



# Newsletter

AUTUMN 2016 – NUMBER 9 – THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Dear Parents and Carers

*This will be my last Newsletter of term; a term in which I feel I have really got to know the schools of the Whipton Barton Federation. When friends and ex-colleagues have asked me how I'm enjoying my new job I tell them I love it. That's because I do. I have felt very welcomed by everyone and really pleased that as well as sharing what is best about our schools, everyone seems to be willing to make the changes needed to make our federation even better. Some changes are easy to make and some will be harder but whatever we do will be what is best for Whipton children. I wish you all a Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you again in the New Year.*

## Junior School Tag Rugby



We played our first Tag Rugby matches with our new rugby tops (the full kit has not yet arrived) on Monday this week. We played two games against Stoke Hill Juniors. We lost our first match 6-3 but won our second match 6-1. It has been very impressive to see how the team has come on over this term. Their commitment has been impressive

and I look forward to continuing to coach them throughout the year.

## PSA Christmas Bazaar

What an excellent afternoon that was on both school sites! The PSA is very pleased to announce that they "smashed" last year's profit, making £747.12 for the children of Whipton Barton. The PSA members would like to thank everyone for their hard-work and support.

## Sainsbury's Singing

We took a group of KS2 and Y2 children to Sainsbury's on Tuesday night this week, purely for the joy of singing carols to the public. The children were great and apparently there has been a lot of positive comments on Facebook and I have received a few very kind emails thanking the children and staff. Well done to all those who took part; it felt good. This is what it looked like:



With staff donations and generous contributions from the EYFS nativity and Y3/4 production, Y6 have raised £360 for the toilet twinning charity. Well done to all of them for their socially-conscious efforts.

**First day of the Spring Term is  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017.**

### **A couple of reminders ...**

In earlier newsletters I have spoken about uniform and mobile phones in school. I know that the vast majority of you are doing as I've requested in both areas, but we are still having a few difficulties. Firstly, uniform. There are a few children who are really standing out by not having the right uniform and I will be getting a little heavier about it. The uniform is clear and at the moment we have a number of children who are still turning up to school in patterned hoodies and bright trainers. I have heard a couple of parents say "He won't wear a school sweat-top" and my answer to that would be, you need to sort that particular problem out at home. If you are finding it genuinely difficult to do that, then come in to school and see Mr Norman, Mrs Wills or me and we will help you. The same goes for trainers. One parent has come to see me to say that their child is waiting for an operation on their foot and in the meantime, they need to wear trainers. Clearly this is OK. Another parent caught me in the playground to say that their child's shoes had broken and that they would be buying some more over the weekend. Again, no-one in either school would have a problem with this. There are still too many children wearing bright blue, orange and white trainers for no clear reason. After Christmas, Mr Norman and Mrs Wills will be following up on all cases, so please help us out with this. Being part of the Whipton family means looking the part. We want all children included.



## ***A message from Exeter Foodbank - [exeter.foodbank.org.uk](http://exeter.foodbank.org.uk)***

### **CHRISTMAS INFORMATION from FOODBANK**

Our last Foodbank distribution sessions of 2016 will take place on Thursday 22nd December (at the Mint Methodist Church) and Friday 23rd December (at the Beacon Community Centre); we will then be closed until Tuesday 3rd January 2017. To help ensure that people will not experience hardship during our closure period, we are putting the following arrangements in place: -

### **VOUCHER & DISTRIBUTION SESSION ARRANGEMENTS:**

We will not be running sessions between Monday 26th December - Monday 2nd January (inclusive). We will therefore accept vouchers dated for these days at our previous week's sessions (Monday 19th – Friday 23rd December). As in previous years, clients will in effect be able to redeem up to two vouchers at once during sessions in this week.

Vouchers are available through school. Contact Carol Murray, Family Support on  
**07581 511144**

**No-one needs to go hungry**