the Upper Junior Football Teams achieved an amazing result at Stanley Park in Chippenham in the District Finals. The girls played with great spirit and worked so very well as a team – they fared well in an incredibly competitive set of games. Whilst our boys played with great skill and came third securing themselves a place in the County Finals. Marvellous Minety! Thank you to Ben John for leading the teams and for the many parents who supported the children. Thanks to Rhys Dudding and Steve Tucker who were a great help as coaches along with Helen Dudding, who also accompanied the children.

**We are on Christmas Count Down now with the best bits to come! Only 8 more days to go - these are packed with Nativity Performances, Carol Services, the Infant party, Christmas lunch and Ice Skating for the junior aged children along with our Festive Friday Dress Up on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December when festive home clothes can be worn. What fun! The last day of school is Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December and we finish at the normal time of 3.15 p.m.**

Sally Greaves