

Newsletter

Friday 6th December 2019

**Brenchley & Matfield
CE Primary School**
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OFSTED Rated: GOOD and SIAMS (School Inspections of Anglican & Methodist Schools) Rated: GOOD
A recognised centre of excellence for training new teachers

“Love each other as I have loved you”, John 15 v 12
Integrity, Humility, Compassion, Forgiveness and Grace

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to this week's newsletter. Christmas has officially begun at Brenchley and Matfield with our Christmas Gift day what a super way to end the week. Thank you as always to the parents who have donated such fantastic gifts and to all the volunteers who have given up their time to sort and wrap the gifts for all the children. It truly is a wonderful way to start the Christmas festivities and a fantastic opportunity for the children to buy gifts for their family in a safe and supportive environment.

Netball Sadly, Mrs Hunt has finally decided to hang up her Netball shoes after 16 years of dedicating her time to run a Netball club in school. So many children have benefitted from her tuition and knowledge throughout the years. So we would like to say a huge thank you to her for supporting so many girls and boys to love and take part in Netball. We know that so many children have continued to play at secondary school and also into adult hood. Well done Mrs Hunt and thank you.

Reading As promised here is the information regarding reading in Key stage 2. As children move into Key Stage 2, children read in many different ways: sometimes on their own “quiet reading”, reading in a group with teacher or an additional adult, reading one to one with an adult (class teacher, teaching assistant or reading volunteer), reading comprehensions (whole class, small groups or one to one) Every class has a focus text, usually where possible, connected to the topic the children are learning about. This high quality text, is carefully chosen to engage and stimulate

the children to either want to read more by the same author or read the same genre. Alongside this, children also learn about the language techniques authors use including their choice of vocabulary. The teacher also selects a text to read aloud to the class, which usually happens at the end of the day. This is an opportunity for the class to experience a book which either relates to a theme, an author selection, to have a discussion and more simply to just listen and enjoy having a story read by an adult. We want all children no matter what their reading ability to have access to and enjoy a wide range of literature. We also have many programmes which support children with all aspects of reading such as “Word Shark” a phonics-based programme which helps children with their reading of words and also supporting with their spelling. This year we have introduced “Bedrock” which is an engaging and stimulating online reading programme which supports children with their comprehension skills such as inference. It is also systematically building up children's vocabulary and knowledge of new words. **Current Research** has been carried out in homes that have a culture of having books and reading to children extends the vocabulary size and this then relates to academic success. Simply put: knowing more words makes you smarter. **It is just as important to read to children as it is for them to read to you, no matter what their age!!** And remember that local libraries are a good way to provide your children with a more extensive range of books. The Library Van is in Brenchley on Friday mornings.



Brenchley & Matfield PTFA



A huge thank you to Paddock Wood Garden Centre (previously Wyevale) for kindly donating our wonderful school Christmas tree. Please go & visit their fantastic Christmas display to show our appreciation & thanks!

Thank you to all who supported last week's school disco! We raised a fantastic £468.25 whilst having a lot of fun! Special thanks as always to the staff & parent volunteers for giving up their time & making the event possible!



Last but not least, don't forget our last PTFA event of the year - our FREE Christmas Craft after school event on Tuesday 17th December. Come & make some Christmas decorations & family presents in the school hall from 3.15 -4.30pm. **All welcome - please note children must be accompanied by an adult, thank you.**



Christmas Post Box is now in the foyer. Children can post Christmas cards to their friends/staff and Year 6 children will deliver them. Please make sure envelopes are clearly marked with the recipient's full name and class name - this helps with distribution!



Whole School Attendance

Attendance for last week - 92.6%

Class with best attendance:

Year 2 - 99.3%

Late Entries: 17 (7 children)

Diary Dates

- 10 Dec: KS1 Nativity 9.30am
- 11 Dec: KS1 Nativity 2pm
- 13 Dec: Year 6 Class Assembly, 9.05am
- 13 Dec: Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
- 17 Dec: Reception Nativity 9.30am
- 18 Dec: Christmas Lunch
- 20 Dec Christmas Service 9.30am
- 20 Dec: End of Term 2
- 6 Jan 2020: Term 3 Starts
- 14 Feb 2020: Term 3 Ends

Golden Book Entries

Rec: Milo & Jude; Year 1: Lillie & Lily-Anne; Year 2: Ross & Thomas; Year 3: Mackenzie & Joseph; Year 4: Daisy & Max (P); Year 5: Jack & Kip and Year 6: Everyone.

