



Sherborne Church of England Primary School

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20th December, 2024

Dear Parents,

As the most wonderful time of the year rapidly approaches, I find myself reflecting fondly on the year that has passed, and looking forward with anticipation to the time that is to come. There has been much to celebrate since the new school year started so please do excuse the proverbial 'blowing of the trumpet'!

500 Words

Writing a short story in no more than 500 words is no mean feat, yet children across the country did exactly that this term through entering the BBC's annual '500 Words' competition. Judging began on 11th November, where the panel reduced the 44,000 entries to just 5,000. All children from Sherborne entered the competition and it is with great pleasure that I am able to reveal that the stories of four children have been judged to be of a particularly high standard and have progressed to the next round. Many congratulations to Darcey Caless, Zakariah Khalid, Belle Pether and Archie Walton. The next stage of the competition will see the 5,000 entries reduced to a shortlist of just 50.

Super-Here-O Awards

Having written to all parents at half term, punctuality and attendance have been in sharp focus this term. Huge congratulations to our first Super-Here-Os of the school year, who have all attended school every day and arrived on time: Matilda Birtles, Jemima Elliott, Emily Hovey, Iona Inglis, Caspar Massoudi, Max Massoudi, Belle Pether, Rupert Todd and Rafe White. Each child received a certificate and a prize at the end of last week, and we look forward uncovering more Super-Here-Os at the end of the Spring Term.

Governors and Academisation

The final governors' meeting of the academic year witnessed a rather unusual happening as all governors effectively resigned! This was not some mass protest however, but a necessary step forward in forming the school's new local governing board once the school becomes an academy on 1st February. The board will comprise the following members:

- Mr William Russell, Parent Governor
- Mrs Emmie Penfold, Foundation Governor
- Mrs Elinor Crosbie-Dawson, Foundation Governor
- Mr Peter Walton, Parent Governor
- Mrs Susie Sutton, Co-Opted Governor



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- Mr Duncan Lambourne, Staff Governor
- Mr John Moore, Headteacher

It is with huge thanks that we recognise the service and contributions of Nick Fisher, Piers Pether and Jonathan Summers, who have stepped down from the school's governing board. Each has been instrumental in setting the strategic direction for the school and led on areas such as premises and finance. All are keen to remain attached to the school and help the school realise its plans of building a school hall and new classrooms!

Upcoming Events

The Spring Term is often the shortest of the school year, but looking ahead it is already shaping up to be a busy one! Special events for the children to look forward to include:

- KS2 Orienteering at Sherborne Woods
- Fox Class p-buzz lessons
- Whole school trip to see an orchestra in Bristol
- Year 1 and 2 Benchball competition
- Owl Class trip to Bletchley Park
- KS2 Panathlon Festival
- Erasmus trip to Latvia
- Year 5 Bikeability
- Hedgehog Class trip to Cogges Manor Farm
- Easter Service
- Fox and Owl Class trip to Toddington

Finally, I am sure you will all wish to join me in sending our thoughts and prayers to Miss Williams. Michelle has been away from school for several weeks due to illness and we are hopeful that she is able to make a good recovery over the Christmas period and be back at Sherborne in January.

On behalf of all the children and staff at Sherborne CofE Primary School, I would like to wish you a Christmas and New Year full of joy, happiness and laughter. Thank you all once again for your continued support this term. We look forward with hope and anticipation to what next year brings!

Merry Christmas,



John Moore
Headteacher



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