

#### A message from Mrs Naffati

Happy New Year to you all; I hope the Christmas break was a good one for you and your family. We have a very busy term planned packed full of lovely trips, experiences, events and fundraising which we hope our families will enjoy and support.

We were all extremely saddened by the tragic loss of our dear friend and mum Rachel Turner during the Christmas holidays. Not only was Rachel an incredibly brave, courageous and resilient woman, she was also a staff's child, close friend to many staff and had, in her job as a midwife, delivered many of our children! In her honour we will continue to raise funds for both Cancer Research and for St Giles Hospice and follow her wishes in living life to the full, smiling and being thankful for each day.

Our first event will be open to all parents and families next Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January from 2.00pm in the hall where we will be hosting an 'Afternoon tea'. There will be home-made cakes, tea and coffee £2.50 for cake and a drink. All proceeds will be going to St Giles Hospice in memory of Rachel. Please spread the word to junior parents, family and friends as we are hoping to raise as much money as we can for this Charity. Thank you in advance for your support.



#### Attendance

The table below celebrates the attendance of the best class each week. The class with the most consistent attendance this term was Dolphin class with 97.2% overall!!! Our school attendance is currently 95.5%



Week beginning 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Bumblebee AM Lion Class	Both 100%
Week beginning 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Monkey class	99.3%
Week beginning 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Bumblebee PM Jellyfish class	100% 99.7%
Week beginning 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Panther Class	99.3%
Week beginning 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Panther Class	99%
Week beginning 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Lion Class	98.6%
Week beginning 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Panther Class	94.8%
Week beginning 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Bear Class	97.7%



#### Punctuality

With a new year beginning it is a perfect time to kick-start those resolutions. Just a reminder that registration starts at 8.55am and lessons begin at 9.00am every day – so please ensure your child is in school on time. We do keep track of punctuality as carefully as attendance as both have a massive impact on children's attainment and wellbeing. Remember gates are open for Nursery from 8.40am-8.50am and the rest of school at 8.45am and close at 8.55am to ensure all children are safely inside and ready to start their day on time.

#### New Reading Scheme

As part of our recent changes we have invested a huge amount of money, in excess of £12,000, in a new reading scheme called Rising Stars Reading Planet which is modern, appealing to our young readers and one which prepares them for the changes in the Key Stage 1 Curriculum. Children will be meeting the Comic Street Kids as they embark on many new adventures. We hope you enjoy the new books and trust you will look after them well. Please remember to keep water bottles away from the new books so everyone can enjoy them in pristine condition and our money will have been well-spent! Unfortunately any damaged books will have to be paid for as they have been purchased in sets. Thank you for your support.



#### PTA – 'New Invention Friends'

It was lovely to see so many parents attending our PTA meeting in November and this resulted in a highly successful Autumn Fayre which raised in excess of £850.00 which is amazing! Thank you to everyone who helped to organise the event and to families for their support during the evening.



#### Reminder

The pathway from the alleyway is a shared area for both the infant and junior parents to access school. Please remember to adhere to a queuing system to be fair to all parents who have been waiting patiently. Thank you for your consideration and support.



## Parking Problems

We are still having considerable problems with parking along Cannock Road. I understand it is inconvenient and difficult for some families to walk to school, however the parking in our school road is becoming very dangerous! Some people are parking fully on pavements and this means our smallest children and families with pushchairs have no choice than to walk onto the main road which is an accident waiting to happen and completely avoidable! We urge everyone to consider others when parking close to school to avoid the need to involve parking wardens.



## Competition

Miss Wallace launched a road safety poster campaign before Christmas. The winning entry was Lucas Lovell from Dolphin class who received Wheely Bright LED Bike Wheel And Frame Lights. Well done to everyone who took part and look out around school for other highly commended entries on the walls.



## Protecting your property

We have regular Neighbourhood Alerts and updates provided by West Midlands police. Their latest one gives sound advice.

"Why not take the opportunity to do something about your home security by registering your belongings – especially the new stuff you or your family have had for Christmas – by registering them on [immobilise.com](http://immobilise.com)?


[Immobilise](http://immobilise.com) is the UK's FREE property registration database and is used by the police to trace stolen or recovered property. Any items can be registered on the system, including mobile devices, computers, TV and other electronic equipment, bicycles and motorbikes; even cars, jewellery and antiques can be registered with the facility to upload identifying photographs. It only takes a few minutes to register your valuables and you will be improving your chances of getting them back in the case of loss or theft as well as assisting the police collar the bad guys. It can also be used by businesses. Marking your property with a good old fashioned ultra-violet marker pen is another easy and cost-effective way of protecting your valuables. Pens are available to buy online, or contact your [neighbourhood policing team](#) to see if they have a pen they can give you. Use the invisible ink to write your postcode and house number onto valuables."

## Toy Sale

We are having a toy sale on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February in the hall from 2.00pm. Parents can come along to grab a bargain; both used and new toys will be on sale donated by other parents. Money raised will be shared between school and a local homeless charity suggested by a parent in PTA.



## Diary Dates so far

Reception	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Reception will be embarking on their 'Superhero Day' as part of their new topic. Children can dress up in a costume of their choice or create their own home-made one!
Whole school and community	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	'Afternoon tea' in memory of Rachel Turner – all proceeds to St Giles Hospice (see above) From 2pm in the school hall all families, friends, relations and community members are welcome to raise as much money as we can.
Whole school and community	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Join us in the dining room at 2.30pm for PTA – 'New Invention Friends' to plan our next fundraising activities for school. A hot drink and biscuits await you – we aim to be finished by 3.00pm when people who attend can take their children early.
Whole school and community	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Toy Sale in the hall from 2.00pm (see above for more details)
Whole school 	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Consultation Evening 4.00pm – 6.30pm Sign up for a convenient appointment time outside your classroom door nearer to the time. We will be asking for people to complete an online 'Parent View' questionnaire also to ensure we are providing the best service we can to our children and families and to help us learn where we can improve. There will be staff on hand to assist you in school.
DOLPHIN CLASS ONLY	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Consultation Evening 5.00pm – 7.30pm DOLPHIN CLASS ONLY!!!! Sign up for a convenient appointment time outside Dolphin door nearer to the time. Apologies for the change of date for just this class.
Whole school (not Dolphin class)	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Consultation Evening 5.00pm – 7.30pm All classes except for Dolphins!! Sign up for a convenient appointment time outside your classroom door nearer to the time. We will be asking for people to complete an online 'Parent View' questionnaire also to ensure we are providing the best service we can to our children and families and to help us learn where we can improve. There will be staff on hand to assist you in school.
Whole school	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Break up for half term. All children can come to school in their own clothes today. Instead of a donation to school fund please bring in a bottle for our Easter Fayre – this could be pop, shampoo, wine, bubble bath, sauce... Thank you.



Thank you for reading this newsletter. Please keep it somewhere safe and if other family members bring or collect your child, share it with them too!