Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a very cold and frosty Friday! December is here and it certainly feels like Winter! The Christmas tree is up in the entrance and hall; a few decorated trees have appeared over night in classrooms and the talk in the playground this morning was about advent calendars….Christmas is definitely approaching! Hopefully all your Christmas school lunches have now been pre-booked; our Christmas PTA market next Thursday is a date in your diary; Christmas jumpers are being prepared ready for 2 weeks time and you are aware of Trevelyan’s Christmas concert on Tuesday 19th December at 7pm. Lots of lovely things to look forward to.

Talking of Christmas there are also a selection of different activities going on in school for the children – on Wed 13th December all pupils will be off timetable for their tutor progress afternoon where they reflect on the term, their learning and attitude and have an individual appointment with their tutor to discuss their targets going forward; In the evening, some of our children are performing for the Maestros concert; We have a violin assembly on the 14th followed by your Parent meet the tutor evening where you discuss your child’s progress report. On Friday 15th we celebrate Christmas jumper day by wearing our festive tops and then we all have our Christmas school dinner followed by a Year group festive afternoon. Then on Monday 18th we have our Year 5’s having the privilege of visiting Windsor Castle to watch the Christmas Carol performance in the castle grounds; Year 6 go out on the 19th for the afternoon to Upton Court Grammar School to watch their ‘School of Rock’ concert and then in the evening it is back here for our Christmas concert – watch this space too as Miss Ellis is planning on a staff finale at the end!!! Then, with lots of excitement and with only 5 days to go, we all finish school at 1pm on Wednesday 20th December. Very busy but fun times for all!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for completing my parent questionnaire and for those of you who took the time to write personal comments too. We have had an amazing response and are busy collating and analysing the responses. I will update you with what we will do in response to these but please be assured, every single questionnaire will be, or has been, read by myself. I take the point from a lot of year 5 parents who felt this was a little too early in their Trevelyan career – my fault completely, too keen!! I will repeat this after Christmas 2018 next year when you may feel more confident with your responses. The children have also filled in a questionnaire, as have all my staff. I look forward to updating you and will also inform you what is being done as a result of the comments. I also had the pleasure of meeting some of you in the first parent forum this week – again, most appreciated the time to have an informal discussion with you. As a result of this, in the New Year Miss Dixon and myself will run an evening ‘keeping safe online’ talk and also include other social media issues. We are also working on another evening where you will have the opportunity to see the materials, resources, videos used in PSHE lessons when it comes to discussing relationships, changes and sex education. We all talked about this and the majority felt this would be welcomed by parents.
In the past 2 weeks we have also had the Year 8 Henley trip out where the behaviour was impeccable; some pupils went to the dress rehearsal performance of Beauty and The Beast at The Windsor Boys’ School; Year 5 had an afternoon out at Brigidine to listen and meet an author and the school was also involved in a Trust review last week as part of our journey of improvement. We have also seen 5MH perform their class assembly where they discussed achievements; we had our PTA mufti day at the start of the week; The Trust Senior Leaders led assemblies for us and launched their new Pioneer rewards for the pupils and I also had the pleasure of attending the Year 8 STEM Science group who meet after school on a Wednesday. Some amazing work is being done by these pupils, along with Ms Hayes, and we will update you in the next newsletter with the project and its aims for the New Year. All exciting stuff!

This week we sadly said goodbye to Madame Claessens who has delivered some French lessons and has been at the school four years. She is going to work with A Level students after Christmas and we wish her all the very best as she starts her new job.

**Author visit by Aisha Alam**

Last Tuesday Trevelyan’s year 5 went on a trip to Brigidine Girls School to see *Sinclair’s Mysteries* author, Katherine Woodfine.

Katherine talked about her book. She explained all the ideas of the series, and gave us a brief history lesson on Edwardians. Some of us were lucky enough to get to try on some real Edwardian hats! Most of us bought a book and got it signed by Katherine Woodfine herself! We found out how Katherine got idea for her books. She said she got ideas from some of her favourite mystery books and children’s classics we also got some tips for any budding writers out there, so maybe we can write our own bestselling books. I was quite surprised when I found out Katherine used other books for inspiration. We found out that her novel *Midnight Peacock* was based around Christmas time so we had a quiz about Edwardian Christmas. Some facts were really odd, for instance, that Mince pies were originally made of mince!

We really enjoyed going there and it was such a fantastic experience. I really hope you enjoyed reading this article. Aisha Alam

**Library**

Many thanks to parents and staff who have donated unwanted books to the library. Most of the books we have received are in excellent condition and make a huge difference to keeping the library well stocked and making the budget go further. Please keep them coming!

Also, belated thanks for all parents who helped at the book fair last term. We made a very good sum in commission, all of which will go towards books for the library.

*Mrs E Flory - Librarian*
**Sporting News**

**Year 8 Netball League**

On Wednesday 22nd November our year 8s headed off to Furze Platt for our termly League tournament. As always the competition was very high and the girls went in to each of their matches with enthusiasm and a determination to win. Our next league matches will be after Christmas so we will come back fighting then!

**Sports Hall Athletics**

On Thursday 23rd November Mr Brazier and I took 48 year 5/6 students and 26 year 7/8 students off to TVAC for the annual Sports Hall Athletics competition. Again, our students were impeccably behaved and put 100% into every performance. There was a range of events which included an obstacle relay, 4 man relay, 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8 lap races. In the field the students took part in vertical jump, long jump, triple jump, chest push/shot put and javelin. I also took 4 sports leaders to assist with the KS3 and they were just amazing. They organised their teams of 12 and ensured that everyone was at their events on time.

