



CHEPSTOW HOUSE NEWS



Volume 7 Issue 4

30th November 2015

Dates to remember!

Mon 30 Nov

LAST WEEK OF CLUBS

Tues 1 Dec

**Yr 4 v Knightsbridge
Football & Netball**

Wed 2 Dec

**RECEPTION
NATIVITY**

**SPARROW & WREN
CLASSES**

9.30am Coffee & mince
pies

10.00am Performance

YEAR 1 DANCE

SHOWCASE 3.00pm

Thurs 3 Dec

**RECEPTION
NATIVITY**

**ROBIN & STARLING
CLASSES**

9.30am Coffee & mince
pies

10.00am Performance

**Yr 3 v Knightsbridge
Football & Netball**

Fri 4 Dec

**Woodpecker
Assembly**

*Parents welcome from
8.30am for coffee and
croissants*

YEAR 2 DANCE

SHOWCASE 3.00pm

Mon 7 Dec

**YEAR 3 TRIP TO
MUSEUM OF BRANDS**

Dear Parents

Although we are very much looking forward to the festivities that surround this time of year, I am also aware of the heightened need for vigilance and awareness. As a staff we have discussed this and have ensured that our evacuation plans and risk assessments continue to be reviewed and in place. The teachers regularly discuss how to stay safe with the children, as I am sure you as parents also do. Can I also ask that you check your details are correct on the class cascade, informing your class rep if they are not.

These last few weeks are going to be very busy with many performances to watch, which we are all looking forward to – I am sure they will really get us all in the festive spirit. The children have been practising hard and Mike and Benny, our trusty caretakers, have been very industrious making stage sets and organising a new stage lighting system. Hopefully we will be in for a great treat.

Best wishes

A Barr
Headmistress

Change to Lunches at Chepstow House

From January we will be focussing on table manners at the lunch table. The children will be encouraged to remain seated throughout the lunch time, hold their knives and forks correctly, try new foods and be respectful of each other. Also, instead of a cake dessert at lunch time it will now be served at break time, leaving only yoghurt and fruit to be had after their meal. We hope that this will urge the children to take their time over eating, rather than rushing to be first finished.

Rugby Portobello Trust

On Tuesday November 24th a very special assembly was held at Chepstow House School. Since its beginning, Chepstow has supported the Rugby Portobello Trust and their annual Show Box Appeal and this year was no exception.

Every year, the RBT launch an appeal to give some of the thousands of children they help a very happy Christmas morning. Shoe boxes are filled with toys and necessities for boys and girls of varying ages in order to ensure that they will not be forgotten at this very special time of year.

A cause which is very close to the hearts of the children at Chepstow House, shoe boxes poured in, brightly wrapped and filled to their brims! Riley from the RBT came in to speak to us about how important our shoe boxes are and who they will be going to - he even promised to send us some pictures of the children opening them!

We know that Christmas is a time for giving presents and the children talked about how it made them feel when they received presents; "Happy!", "Joyful!", "Excited!". But equally as important was the feeling that they get when they give a present; "Happy because the person receiving it is excited to see what is inside", "Delighted!", "Good because of the happiness the other person will feel".

We are happy to continue our support to this very special cause and thank Mrs Cairncross, Riley and Mrs Templeton for working so hard in making sure that the children of the RBT keep receiving their presents on Christmas morning. *Miss Hentsch*



Dates to remember!

Tue 8 Dec

YEARS 1 & 2

CAROL CONCERT

5pm Coffee & mince pies

5.30pm Concert

Wed 9 Dec

YEARS 3 & 4

CAROL CONCERT

5pm Coffee & mince pies

5.30pm Concert

Thurs 10 Dec

Christmas lunch

Cinderella Pantomime

Fri 11 Dec

CHRISTMAS FUN DAY

END OF TERM STARTS

Reception 12.00pm

Year 1 12.15pm

Yrs 2 & 3 12.30pm

Year 4 12.35pm

START OF TERM

Tue 5th January 2016

From the Year 1

Year 1 will be designing and making Christmas decorations to sell in aid of our charity, The More Smiles Appeal. The Christmas decorations will be on sale for Year One parents to buy from 8:30am on Tuesday 8th December in each of the three classrooms. The decorations will also be on sale to all parents throughout the school on Wednesday morning and children will be able to buy them during lunchtimes. If your child would like to buy a decoration, they should bring in £1 on either of these days. The children are very excited about their fundraising opportunity and we look forward to raising more money for our special charity. Thank you in advance for your support! *Miss Donegan, Miss Fossett and Miss O'Sullivan*

School Council Christmas Tree Decoration Competition

The School Council needs your help! This Tuesday we are having two Christmas trees delivered. They need decorating. We would love you to join our Christmas tree decorating competition.

What you need to do:

- Make a snazzy Christmas decoration at home
- Make sure it is clearly named
- Bring the decoration in to school along with a £1.

The £1 entry fee will go to our school charity 'More Smiles.'

All entries need to be in school by Friday 4th December.

