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NEWSLETTER

Spring Term No 5

Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

And to begin with, a huge thank-you to everyone – staff, children, parents and friends – for making our Christmas celebrations and the end of term such a huge success.

- In spite of working with less space than usual, the PFA's Christmas Fayre was as busy as ever, and raised almost £600 for school funds. There was a super atmosphere at the event – many thanks to the PFA and to everyone who attended.
- Our two productions, *The Drummer Boy* and *Santa's on Strike* were absolutely fantastic, and we hope to have video clips on the school website in the next few days, as well as CDs of the productions for you to buy at a small cost. It was marvellous, as always, for our children to play to 'full houses' and the quality of the productions really reflected all the hard work that was put in.
- Our send-off for Ms Davies was really special, and I know that Ms Davies was moved by the warmth of all the many good wishes she received from you all on her retirement. As you'll have realised, staff and children still found the time and energy to mark her leaving with a lot of fun and affection. Our final day felt like a true celebration of everything that Ms Davies has achieved during her long career in Tower Hamlets.

Year 5 Make the BBC News!

Year 5 are currently taking part in a special music project, organized through Tower Hamlets Arts and Music Service. The children are working with a professional music company, Mahogany Opera, to help compose and perform their own opera. The BBC news team came in and filmed the children at work last term, and you can see their film on the BBC news website here:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-42431837/the-school-children-writing-an-opera>

We feel very proud of the children and are really looking forward to their production in March. We know that the news report has already been viewed by more than half a million people!

Building Update

As you can see from the playground, we continue to make progress with the new building, and I hope that I will have an 'official opening' date soon. We will also be resurfacing the whole section of the playground on which the new building stands.

Christmas Jumpers for Charity

Thanks also to everyone who wore a Christmas Jumper on the last Friday of term. The children raised £80 for charity.

Mrs Parnell

We welcome Mrs Vicki Parnell, who joins us today as a part-time cover teacher. She will be teaching Year R on Wednesday, Years 3 and 4 on Thursday, and Year 5 Friday.

Preparing for Ofsted

We are expecting a visit from the Ofsted inspectors this term – our school is now at the top of the list of schools awaiting an inspection in Tower Hamlets. I am looking forward to welcoming inspectors into Seven Mills again to see some of the great work that goes on here. You can help us to get ready for the inspection by:

***** Making Sure Your Child Arrives to School BEFORE 8.55 am. *****

I am sure that the inspector will want to see the start of our school day, and I would really like us to make a good first impression as soon as the bell goes. We only get a few hours' notice of an inspection, so the more we can get into the habit of being on time, the better it will be. I know that you will want to help us show our very best side to Ofsted when the time comes.

Parent Workshops

We will resume with a full programme of Thursday morning parent meetings as soon as the new parents' room is ready to be used. However, in the meantime we have also planned two important parent workshops – do please try to attend if you can.

- Thursday 18th January, 9.00 am: **Safeguarding Workshop for Parents** with Foyzul Hoque from Tower Hamlets
- Thursday 8th February: **E-Safety Workshop for Parents** with Mr Johnston and Rashina Begum

Diary Dates

Please make a note of these important dates for the spring term.

Tuesday 6th February	Parent Consultation Meetings 3.45 – 6.30 pm
Wednesday 7th February	Parent Consultation Meetings 3.45 – 6 pm
Friday 9th February	Pancake Races 1.30 pm onwards
Friday 9th February	Break up for half term.
Monday 19th February	Return to school
Wednesday 28th March	Eggstravaganza in the school hall, 2.30 pm
Thursday 29th March	Last day of term – break up Awards Assembly 9.10 am

Please note that there are no day closures this term, but we break up on Thursday 29th March (as Friday 30th is the Good Friday Bank Holiday).

Wishing you all a peaceful and happy 2018,

Mike Hirst,

Headteacher