

15<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,



This is just a short newsletter with good wishes for the Christmas season and a Happy New Year.

We have had a very busy term and are still aiming to give children as many performance opportunities as we can as the school increases in size. The Christmas plays, Carol Service, Singing in the playground and other performance activities such as Handfuls of Harmony choir and the Shakespeare play (Thank you to Mr Smith, Mrs Thwaites and Bristol Grammar School) have been brilliant! We look forward to Year 2, 5 and 6 Summer performances – I believe Mr Ellershaw has already started on the Y6 script!

The children have also enjoyed performances by a professional company in school of Aladdin for Foundation Stage, Years 1,2,3,4,5 went to Beauty and The Beast at the Tobacco Factory and Year 6 saw Aladdin at the Hippodrome. Many thanks to all helpers and to the PTA for subsidising these visits.

Thank you also to Caroline Ring for a super percussion performance for KS1 and the Etherington Brothers for their excellent 'Comic Book' presentation to KS 2, which we hope will stimulate enthusiasm and ideas for children to improve their writing.

We have celebrated our first term of managing our own school meals and the delicious Christmas Dinners were really enjoyed by children and staff – thank you to the PTA for crackers and table coverings and to parents, who helped to organise this on the day.

Special thanks to Mrs Slater (School Business Manager), who has organised the set up and staffing for this new venture on both sites and kitchen staff for all their hard work. As we want to make sure that we continue to increase our uptake and maintain a high standard, whilst also making dinners cost effective there will be an opportunity for parents to give us some feedback next term.

There has been a lot of interest in reception places for September 2018, however we never know if we will be full, so please spread the word that although we were oversubscribed last year this may not happen next year. My thanks to Mr Potter who puts in a huge amount of energy and commitment in organising very successful parent tours of the whole school as well as managing the Merrywood site so that we can share our school with prospective parents.

We are aware that we still need to improve our communications re events, dates and times with you and Mr Potter will send out an information bulletin shortly. We will also try to make sure that our website calendar is accurate and everything is synchronised. A New Year resolution!

Finally, thank you for the support you give to your child and the school.

Merry Christmas

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Sandie Smith  
Headteacher