18 December 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are almost there….. a long term almost complete and lots of fun, excitement and festive cheer around the school. Secret Santa sacks full of goodies in some classrooms; remnants of Christmas jumper day; arts and crafts being collected ready for this afternoon; envelopes from opened Christmas cards litter the bins and lots and lots of smiles and giggles filling the classrooms and playground. Great time of the year to be at school!

It has been a crazy fun week – where do I begin? Firstly, as you are aware, pupils came in to school in PE kits at the start of the week for their house football and netball matches. These have been a great success. The Year 8 sports captains worked really hard with Mr Brazier, Mrs Allen, Mrs Watson and Miss Marshall to umpire, support and staff these matches. The children have had such fun and the final games are being played as I type due to the wet weather on Tuesday afternoon.

Yesterday was Christmas Jumper day and as always, it was another great success. Children looked smart in uniforms and then had the fun of removing their Trevelyan jumper and replacing it with their Christmas one – staff enjoyed it just as much!! There were hats, antlers, jingles and even tinsel with lights but everyone made an effort to boost the festivity.

Then at 12 o’clock, Sarah and the catering team cooked for over 400 pupils – whether it was traditional, vegetarian or gluten free there was something for everyone! Carols played, staff helped and children sang and ate – another great way to finish a long term! There might have been some carrots left but there was certainly no ice cream, shortbread stars or cupcakes left!! A massive thank you to the catering team for a superb Christmas lunch.

And then there was last night – what can I say? Our annual Christmas Concert surely went with a bang! Despite no Music teacher, Mrs Wooders, Mr King and Ms Mowat worked tirelessly together and put on a superb team effort this year. We listened to solo instrumentalists, solo singers, the choir, the Year 8 steel band, the French choir, the Wind and String group and also the readers. We had the privilege also of watching Jemima and Aeryn dance and, to top it off, we also had the staff version of the Twelve Days of Christmas – made even funnier with Mr Clarke and Mrs Hill competing for all the attention! It was a fantastic evening and yet another evening where you feel enormously proud to be part of such a phenomenal school. A big thank you also to the PTA for organising the refreshments and serving these last night and also for the staff who worked behind the scenes to make it happen – tickets, seating, sound systems – everything needed to be organised for the night to happen! It was certainly a night that got me in the mood for Christmas. A big well done and thank you to all those who supported us- as I am sure you would agree, the children were simply amazing!
Today, penultimate day, we have a fun afternoon in store followed by the PTA Christmas disco tonight. Again we thank the PTA and staff who have organised all this to ensure the children have a fantastic evening and a great build up to their Christmas holiday – I am sure there will be some tired children tomorrow. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that school finishes at 1pm tomorrow so please ensure you are aware of this and we then welcome pupils back on Monday 4th January.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a lovely fortnight’s break. We would also like to thank you for your support this term and wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous 2016!

**LOST PROPERTY**

The school office has lots of good quality second hand uniform for sale Jumpers, Shirts and PE tops £2 each sport socks £1.

**YEAR 5 – TERM 1.**

This has been a long, productive term for our Year 5 starters. The talent in the Year 5 cohort is broad and diverse. Achievements have been many and varied in this year group and I am looking forward to yet more house talent contests which showcase the multitude of skills our pupils have to offer.

As there have been so many successes this term, I cannot list them all here, but needless to say I am proud of our Year 5 pupils for tackling challenges head on this term; for coming to school with a positive attitude; for overcoming barriers and for making a commitment to self-improvement through learning.

In Year 5 we would like to continue to celebrate successes – Positive Fridays have been a great opportunity to focus on these.

The Year 5 tutors have worked wonders in this very busy term and I am sure you would join me in expressing my gratitude for their dedication and hard work.

I wish you all a restful break and I look forward to celebrating more Year 5 triumphs over the Spring Term.

Mr Jerrold

**CHRISTMAS LECTURE TRIP**

We were thrilled that an opportunity came up at the last minute to attend a free rehearsal of the Christmas lectures at the Royal Institution, in London and we were delighted to offer this trip to the Key Stage 3 Science club regulars!

