

Principal's Update 15th December 2023

Dear all

Somehow, we are at the end of another week! It was on my list for Monday to do my usual weekly update, but here we are on Friday - I'll make sure I cover the last couple of weeks in this communication.

Christmas Lunch

It was absolutely brilliant to have our Christmas lunch on Wednesday 6th December. We were the first school in Brooke Weston Trust to have our lunch and we definitely set the standard. It was great to see our children and staff eating fabulous food together to the backdrop of those endless Christmas songs I am sure we are probably all getting a little bit fed up with! I was trusted enough to dish out the gravy, although I'm not sure everyone appreciated my generosity with the serving size - this is obviously what comes of having three daughters who seem to drown their food in it!

Caught Doing The Right Thing

Excitement levels are rising as we approach the first draw of our CDTRT prizes. As you know, students voted on what prizes they would like and this term, there are draws for an X-box, an ipad, wireless headphones, and £50 love to shop vouchers. Looking at the boxes today, I think the X-box might just be edging it as the students' favourite. This week, we have encouraged children to gain as many tickets as they can through turning up to school on time and doing the right thing. As one parent said to me earlier in the week, every child has the chance to do the right thing, and this is definitely what this initiative is designed to do - rewarding and recognising all the little things that sometimes get overlooked. I will be filming the live draw on Wednesday after tutor time, so students need to have placed all their tickets in their chosen draw boxes by then!

Pantomime

We were delighted to welcome the entirety of Compass primary school to KSA on Wednesday to watch Jack and the Beanstalk. It was quite a sight seeing everyone walking in two by two. I had forgotten how utterly compelling foundation stage children are as it's been some time now since my youngest was in EYFS. We are looking forward to hosting some children again on Monday 18th December, as some of the Compass contingent provide an audience for a dress rehearsal of our carol concert. As I said earlier in the term, Mrs Fallowell and I are really keen to explore how we can work together and we have some fantastic plans in the pipeline.

Wednesday 20th December Early Finish

This is our final day of what we know is a very long term and as I believe is usual for KSA, we will be finishing school at 12:30pm. We will make sure that any students who are in receipt of free school meals have the opportunity to have some lunch prior to leaving, and if the early finish causes a problem for any of you, please do just let me know.

Carols by Candlelight

I have a busy weekend ahead practising the piano ready for our first carol concert on Monday 18th December at 5pm. This is free of charge and open to all ages. We would love it if you could join us for this short festive event (non-alcoholic mulled wine and mince pies included) and support our choir for their very first performance, as well as the chance to sing along yourself! We will be joined on the evening by our Chief Executive Officer and our Chair of Governors who will be more than willing to chat with you should you wish to after the event. If you would like further information, please contact Mrs Rayment. To let us know if you are coming, please complete this short form [Carols by Candlelight form](#).

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Lindsay Rayment, my new Personal Assistant, to you. Lindsay is an exceptional colleague who places children and families at the heart of everything she does, and I know she's loved getting to know many of your children already in the short time she has been here. One of the things she will be making a priority in January is setting up the SLT drop ins I mentioned earlier in the term. We had some good feedback and suggestions which we will incorporate into the organisation of these. In the meantime, if you wish to get hold of me or discuss anything with me, she's absolutely the person who will be able to help. Her email is lindsay.rayment@ketteringscienceacademy.org - please do reach out if you need to.

Please do continue to let us know if there is anything we can do to help, and please also do feel free to let us know when we get it right as well.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Mrs Giovanelli