



# Brabourne CE Primary School

Newsletter 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016

## **Final Farewell**

This will be my last newsletter to you so I wanted to say thank you.

Thank you to all the parents who have been so supportive of me and the school. I think I have been very lucky as a headteacher with parents who have trusted me with their children's well-being and learning. Thank you to the staff who are so dedicated and professional. Each member of staff contributes a great deal to the school but I need to highlight Mrs Mac who we all know is the backbone that ensures the smooth running of the school – I certainly couldn't have done this job without her.

Most of all though, thank you to the children. I have absolutely loved chatting with you; caring for you and especially watching you grow. I remember our Year sixes when they started in Year R (and some before that as pre-schoolers waiting at the gate for an older sibling). I've got to know each year group since and each child's individual character. This has been the most rewarding part of the job.

Although my successor has not yet been decided I have every confidence that the Governors will make the right decision. I'm reassured that Mr Stapley will be leading the school until a new headteacher is appointed and know he has a very strong team to ensure the children's well-being and education will continue to be of the highest standard.

I've been at Brabourne for six and a half years which is the longest I have been anywhere and feel it is time for a change; to find new challenges; new experiences; new things to learn. I haven't any definite plans for the future so I don't know what lies ahead for me but I will leave with many happy memories. I have promised the children I'll visit to see how they're getting on and if the school ever needs my help, I'll gladly give it. So have a very happy Christmas with your children and hopefully see you sometime in 2017.

## **Church Service**

Please drop off the children at the church on Monday from 8.40am onwards. The service will start at 9am and should last about 40 minutes. The children will then travel back to school by coach.

## **School Dinner Payments from January 2017**

From January Mrs Mac will no longer be doing the cash-collecting on behalf of Caterlink, therefore Caterlink will be adhering to their strict rules concerning payments and sending in their own staff to oversee this.

Mrs Mac has tried to inform as many parents as possible, that all payments for dinners will have to be made on the day or in advance – no one will be allowed to have dinners all week and pay on the Friday. On the first day that a child has a meal, which is not paid for, a text will go to the parents advising that the child must either bring a packed lunch the following day or payment – if neither is brought in the school will not supply a meal.

Mrs Mac has contacted Caterlink again today, to try and obtain a date for the start of the online payment system – if it is in place in time for the start of the new term in January, Mrs Mac will send out details to parents.

The new menu for January is attached – please remember that 2 weeks notice is required for change to or from school dinner.

## **Awards Assembly**

The awards assembly will be on Tuesday at 9am. Parents of children who will be receiving certificates will be informed beforehand but all parents are welcome to attend.

## **Class Christmas Parties**

In the afternoon of Tuesday, each class will have a party with games and then we will all gather together in the hall for a whole school Christmas "banquet". Class teachers will let children know what party food/snacks they need to bring in.

PTO

### **PTA News**

*Thank you to everyone who made last week's Christmas Fayre a success - from all the volunteers who ran a stall, baked a cake, wrapped presents, prepared Santa's grotto, donated bottles and jars, sourced prizes, helped set up, helped clear up and lastly, all the families who came along and supported us on the day. We raised a total of £1,357 and even got a mention in the local paper.*

*The last event for this year is the Surprise Room this Thursday. For those unfamiliar with it, each child gets to choose a gift (one for mum and for dad) which they will wrap up at school ready to put under the tree at home. You then get a gift on Christmas morning which is a genuine surprise! All you need to do is send your child to school with £1.50 per gift and we will do the rest. Look out for a flyer in school bags with all the details.*

*Lastly - wishing you all a very Happy Christmas. Thank you for all your support throughout 2016 and see you in the New Year.*

*Isabel Perks*

**Vincent Chan**  
**Headteacher**

### **Dates for diary**

Thursday 15 Dec	PTA Surprises room
Friday 16 Dec	Christmas school lunch
Monday 19 Dec	Church Service
Tuesday 20 Dec	Awards Assembly; Class Christmas Parties; End of Term 2
Wednesday 4 Jan	Start of Term 3 ( <i>Mr Chan can have a lie in</i> )