The CHRISTMAS LECTURES have been inspiring children and adults alike since 1825. They were set up to introduce a young audience to a subject through spectacular demonstrations, and today they bring the magic of science to a global audience. This year’s lectures are by Kevin Fong and are entitled ‘How to survive in space’. Demand for tickets to the live recordings is always very high, so we were very lucky to have this exclusive opportunity to see Kevin Fong rehearse.
Here is what some of the children who came thought…

“My favourite part was the hydrogen balloon because it was very loud and there was a lot of heat” – Alysha 7EJ

“It was a very good experience it taught us in depth about the life of an astronaut and how much work they have to put in” – Fabian 7DE

“I loved it when they burnt the biscuits – there was so much energy released it felt like your eyes were burning” – Alex Walker 7DE

If you would like to watch the Christmas lectures the first one is broadcast on Mon 28 Dec at 8PM on BBC four. Big thank you to Nick Chambers, Mark Jervis and everyone else who made this last minute trip possible!
WINNERS OF THE HOUSE CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION.

Aiden Hebbert 8 DE & Lucy Hopkins 6TF

Runners up: Zoe Lukacsi 6MJ, Mannat Verma 8EW, Zainab Saleem 6MJ, Joe Gerrard 5JB
Well done everyone for some lovely entries and thank you to house captains & reps for encouraging participation.

MATHS

The Christmas BAM competition has finished!!

We have awarded our first set of rewards for achievement and effort and the second set will be rewarded on Thursday.

We have been amazed by the effort and hard work that the pupils have put into this Christmas Competition, but mostly we are impressed with the level of support from parents.

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to the parents and their children for their hard work.

The winners so far…

1st Prize Katy Kypros
1st Prize Issy Wise
1st Prize Stoyan Ilkov
1st Prize Atticus Chute
1st Prize Indy Finke
1st Prize Harry Pritchard
1st Prize Shriya Presharn’t
2nd Prize Winners:

The next set of rewards will be given on Thursday and announced in the next Newsletter.

Have a well-earned rest and a fantastic Christmas break.

*The Maths Team*

**French Council Trip to Wantage French Market**

"On Friday the 11th of December twelve students were selected, me included, from the French Council and went to Wantage where The French Market took place. We had an amazing time.

The first thing we all did was to ask questions to French sellers about what they do and sell - then we could shop at the market.

One hour later we visited The Museum of Wantage and we had a really interesting talk about the history of the town and how life was like in the early times.

After the tour Miss Kopacka gave us an hour to have our lunch in Wantage town centre."
Finally the trip came to the end and we all walked back to the minibus to get back to school. As soon as we reached our destination Miss Kopacka gave us our Penpals letters which we read carefully. Some of us were very lucky and received gifts such as sweets, jewellery etc.

It was the best day!”

Aneeza 8NC

FRENCH DROP-IN SESSIONS FOR ALL YEARS (5-8)

From January I will start running French Drop-in sessions for students who would like my support with their homework, vocabulary learning or grammatical matters.

The sessions will take place every Wednesday after school from 3.15 until 4.00.

All years welcome.

Miss Kopacka

ENGLISH STARS OF THE WEEK

Last week the following pupils showed success in their homework and positive attitude in their English lessons:

Year 5    Carter Hugh, Saboor Kakar, Dillyn Walker
Year 6:    Harry Smith, William Moss, Lorenzo Oliveria, Amelia Strachan
Year 7    Oliver Butler, Olivia Greasley, Kiera Devlin
Year 8    Kian Hodgson, Emily Helsby, Teagan Speller
**SCIENCE NEWS:**

Some fantastic effort went into the Science P2i projects this year. Year 7 were challenged to research a piece of current science news and make it accessible to a Year 7 audience. Our winning P2i came from Phoebe Medcalf and Maxton Meehan, who both received a microscope as a prize. Other highly commended work came from: Ted Collins, Gig Stephens & Ellie Macnab, Alex Marques, Annabel Hodgkinson, Alysha Goldsworthy, Alfie Davies, Ollie Butler, Juliet Bryant and Sammi Talha.

