

## Issue 3

December 2019

### 'Learning for a fuller life'

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# Taverham Junior School

## Newsletter



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas.



We are getting very close to the end of a busy and successful term and the festive season is now fully upon us!

On December 4<sup>th</sup> we held our annual Christmas carol service at St. Peter Mancroft Church. Thank you to all the parents, relatives, staff and pupils who came to this very special event. Once again, the church was a fitting venue for our service and we were made to feel very welcome by everyone at St. Peter Mancroft. The service was a wonderful occasion, as always, featuring some beautiful singing by our choir, and excellent performances by the orchestra, glockenspiel, brass and recorder groups and Year 5 singers. The service was completed by a traditional nativity 'tableau' involving Year 3 children and some excellent readings by Year 6 pupils. We are very proud of everyone who took part and we were pleased to have lots of positive feedback from parents and relatives. Thank you to the many members of staff who came along and especially those who work so hard to make the carol service such a highlight of the school year: Mrs Eaton and Miss Comfort for their excellent work with the choir, Mrs Potts for leading the brass group and above all Mrs Penwill, whose expertise and enthusiasm are a huge factor in the carol service's success.

This week the children have been having their Christmas dinners, complete with presents and drinks, courtesy of the PTFA. The children have been served by a team of Year 6 pupils, all of whom wrote letters of application for the 'job' of waiter or waitress. The team of waiters and waitresses also help to prepare the hall and clear up afterwards-thank you to all of them for doing such a great job and helping make the Christmas dinners such an enjoyable experience for all the children. Thanks also to our cook, Angel and her brilliant team in the kitchen for all their hard work preparing and serving the delicious food.

Next week we have the PTFA Christmas discos on Monday December 16<sup>th</sup> (details have already been sent out); the last day of term is Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup>.

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye and good luck to two members of our staff team at the end of this term. Mr Garrod is moving on to begin an HLTA position with the Nar Valley Federation – congratulations to him on his promotion. We have successfully recruited to replace Andrew with Tracey Penton joining us on 6<sup>th</sup> January as teaching assistant with Miss Comfort in 5C.

Mrs Blois, who leads our school office, is also leaving us to take on a more senior position at Aylsham High School. Becky has worked at our school for over five years and during this time has proved to be an incredibly valuable and important member of our team. She will be sorely missed but we wish her the best of luck for the future. Interviews for her replacement took place this week.

Finally, I am very pleased to inform you that Mrs Smith is expecting a baby! This is of course wonderful news for Abi and her husband and we wish them all the best for the exciting times ahead. It is anticipated that Mrs Smith will begin her maternity leave at the end of the Spring Term (April 2020). I am aware that this will leave a three week period after the Easter holiday and before the SATs tests in May. We will of course ensure that an experienced and suitable teacher is recruited to work in 6S from the beginning of the Summer Term onwards.

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I hope all our children and families have an enjoyable and restful holiday.

Paul Henman  
Acting Headteacher

## Message from Chair of Governors

Sadly I wasn't able to be part of the congregation at St Peter Mancroft on Wednesday 3rd December. Josie Rayner-Wells was there and has shared with the governors her reaction and her end of service comments and prayers. Josie spoke for us all when she thanked and congratulated everyone involved for what was clearly a marvellous service and celebration of what Christmas truly means. TJS is a church school for its community and Josie captured that perfectly when she hoped 'the warmth of this evening, the amazing performance of our children and the coming together as the community that Taverham Junior School is, brings you warmth also'.

In a year that has not been easy, the past term proved particularly difficult. Paul Stanley's death, so soon after his ill-health retirement, stopped the whole school in its tracks. The response from the whole school community was tremendous and a perfect recognition of the difference that Paul made personally and professionally to the school. The governors continue to be grateful to Paul Henman, Mary Wilson and Sam Jones for their very effective acting leadership. They have been magnificently supported by all the staff and the children, and together have ensured that the school runs successfully. Thank you.

The school is saying goodbye to Becky Blois, our Office and Finance Manager, and to Andrew Garrod, Year 5 teaching assistant. Both are moving on professionally. Becky to Aylsham High School as the PA to Duncan Spalding, the Executive Head. The fact that Taverham's budget management is well-regarded by the finance officers in the local authority is absolutely down to Becky. Her organisational and financial skills are very much Aylsham's gain. Andrew has been with us for over two years and in that time has helped and supported very many children. Andrew is becoming a HLTA at another school and I have no doubt that he will contribute as much there as he has done here.

Within the hustle and bustle, the queues for Chapelfield car-park and all the preparations for Christmas and New Year, it is sometimes hard to find time to gather breath and relax. Two of the key messages of Christmas are 'hope' and 'peace'. With these in mind, on behalf of the governors, I wish all the children, staff, parents and carers, and your families a 'hopeful Christmas' and a 'peaceful New Year'. I'm sure you will join with me in also wishing both of those especially to all in our community who have suffered loss this year. I will definitely have Paul's wife and family in my thoughts and prayers over the coming weeks.

Chris Wilson-Town



## Value for next half-term

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As a Church of England school, our collective worship assemblies are informed by Christian values; the value we will be focusing on after Christmas is **courage**. All children will be asked to share their reflections on this value in class with some also given the opportunity to lead a prayer in assemblies across the half-term. The value for this half-term was **friendship** with this theme explored in many assemblies across the school. Some children from 5C wrote and led prayers in whole-school assemblies; a selection of these are below:

Dear Holy Father,  
 Thank you for the gift of friendship.  
 Thank you for giving us friends that help us through life.  
 Amen.

