

### **Message from the Principal:**

Welcome to December's newsletter. What a term we have had! There have definitely been challenging times but, I hope that you would agree, we have made it an enjoyable and fun experience for our children. Thank you so much for the support and kindness you have showed the Academy and the staff – it has been greatly appreciated. I am so proud that in our final week we managed to achieve 96% attendance which is significantly above the local authority average. We also still have 160 children with 100% attendance! Have a lovely safe Christmas and best wishes for the New Year, and as always I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 4th January.



### **Message from Assistant Principal:**

**EYFS News** Wow what a wonderful term it has been especially through these difficult times. The children have all been amazing and really got stuck into their learning. Over the past few days it has been great to see the children enjoying their well deserved treat. I very much hope you enjoyed the Nativity as it brought a tear to my eye when watching the children singing their hearts out. Hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and I look forward to seeing your pictures of your celebrations over the holiday on Tapestry and Dojo. I am very much looking forward to welcoming our new Nursery children who will be the first group of Rising 3's starting at the Academy.

### **Message from Assistant Principal: KS1 News**

The children in key stage one have been absolute superstars and have shown wonderful attitudes to learning. I hope you enjoyed the virtual version of 'Upsy Daisy Angel' as the children worked so hard to put it together. They have all had a fantastic time across the last few days, which was well deserved from all of the children. I am extremely proud of everything the children have achieved across this term from hunting dinosaurs and looking at toys in Y1 and becoming heroes in Y2 raising a wonderful £240 for charity. I hope you have a restful break and I am very much looking forward to seeing you all in the new year. Take care and stay safe.

### **Message from Assistant Principal: KS2 News.**

The children in Key Stage 2 consistently and continually make me proud . Throughout this unusual and difficult time, they have come to school ready to learn and with smiles on their faces. Watching them clinging to the side of a spinning reindeer and running around in the snow over the past 2 days has made me realise how important making sure they have fun is. I hope you all have the best Christmas possible this year. Keep safe and look after each other.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

#### **THINKING AHEAD:**

Children return to school on Monday 4th January. Please remember that the start and finish times have changed. They are now:- Reception, Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 - **Drop off time will be 8.30 -8.45 and pick up will be 3.00 – 3.15.**

**Nursery – Drop off time will be 8.30 – 8.45 and pick up will be 2.45- 3.00**

The Academy will be closed on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th January for INSET day.

The school nurses will be in school on February 1st to do height and weight checks in Reception and Year 6. More information will be with you in the New Year.

#### **Treat Day Fun**

The children had a wonderful time on the Rodeo Reindeer, Bowling, Nerf Shootout, Disco, Basketball, Christmas Games, Slush, Popcorn and Candy Floss. There was even some SNOW. Well done to all the children who earned the treat. What a fantastic way to end the year!



## **Punctuality**

It is vital that your child is on time every day. School gates are open from 8.30 and close at 8.45. As soon as your child arrives, their learning can begin.



## **Attendance**

Our current attendance for school is 95.7% which we are really proud of. We would love to be even closer to 100% next month. It is vital that children are in school all the time so they are not losing out on their learning time.



## **Keeping Children Safe**

Mornings and evenings are getting darker and colder. Please ensure that children are wrapped up warm. If they are cycling to school, high visibility jackets, helmets and bicycle lights are essential. For older children permissioned to walk to and from school, consideration should be given to ensuring that they are walking with a friend/group of friends.



## **Topics of study next half term**

**Nursery**—Out of this world / Are witches real?

**Reception**—Animals / I wonder...who lives at the zoo?

**Year 1**—Empire / Who lives in the castle?

**Year 2**—Land ahoy/ Who went exploring?

**Year 3**—Good to be Greek / Why are the Ancient Greeks still important to us today?

**Year 4**—Navigating the Never ending Nile! / How does water go round and round?

**Year 5**—Rain Forest Rain / What damage is our life having on this biome?

**Year 6**—Dreams, Hopes and Aspirations

## **SMSC**

After the holidays, the children will be learning about Sir Isaac Newton, Martin Luther King and Chinese New Year.

They will have a look at Careers and Safer Internet Usage.

Through the half term they will also be updating their Hopes, Dreams and Aspirations Folders.

## **What's been happening at school?**

All classes have been putting the final touches to their performances. We had a lovely Christmas Dinner Day. Year 2 completed their Captain Tom sponsored walk and lots of children have made Christingles!



## **House Points**

Current Totals are:

Red/Aquila = 6,482

Blue/Cygnus = 6,274

Green/Lupus = 6,408

Yellow/ Scorpius = 6,521

## **PTFA**

The PTFA would like to say a big thank you to all who bought raffle tickets we raised an amazing £280!

Our head boy and girl had great fun picking out all of the winning tickets.

All prizes have been sent home with children. Please look out for upcoming events from the PTFA in the new year.



## **Rising 3's**

Do you have a child turning 3 this year? If so, then you might be interested in our Rising 3'S Nursery provision. The term after your child has turned three they are eligible to attend our Nursery. If you are interested in this provision, please contact the school office.

## **Covid-19 Official Government Guidance**

You should not send your child to school if you, or any member of your household is showing any of these symptoms:

1. A continuous cough.
2. A high temperature ( above 37.8 C)
3. Loss of sense of smell or taste.

Please ring the school to advise us of your child's absence and contact NHS UK to arrange a test or ring NHS 119 if you don't have internet access.

Anyone with one or more of these symptoms needs to self isolate for 10 days and fellow household members for 14 days unless test results are negative.