

December 2024

End of Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

As we wrap up the Christmas term, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Friends of the School (FoS), parents, carers and children who made this year's Christmas Fair such a resounding success. Your hard work, generosity, and festive spirit were truly inspiring. Thanks to you, we have raised an incredible amount to fund our Craft and Design Technology Workshop, which will benefit all our children.

A special mention must go to Father Christmas, who kindly took time out of his busy schedule to bring joy and good cheer to our children.

Festive Fun Ahead

The remainder of the term promises to be as magical as ever, with concerts and Christmas plays filling the halls with joy and laughter. This is always my favourite time of year.

Thank you in advance to our wonderful Chicken Monitors—your help ensures our chickens will not have a lonely Christmas! Speaking of animals, we are expanding our menagerie and will soon be adding fish to the pond (though we're not quite ready to take on goats just yet!).

To help fund this new addition, our children will be collecting donations with buckets outside the Key Stage 2 Christmas performance. All money raised will go towards purchasing the fish and the supplies needed for their care. If you have any spare change, we would be so grateful for your support in our Goldfish Fundraising!

A Change in School Bags for 2025

Starting from September 2025, we will transition from traditional school book bags to more practical rucksacks for children in Year I and above. Book bags often require an additional rucksack to be brought into school. These often cannot fit on our little pegs and end up cluttering the floor posing a trip hazard.

The new rucksacks, available at <u>DJ Uniforms</u> in Bushey, are designed to accommodate books, water bottles, lunchboxes and pencil cases—making them a more practical option.

If you are thinking of buying school bags for Christmas, this might be a great opportunity! Nearer the time, we will also offer support to any families needing help with the cost of the transition.



Leadership Update for Spring Term

I have been invited to work as a temporary headteacher with another school for 2.5 days a week during the Spring Term. This will be a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our ties with the wider community.

In my absence:

- Miss McClure will step in as Acting Headteacher.
- Mr. Moody will take on the role of Deputy Headteacher for four days a week.
- Mrs. Gillett will teach Year 5 full-time.

I am confident the school will continue to thrive under their capable leadership.

Thank you and Christmas Wishes

As we close the term, I would like to express my gratitude to everyone in our community:

- Our dedicated staff who work tirelessly for the children's success.
- Our supportive parents/ carers who champion everything we do.
- Our wise governors who provide guidance and support.
- And, of course, your wonderful children, who bring joy and inspiration every day.

Thank you for making our school such a special place. I wish you all a very happy and restful Christmas, filled with love, laughter, and good cheer.

Penny Barefoot