The final results didn’t reflect the effort that our students showed but our KS2 A team (year 6) came 3rd and our B team (year 5 and a couple of year 6) came 5th. Our KS3 boys finished 3rd, 7th and 8th and our KS3 girls finished 3rd.

Well done to all of the pupils who took part.

**Year 5/6 Netball**

On Tuesday 28th November, I took two year 5 teams (including one year 6 pupil) off to Dedworth for some training matches. The girls played consistently and worked hard in all their games. Team 1 were playing against year 6 teams, and team 2 again against year 5 teams. Considering the girls had only had two actual games sessions they did so well. Lovely passing, good special awareness and great team spirit. Well done to all that took part.

**Year 7 & 8 A teams**

I took our A teams off to St Edwards on Monday 27th November. We set off in windy rainy weather and when we arrived we were already losing light. Both teams started very well and were working well in their teams, demonstrating good use of space and defence was very good. The second halves we struggled in the cold to pull ourselves together but that didn’t stop all of the girls trying to win. Well done to all who played.

**Year 7 Netball League**

Year 7 A and B teams had their league matches on Wednesday 29th November at Furze Platt in Maidenhead. Again the A team were against some very good teams from the girls’ schools in Maidenhead. As always, the girls kept their heads up, and worked so hard to maintain positioning and hold off goals. The B team managed to win a couple, draw some and they worked so well. I must mention Amba Desoura who had a fantastic night; playing out of position as a shooter. She got some lovely goals, and her defending was amazing – she just kept turning the ball over and as a result she will be moving to the A team for future matches. Well done Amba and the rest of the girls.
Community News

RBWM Community Carol Concert

I am running an inaugural RBWM community carol concert on Wed 13th Dec, 7.30pm at St Mary’s Church, Slough. It is in aid of Thames Valley Air Ambulance and I would like to invite your parents. If it goes well, I hope to expand the schools involved dramatically next year and hold it in a bigger venue.

I would be immensely grateful if parents could support this so we can sell lots of tickets for a worthy cause. Come along, sing some carols and hear the newly formed Royal Borough Pops Orchestra in action – you won’t be disappointed!

Many thanks in advance, and I hope to see some of you there!

Ben Stevens
Area Senior Leader – Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead
Berkshire Maestros

Community Carol Concert 2017
Sing your way into Christmas with The Royal Borough Pops Orchestra!
Featuring performances from
Royal Borough Symphonic Brass, Windsor Contemporary Voices and our community school choir
St Mary’s Church, Slough SL1 1PJ
Wednesday 13th December
Doors open 7pm Adults £8 ~ Under 12yrs £6
Book tickets online at:
www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk
In support of the Thames Valley Air Ambulance

Alexander Devine Santa Dash

Thank you so much for allowing us to put up a banner outside Trevelyan advertising our 5th annual Santa Dash in Windsor on Sunday! We had a great day and record numbers, thanks to your help! We couldn’t have wished for a better day and the weather, although chilly, was just perfect for a winter festive Santa Dash.

On the day we had just under 400 Dashers and to date have raised £13,000 with more sponsorship money still coming in! We are absolutely delighted, this is our most successful Santa Dash to date! As a small team at Alexander Devine none of what we do is possible without the great support of local supporters – you helped to make our day possible, thank you so much! Rest assured all of the money raised will go directly towards supporting local children with life limiting and life threatening conditions.
We have had great coverage in the local papers already, even in the national paper The Daily Star!

We have plenty more great images to share with you of our special day – please keep an eye on our Facebook page@AlexanderDevineHospice
Alexander’s Care Team are providing the specialist care that families need to stay at home together for as long as possible, creating lifelong memories. We are currently supporting over 100 families in our community. Our Santa Dash fundraising is enabling us to continue to expand our services to reach even more local children and their families. Our children’s hospice, the ‘home from home’ we all eagerly anticipate will enable us to deliver even more specialist paediatric palliative care to children when it opens its doors early next year— we cannot wait to see families using the beautifully designed space.

We really hope to do the Santa Dash all over again next year on the last Sunday in November in Windsor and to attract even more Dashers - we really hope that we can count on your support again.
We couldn’t have organised such a successful event without all your help behind the scenes and we are so incredibly thankful.

Warmest wishes
Julia and The Santa Dash Team x

Julia Philipson
Community Fundraiser
E: juliap@AlexanderDevine.org | M: 07803 501601
http://www.alexanderdevine.org/

Macmillan Cancer Support
Back in September you may remember we hosted a Macmillan Coffee & Cake morning which many of you supported with your delicious bakes and many of you attended to buy a cake or two as well as lots of support from our pupils. Our efforts raised an incredible £538.91, so thank you once again for the part you played in raising funds for this fantastic charity that does a wonderful job in our community.
From the Office

We are once again getting reports of head lice from parents and so please check and treat your child if necessary to stop their spread. There are widely available treatments but please follow the manufactures instructions. Thank you.

As well as the website for news please follow us on Twitter for all the latest information @TrevelyanMiddle

…and finally

Wishing you all a lovely weekend (Christmas shopping maybe??) and I will update you again in the last week of term. I look forward to meeting you during the Parents’ Evening, seeing you at the Christmas market next Thursday and of course, singing away at Trevelyan’s annual Christmas concert.

Mrs Chandler – Head of School