

SCHOOL NEWS

Freddy Fit | Forest School | Attendance

Well Done

A massive well done to all the children who have taken part in the nativities, performances, carol concerts and community singing this week. The quality of speaking and singing has been extremely high and above all, the children have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to perform.

If you ordered photos, they will be sent home with your child before the end of term.

Many thanks to the PTA for providing refreshments and organising the raffle. The winning tickets were drawn yesterday and the winners have all been notified.



Next Monday and Tuesday we will be welcoming Freddy Fit to school for his annual energetic festive fun sessions. The children love the Christmas themed aerobic activity and certainly get their heart rates going!

We ask the children to come to school in sports kit on their day - tracksuit bottoms, T-shirts and sweatshirts/hoodies are recommended - and a Christmas hat if you have one! Please check to see which day your child will be participating:

Monday - Years 3, 4, 5, 6
Nursery

Tuesday - Years 1 and 2
Reception

Our Y6 lunchtime play leaders will also be having a training session after school on Monday. The days are funded by the Governments Sports Premium Grant, designed to get more children active and involved in physical activity.





Many thanks for all the donations for our Christmas Jumper Day. I am delighted to say that we raised £155 to donate to the Save the Children fund.

Many thanks also to Mrs Unwin and her team for a fantastic Christmas lunch yesterday; it ran like clockwork and really added to the festivities.

Another thank you to the Etchells families for gifts given to the Mission Christmas appeal. We had a lovely range of presents donated which will make such a difference to local children on the big day.



Winter Forest School

Our Forest School sessions, taught by Mrs Plumb, have continued to be extremely successful this term. Follow us on Twitter (@EtchellsPS) for regular photos and updates. This week, the children put on their coats, hats and gloves and enjoyed the cold weather, keeping warm with an open fire and outdoor games. As it was the last session of the term, the groups prepared hot chocolate and popcorn on the fire.



Attendance

We are continuing to work towards our Ofsted target to improve attendance. Current attendance stands at 95.4%, still below the National Average of 96%. A considerable

30/10/2017 to 8/12/2017

5R	97.4
6M	96.9
4R	96.1
3TL	95.9
2W	95.4
2PV	95
5W	94.6
1H	94.3
6L	94.1
3C	93.6
4M	92.6
1P	92.5

number of our pupils have attendance of around 80%: this equates to them being in school only 4 days out of 5 since September. We are finding that there is a link with progress and attainment and continue to emphasise the importance of daily attendance for all children. Holidays must be taken in holiday time. No term time holidays are authorised.

Well done Class 5R who have the highest attendance this half term and have earned a non-uniform day today.

This will be the last School News of 2017. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a lovely Christmas and winter holiday.

We'll see everyone back on Thursday 4th January, 2018 at 8.50am.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows
and the Etchells staff

