



2015-2016

Number 15

5 January 2016

An Lester Trumach - The Packet Ship

Dear Parents

I trust you all had an enjoyable and restful Christmas holiday, even if the weather tried its hardest to keep people indoors! Though whenever I braved the elements there seemed to be plenty of families prepared to do the same! I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year. The spring term ahead of us is a relatively short one (half terms of 5 and 4½ weeks), which inevitably means a busy time as we always try to fit as much as we can into a term. It really is important that children arrive on time and also please that parents leave classes promptly on the first 08:43 bell. This will help us get off to a positive start each day.

The Christmas week capped Autumn Term with a memorable concert and presentation. The children who visited the local residential homes and day centres were also a credit to their school and families – it was probably the most worthwhile and enriching thing I have been involved with in any school at Christmas time. Jasmine and Niamh have written about their experience:

Christmas Cheer

We went as a choir to sing to people who attend *Falcare* and *Age UK*. It was amazing to get to sing to people at Christmas, and to see the smiles on their faces.

Falcare is a wonderful day centre where people who have a disability can go for the day and be look after and be safer. *Age UK* is a day centre for the older generation who can't look after themselves very well.

I (Jasmine) was finding looking up to sing really hard as at first I was shy and kept looking down at my feet, but when I was at the day centres it was impossible not to. When I was looking at all the smiling faces it made me feel good about what I was doing.

It was lovely to see them singing along with a smile on their faces, making us smile too. Overall it was an amazing experience.

Happy New Year!

This term's main Community event will be the St Piran's Day celebration, due to be held in the town centre on Saturday, 5th March. Obviously this will not be on a school day but we would still like as many children as possible to join with the school family and take part in the dance and activities. Children will have the opportunity to learn the dance in school and we'll let parents know of all the details of the day at the earliest opportunity.

Extra curriculum activities commence next week ... for details please visit our website >> learning >> clubs

A range of clubs are offered before, during and after school, some by teaching and non-teaching staff and parents voluntarily and others by private providers. Marlborough's after school clubs have been created to give the children the opportunity to learn new skills and if they enjoy the club they can apply to join again at the beginning of each term by asking for a consent form from the school office. Many of the after school clubs have limited places and consent forms are issued on a first come, first served basis.

Having a 'snack' appears to have become a ritual at after school clubs. The time spent consuming the snack does, however, eat into the time available for the activity. We would prefer children not to bring snacks to these clubs. At film club, however, the children do have time to eat a snack whilst sitting and watching a film and it can add to the event. May we remind parents that children need to bring healthy snacks to school – sweets and sticky sugary items do not meet the national school food standards we follow and additionally are very difficult to remove once trodden into the carpets and flooring. May we also ask that you avoid sending the children in with nuts, as there are several children with severe nut allergies within the school.

Musical instrument tuition continues this term ...

Monday – brass (trumpet/cornet) from 11th January
 Monday – guitars (classical) from 11th January
 Tuesday – keyboard/piano from 12th January
 Wednesday – woodwind (flute/clarinet) from 6th January
 Thursday – strings (violin/cello) from 7th January

If your child has expressed an interest in learning to play an instrument please ask at the school office for further information.

Packet Points – Autumn Term 2015							
Final Week				Total			
1 st	Freeling	28	7	1 st	Fox	62	
2 nd	Chichester	27	5	2 nd	Pelham	58	
3 rd	Swiftsure	25	4	3 rd	Chichester	53	
4 th	Fox	22	3	4 th	Swiftsure	49	
	Walsingham	22	3	5 th	Freeling	41	
6 th	Pelham	21	1	6 th	Walsingham	29	

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<http://marlborough.eschools.co.uk>