Science: It's a People Thing. On Thursday 26th November, there was a science workshop for Year Eight girls about women in science. Female scientists in different fields of science came to talk about their jobs. We constructed a building out of jelly babies and spaghetti strands sturdy enough to hold up a kinder egg. We only had a budget of £40 million and each strand and jelly baby cost £1 million. With a lot of mess, only three teams managed to hold the egg up, as it was very challenging. After we saw a video about getting women into science, we analysed it and decided whether it was good or bad. Probably 95% of people thought it was bad, and figured how it would be better. We finally got the chance to talk and learn more about the scientists, learning about engineering, nursing and mathematics. I learnt so much and it did make me want to take a scientific path for my career. The whole lesson experience was fun and interesting. (Written by Bibi Cheema.)

**Journey to the Bottom of the Garden.**

All of Years 5 and 6 had an afternoon watching a Science play. They watched as actors took them on a trip through the garden looking at all the incredible creatures that live there. On the way, they learned to classify the animals, recognise the features that make them distinct and to treat nature respectfully. It was a really enjoyable afternoon and we hope that the pupils will think twice about the bugs they see around them from now on...

**NEWS FROM THE PE Dept**

**KS3 Badminton Tournament**

On Thursday 3rd December Mrs Allen took 4 year 7s and 4 year 8s to a KS3 Boys Badminton Tournament at Furze Platt in Maidenhead. The boys were extremely well behaved and proudly represented the school in a mature manner. They were addressing the umpires with questions politely and with respect and they were a pleasure to take out to represent the school.

The boys were up against a mix of year 8 and 9 boys (just a few year 7) from other Secondary Schools and Trevelyan were the only Middle School taking part.

They all played very hard and both teams played 20 matches each- a mix of singles and doubles.

They fought hard but just lost out to other schools 3-2. However, out of the 10 teams playing from secondary schools around Windsor and Maidenhead, they came 8th and 9th. Well done Vili, Kiran, Zahir, Anoop, Marcus, Max, Kyel and Sher.
KS3 Gymnastics Competition

On Thursday 10th December, we hosted here at Trevelyan the KS3 Gym Competition. Three pairs had been practising really hard in the lead up to the competition (one pair from year 5, [Jemima & Freya] and two pairs from year 7 [Harriet & Faye and Ellie & Marcia]).

When the day finally arrived, Faye had injured her knee and unfortunately could not take part so Faye and Harriet had to withdraw from the competition. Luckily on the day the organisers suggested that Harriet chose an alternative partner and used the duration of practice time to teach her new partner the routine and perform. Cerys was selected and was able to learn, practise and perform the routine in less than an hour! Well done to Harriet and Faye for teaching the routine and Cerys for being able to perform it so well after just one hours practice!

The competition had 15 pairs performing and the Trevelyan positions are below:

3rd: Ellie and Marcia
5th: Jemima and Freya
13th: Harriet and Cerys (and Faye coaching!)

Well done to all the girls who have worked so hard in preparing their routines.

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

Last week we celebrated success in PSHE and LifeSkills lessons.
Saffa in Y8 was nominated because she is an excellent role model for respect and understanding
Tara Francis in year 6 for her consistent mature approach to the subject
Aadi Despande in Year 5 for his determination and perseverance whilst fighting his illness at St Thomas' Hospital in London.

Also Hashim for positivity.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS

It is lovely when ideas from different parts of the school are joined together to achieve something. A group of Year 8 girls from 8KL came to see me back in October to ask whether we could organise a collection of Christmas presents for elderly people in the community. Shortly after that the auditions for the School Christmas Concert began. Today, Monday 14th December, guests from King Edward
V1 Day Centre and Winton House came to school and were entertained by pupils from all year groups. Christmas carols were sung and played, classical and modern music performed and poetry read. The pupils were excellent both in their behaviour and performances. The five girls from 8KL served tea, coffee, cakes and mince pies. It was a truly Christmassy event. All guests went away with a Christmas present. A big thank you to Grace Lovejoy, Kirsty Balchin, Amina Mahmood, Jess Liddle and Lucy Davis (all 8KL) for the ideas, posters, organising the Christmas presents and serving the drinks and food today. Thank you also to all the pupils who performed today – you were fantastic. A musical thank you to Mr King and Mrs Wooders. Thank you to Sydney Jones (8AH) for the cake making and Mrs Leach, Mrs Padfield and Year 7 for making mince pies. Finally a thank you to Miss Shirley, Mrs Fisher and Mrs Major for their help with the organisation. Our guests would like to come back next year!

