



### Head Teacher's Welcome



I hope that your half term break was a good one and not too "scary" or "explosive"! After a long 8 weeks it was very obvious that the children and the staff were ready for a break!

*Richard Culham*

### This Term

Traditionally this is always a busy term culminating in our "C....." celebrations. We also have a very busy November planned!



This Friday, 9 November, we will be holding our **Remembrance assembly**. Preparations for this are well underway with each child making a Poppy for our "Remembrance field" which will be on the grass bank outside of the Staffroom. The weather forecast for Friday is not good so our assembly is likely to be in the Hall which will mean that we have not got room to invite parents to join us – sorry!

The following Friday (16 November) is **Children in Need** day. Miss Walker has already sent a letter from our School Councillors outlining our plans for the day which include a non-school uniform day with contributions being collected at the school gates.



On Friday 23 November, FoBs are holding a **Bingo evening** – Eyes Down at 7 pm. There will be a Non School Uniform day that day as well with the funds raised going to FoBs fundraising for our school!

### Playground Equipment



FoBs fantastic fundraising work from the last few years has enabled us to place an order through County, to replace the dilapidated equipment in the little playground. This should have been installed by the end of September (!!) I am persistent in chasing this and hope to have some good news soon.

### Yeovil Lantern Parade

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual lantern parade is taking place again this year on Saturday 17 November when the Christmas lights will be switched on. If you would like to make a lantern there is a workshop on **Saturday 10 November** from 10 am – 4 pm at Milford Community Hall. To book your place for the workshop please email

[areasouth@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:areasouth@southsomerset.gov.uk)

## Staffing Changes

This last term has been exceptionally busy in terms of recruitment. We have had some staff who decided over the summer that they were ready to develop their careers further and this necessitated them in changing schools / jobs. It is great to have keen and enthusiastic staff who want to develop their careers, and to have played a part in that, but it does cause me considerable headaches sometimes!!

This term we welcome *Jack Eveleigh* as a new Sports Coach, *Courteney Sanson* as an LSA and a Sports Coach and *Sam Howie* as our new ICT technician (who will also run some after school clubs for us). It's great to have them all on board!

There have also been some teaching staff changes this term. *Mrs Messenger* is now teaching 6BM as *Mrs Macleod* is leaving us at Christmas and is moving to Yorkshire! *Mrs Pimm* is taking over the teaching in 4TM.

## Finance



You are no doubt aware that funding for schools is a matter of great debate across the country. Despite announcements about "little extras" school budgets are harder than ever to balance. We are relatively ok at the moment because we run various profitable "businesses" such as our kitchen providing meals to 4 other schools. But even this cushion is being eroded over time and I fear that before too long we will be having to cut back on our provision.

Ironically, the day after the budget last week, I was in school meeting with our buildings surveyor. His inspection of our school building was good overall (we have a strong Premises Manager and team) but he pointed out various defects that will be expensive to put right. That money has to come from somewhere!

We will continue to budget carefully and, of course, prioritise your children's education. I will keep you informed of any changes in funding and the impact.

## Dates for your Diary

**Thurs 8 Nov:** Y5 & Y6 trip to Cineworld (am)

**Fri 9 Nov:** Y3 trip to Cineworld (am)

**Fri 16 Nov:** Children in Need day – non school unif

**Mon 19 Nov:** R & KS1 trip to Cineworld (am)

**Tues 20 Nov:** Y3 trip to Taunton Museum

**Wed 21 Nov:** Y4 trip to Cineworld (am)

**Fri 23 Nov:** Non school uniform – Bingo 7 pm

**Tues 11 Dec:** YR & KS1 Christmas Nativity (pm)

**Wed 12 Dec:** YR & KS1 Christmas Nativity (pm)

**Thurs 13 Dec:** YR & KS1 Christmas Nativity (am)

**Fri 14 Dec:** YR & KS1 Christmas Nativity (am)

**Tues 18 Dec:** Christmas Jumper Day and school Christmas Lunch

**Wed 19 Dec:** YR & KS1 Christmas parties

**Thurs 20 Dec:** YR & KS1 Pantomime trip to the Octagon (more details to follow)

2 pm – KS2 Carol Service at St Michaels Church (more details to follow)

**Fri 21 Dec:** INSET Day

**Mon 7 January 2019:** School re-opens

**Please note that the YR & KS1 nativity times have changed for Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 December**