



13th January

Wednesday 25th January

Reception Heights & Weights

Friday 27th January

Year 3&4 Film Night

Tuesday 7th February

Reception Chinese New Year Celebrations - parents invited 2.15pm

Tuesday 7th February

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 14th February

Braiswick Photographic

20th–24th February Half Term

Wednesday 1st March

Year 6 SATs Information Meeting 3.30pm

Thursday 2nd March

Year 2 SATs Information Meeting 2.40pm

Friday 3rd March

Bingo Night

Tuesday 7th & 8th March

Parents Evenings 4-7 pm

Thursday 9th March

Year 5 Physics Day

Monday 13th March

Year 4 Shakespeare Workshop

Week beginning 20th March

Shakespeare Week

Thursday 23rd March

Mother's Day Assembly Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 9.10am

Friday 24th March

Mother's Day Assembly Key Stage 2 9.10am

Friday 31st March

Disco

Wednesday 5th April

Year 5 Easter Assembly 9.10am

Thursday 6th April

Year 5 Easter Assembly 9.10am

Friday 7th April

Break up for Easter

**Next Newsletter;
Friday 27th January**

Film Night This term the Friends are holding their Film Night for Years 3&4 on Friday 27th January - a letter was sent out this week with details on. Please see the office if you have not received one.

Welcome back

On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank everyone for their cards and seasons greetings. The Autumn Term was a very busy and successful term. Huge congratulations to all the children for the excellent Christmas Productions that were enjoyed by many in school and our local community.

Snow Closures

The threat of snow is in the news a lot at present. Should the need arise to close the school, the main way to communicate this will be via text message. Please contact the office if your mobile number has recently changed. We will also put a notice on the school's website and social media pages.

Crossing Patrol on St Faith's Road

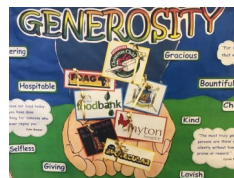
The Town Council has arranged for grit to be provided to make the section used by the crossing patrol officer outside Our Ladies safer. The community are looking for volunteers to apply the grit on cold icy mornings. If you know anyone who would like to do this, please ask them to contact the school office.

Our **Christian Value** this half term is **Generosity** and we will be investigating the meaning of this in our Value's Assemblies. Last term our children and families demonstrated this value with all the kind donations for Operation Christmas child and sponsored events for Myton Hospice. Our parents are also generous with the time they give to volunteering in school and supporting their children.

Today we have sent home with the children, a 'Home School Values' information sheet about generosity. Please take time to read this with your children and support them with any tasks.

We always love to hear about how your children or your family are demonstrat-

ing our Christian Values so if you or your children have shown generosity in any form could you please write in their planners and we will share this in class and our Values Assemblies.



After School Clubs

These will start next week (16th January). Clubs start at 3.30pm and finish at 4.30pm (except Recorder which finishes at 4pm and Choir at 4.15pm). Children stay at school at the end of the school day, have their snack and drink and get changed ready for the clubs to start at 3.30pm. Letters confirming places were sent home on Wednesday 11th January. There are limited spaces still available on some clubs: African Drumming, Artbase, Multi Skills, Girls Football, German, Tennis Y4/5/6 & Dance Y4/5/6. Some parents have asked what 'Multi Sports' is, this is a combination of different sports which will involve some football, table tennis, rugby, tennis and basketball.

Year Group Newsletters

All Year groups took home their phase newsletters this week with details of what the children will be learning this term. Class routines are included, detailing when your children will be doing PE and sport. Please can PE kits be in school every day. This information is also available on our website www.alcesterstnicholas.co.uk

Leave of Absence

Please see overleaf for more information regarding leave of absence requests.

Forest School Request

A reminder that **Forest School** started this week for

years 3 and 5 - if anyone has any spare waterproofs, wellies or time to help volunteer please contact the office.

Birthdays

Each week, your child will continue to celebrate their birthday at school in Celebration Assembly on a Friday morning and it will be celebrated on the Friday of the week that their birthday falls. As today is the first Celebration Assembly of the term children whose birthdays fell between 1st - 13th January have had their birthdays celebrated. Next week will be 14th - 20th January.

Drop off and Pick up

Increasing numbers of children are being left on the school playground unattended before 8.40am. This is a particular concern at this time of year with the cold mornings. Breakfast Club opens at 8.25am, please can children booked in, not be dropped off prior to this as there is no one to supervise them. School finishes at 3.10pm for Reception Year 1&2 and 3.15pm for the Juniors. Please ensure appropriate arrangements have been made. Should you wish your child to walk home alone, please inform the class teacher and send a letter in confirming this.

Online Devices

For many children, Father Christmas has brought exciting devices that enable them to access the internet. For guidance on how to ensure your child's device settings are safe please visit <http://www.internetmatters.org/controls/interactive-guide/> as it provides some of the clearest guidance, images and instructions on how to do this.

**Mrs Karen O'Shea
Head of School**

Reminder for Parents – Leave Of Absence during Term Time

As you will all be aware, current attendance regulations stipulate a Head teacher may not grant a leave of absence during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what he/she views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. If the leave is granted, the head teacher is able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service of Warwickshire County Council

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued and not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Parents are asked to respect the new regulations under which the school must work and if there is a need to take a child out of school during term-time, an application or request must be made in advance and make clear how the circumstances are exceptional.

DRAGONS

For the first two weeks of term the whole school have been entering the world of Dragons!

The school has been overrun with dragons this week, as all year groups have embarked on an exciting, two week project.

All of the children have been actively engaged with this whole school project. They have been creating and describing dragons, finding dragon eggs and footprints, making dragon puppets, writing playscripts and instructions for taming dragons, creating dragons from tangrams and using persuasive arguments for and against keeping dragons in captivity.

Soon, the school corridor will display the outcomes from this project and each year group will present their work to the rest of the school next Friday.