Mrs Hill

And, to add to this, this morning we received this thank you….

To all the children and staff

We wish to thank everyone who helped make Monday morning do special for our members. The music concert was fantastic and all the children made such an impression on us all! It was so wonderful and generous to give such lovely gifts.

With best wishes from everyone at King George V Day Centre.
UPDATE FROM Mark Jervis; Chair of Governors

It’s my pleasure to start my second four-year term as parent governor at Trevelyan; my second year as chair. Over this time the constant changes in education and the school’s drive to improve overall outcomes for its pupils never ceases to amaze me.

For the third year running, the Average Point Score progress from KS1 to KS2 for pupils at Trevelyan was better than pupils at all other local middle schools. Average Point Score (APS) is a numerical system equivalent to sub-levels; a more fine-grain and accurate measure of total progress than whole-level metrics. Indeed the DfE recognised the skewed picture and incentives given by whole-level targets, and in September introduced big changes in the assessment of progress and attainment.

Alongside this were big changes to the curriculum and how it is taught – with an emphasis on ‘mastery’ of each topic before moving on. Interventions are much more about ‘keeping up’ than ‘catching up’, and pupils who have mastered a topic go on to broaden and enrich their knowledge of the topic rather than forging on to the next. As can be expected with new things, the pupils have picked this up quickly; so if you want to know more about the changes – best ask them!

All governors have been in to school to check with our linked subjects on how the changes are progressing, on the targets for the year, and to ensure that subjects and teachers are supported in all they need. We have seen work that has gone into embedding the changed assessment and teaching philosophy. As a middle school organised around a secondary-like structure, we are privileged to have subject specialist teachers in KS2, so are well ahead of the curve; particularly on non-core(*) subjects which are seldom even tracked in primary schools. (* non-core subjects being everything other than English, Maths and now Science).

Of course being a middle school has its challenges too, and as a school we are constantly sourcing expert advisors from across the south east to tweak what we do in school to give pupils the best outcomes. In addition we’re looking at local partnerships that will support and challenge the school across both KS2 and KS3.

This year will see more investment in school infrastructure with Sports England matched funding for improvement of the outside sports areas. The amount to raise is huge, but everything the school raises will be matched penny-for-penny by Sports England. The school and PTA will therefore need all the support it can get to meet its fund-raising targets; so please do whatever you can to come to or help out at PTA meetings and events this year: your efforts will count double. Hope to see you there!

Mark Jervis
Chair of Governors
HOMEWORK

We hear that some of you have had problems with ShowMyHomework – the wrong student lists were on the system and therefore not everyone was getting the Home learning set. This has now been changed and all future homework should go to the right students in the right years. Please see terms 3 & 4 timetable below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W/C</th>
<th>KS2 Homework</th>
<th>KS3 Homework</th>
<th>P21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/01/2016</td>
<td>English (1) M</td>
<td>DT or FT and Computing</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/01/2016</td>
<td>Maths (1) S</td>
<td>Music and French</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/01/2016</td>
<td>Science (1)</td>
<td>Humanities and PE</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25/01/2016</td>
<td>English (3) M</td>
<td>RE and Art</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/02/2016</td>
<td>Science (1)</td>
<td>DT or FT and Computing</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/02/2016</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
<td>Music and French</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/02/2016</td>
<td>Science (1)</td>
<td></td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22/02/2016</td>
<td>English (1) M</td>
<td>Humanities and PE</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29/02/2016</td>
<td>Maths (1) S</td>
<td>RE and Art</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/03/2016</td>
<td>Science (1)</td>
<td>DT or FT and Computing</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/03/2016</td>
<td>English (1) M</td>
<td>Music and French</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/03/2016</td>
<td>Science (1)</td>
<td>Humanities and PE</td>
<td>English (2) M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We hoped you enjoyed reading all our news and will update you again in the New Year.

Merry Christmas!

Mrs N Chandler - *Deputy Head Teacher.*