Prizes will then be awarded in assembly. *The School Council*

Christmas Fun day

On Friday 11th December we will be having a Christmas Fun Day. The children will be taking part in a range of fun activities organised by the School Council. They may wear festive clothes to school instead of their school uniforms. We will be asking for a donation to our school charity 'More Smiles' for the children to take part in this event. *The School Council*



Road Safety Week 2015

A big thank you goes to the 'Cycle Training UK' team who joined us on the 23rd November for some scooter training in the playground. Despite the cold weather, the children enjoyed developing their scooter skills – learning how to find their balance, make emergency stops and negotiate corners. The children reflected on the other users of the pavement when learning the rules of the footpath. It was a chilly but very worthwhile activity for all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children.

Mrs Barr was very impressed with all the entries for the 2015 Road Safety Poster. Congratulations to Zinzi (from the Sparrow Class) for being selected to appear on our new Chepstow Travel Board. The effort from all children was outstanding and a wide range of entries can be found displayed around the school. *Mrs Templeton*

Year 3 Netball



On Tuesday 17th November Year 3 played a Netball match against Pembridge Hall. It was a really difficult game against a very experienced school but we tried really hard throughout. We worked as a team and made sure we were focused and listening to Miss Whitbread. On the day it was pouring with rain but everyone really wanted to play. Due to our determination, Chepstow House went on to win the game with goals scored by Ana Filitti and Antonia Costa-Fayed.



The final result was **3-0 to Chepstow House**. **Player of the Match: Kei Pilz**

We look forward to our next match against Knightsbridge on Thursday 3rd December.

Written by Year 3 Netball Captain: **Antonia Cost-Fayed**

Dance News

Final rehearsals are underway for the Dance Show this week; the children have been practising really hard to remember their routines. A reminder of performance dates:

Monday 30 th November	3:00pm-3:30pm	Year 3 and 4
Wednesday 2 nd December	3:00pm-3:30pm	Year 1
Friday 4 th December	3:00pm-3:30pm	Year 2

From the Reception . . .

Reception Starlings and Wrens went to visit the Science Museum. It was a very busy and action packed morning. In one part of the museum, the children got to explore the 'garden'. This had a lot of exciting objects and activities to play with, including a great water section where the children could experiment with using different forces. The other part of the morning was spent watching the 'Enormous Turnip'. Some children were even allowed to get involved!



Friday 20th November, a few parents talked to the Starling and Sparrow classes about Thanksgiving. The children loved getting a sticker and talking about what they were thankful for.

We have also been spending a lot of time practising for our Nativity which will be taking place next week. The children have worked really hard on their lines and we would like to thank all the parents for helping their children to practise at home. We would also like to thank the parents for organising the costumes.

Last Friday, Reception celebrated dinosaur day! It was a day filled with dinosaur activities. Thank you for helping the children look so fierce and yet endearing! Thank you also to all of those who brought in games, toys and books to share with their class.



This week we are very busy making our final preparations for the Nativity. The children have worked extremely hard on their lines and songs and are really looking forward to showing off their efforts.

Next week we will be learning about Hanukkah. If there are any parents who would like to come and talk to the children about this, we would love to hear from you. *The Reception team*

DS Comics publishes special edition comic for charity

DS Comics, the brainchild of Ruby, Oliver, Ava, Ed, Teddy and Jameson (Year 3, Woodlarks), has published its first ever special edition comic book in order to raise funds for our charity, the St Mary's More Smiles Appeal. The budding authors and illustrators came up with the idea back in October.

Ava: It all started on the 8th of October when we decided that we wanted to start making comic books. We came up with a name for our team, 'DS Comics'. The 'DS' stands for 'Drawback Squad'.

Ruby: At first we thought that we would only sell old fashioned 'Game Busters' comics. We then expanded and started drawing 'Minecraft' comics but after a while, it got a bit boring. Then Jameson came up with our first colour edition, 'Haribo'.

Jameson: The 'Haribo' comic is about a monster who runs into a lot of trouble! This edition was a lot of fun to make as it was a new direction for 'DS Comics'.

Ed: We are very proud of our work and we are always going to donate money. We priced our comic books at £1/£2 and promise to carry on making our comics with the hope of selling more in the future.

Teddy: On November 26th we sold our comics at my Thanksgiving party. At first, we did not make any money but we did not give up! Then, someone bought one of our comics for £5 - we were very excited!

Oliver: We raised a total of £64 in one evening! All of our proceeds will go to the St Mary's More Smiles Appeal which we are very proud to support!

Lookout for a DS Comic at a newsagents near you and support Chepstow House School as it raises funds for St Mary's! A big thank you to the team at DS Comics for their support to this worthwhile cause.



Year 4 visit to the British Museum

Last week, Year 4 went to the British Museum to learn more about how the Ancient Greeks lived. We discovered lots of ancient art work - on pots and marble sculptures and looked at some Ancient Greek architecture. We were amazed by the level of detail in the artefacts we saw, some of the pots we looked at were almost 3000 years old! We had a really enjoyable morning and are looking forward to learning more about the Ancient Greeks in topic this year. *Year 4 team*