Friendship is key.  
 If you're happy then your friend is happy.  
 Friends make you have fun.  
 Thank you God for bringing friendship to life.  
 Friendship makes our planet very special: there's nothing better.

Dear God,  
 Thank you for the friends we have and their loyalty and kindness.  
 Thank you for their support and trust.  
 Thank you for the fun we have.  
 Thank you for friendship.  
 Amen.

## Menu Change for the last day of term

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### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Pasta Bar – Sausage and tomato pasta

Hot – Fish fingers, chips, beans or peas

Veggie – Veggie goujons, chips, beans or peas

Pudding – A selection of biscuits to choose from



## Sportshall Athletics



On the 26th November Mrs Moulton and myself had the pleasure of taking 2 teams to the Partnership's Sportshall Athletics Competition at the UEA. In the morning it was the year 5 and 6 team that got their chance to represent the school taking on the various relay races and field events and then in the afternoon it was time for the year 3 and 4 team. Each child had to take part in 2 relay races and 2 field events and all of them did so with amazing team spirit and determination. At the end of each competition they gathered all the schools together for the results and with no idea as to how we had performed in the field events this was a nervous yet exciting time. As the places were announced in reverse order the children quickly realised that they had performed well and with only 2 schools left out of 14 they were asked to stand up as the winner was revealed. For our year 5 and 6 team it was a fantastic 2nd place, narrowly missing out to Firside. The 3 and 4 team were a little unsure as to what was happening and as they were asked to stand up because they had made the top 2 they did so with uncertainty. With the school in 2nd place announced it took the children a few seconds to realise that this meant that they had won! The excited reaction that then erupted from them was beautiful to watch and a moment I will not forget. Both myself and Mrs Moulton are so proud of each and every one of the children, they were a pleasure to take, with all of them supporting one another and showing the true meaning of team spirit. For the year 3 and 4 team they get the chance to do it all again on the 10th February as they qualified to represent the partnership at the County finals. Well done to everyone.

Mrs Green & Mrs Moulton

## Cross-country Report

Our cross country team has continued to work hard and build on their excellent start to the season having completed two more races, one at Falcon Junior School and another at Eaton Park. Mrs Moulton took the children to the race at Falcon where they managed some amazing finishes again and then I took them to Eaton Park last Friday where once again they performed fantastically with many of them achieving personal bests. The boys' team are currently sitting comfortably in 4rd place and the girls are in 8th. With 3 more races after Christmas we are aiming to build even more on these fantastic results. Cross Country club is still open to all children in years 4, 5 and 6 on a Tuesday lunchtime and the year 3 children can attend running club on a Friday lunchtime. So far we have been pretty lucky with the weather and long may this continue!



Mrs Green

## Reports and Learning Reviews



Brief interim reports for each child will be issued on 10<sup>th</sup> January with our first learning reviews of the year following during the second half of the month. These will be an opportunity for the children to share and talk about their work with their parents/carers, and to discuss the interim reports and your child's progress and achievements. More details will follow next week.

## Children in Need

Thank you to all the children for all their fundraising efforts for Children in Need this year - everyone looked great in their multi-coloured clothing! As is the norm, our Year 6 children did a wonderful job of providing stalls for the rest of the school to play at lunchtime. All together we raised £1056.97.



Thanks once again to everyone who contributed.

## Girls Football

On an extremely wet day in November the Y6 girls team played in a partnership event at Goals in Norwich. We played four games, winning 3 and losing 1. Unfortunately this meant we came second in the group (on goal difference by only one goal). All the girls played extremely well considering the conditions and a special mention to Lily for scoring the fastest hatrick in TJS's girls' football history!



Mrs Moulton

## PTFA News

We would like to thank everyone for their support in all events so far this year.



This year for Christmas lunches we decided to be more environmentally friendly, and not have crackers which cause a lot of unrecyclable waste, instead the children all had Christmas crowns to decorate and wear; they were all amazing!

Each child regardless of whether or not they had Christmas lunch received a small useful gift, consisting of a Christmas notepad, pencil, mini candy cane and thanks to Debbie hand typed individual Christmas jokes which had us all laughing.

Monday 16th December is our Christmas disco which we as a committee are really looking forward to. We are always looking for new members to join our team, if anyone is interested please see our Facebook page.



We all would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas.

PTFA

### Lost Property

All lost property will be out in the hall Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December after school.

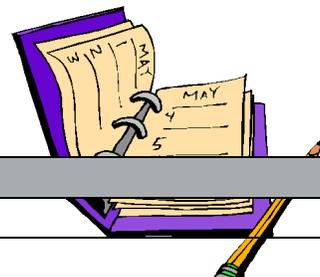
If your child is missing anything then please come along and take a look.



Anything left at the end of the term will be disposed of.

Many Thanks

## Dates for your Diary



December	
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Disco
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	End of Autumn Term
January	
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Term begins
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	Reports to Parents
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Learning Reviews (3.15-5.15)
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup>	Learning Reviews (3.15-5.15)
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup>	Learning Reviews (4.30-6.30)
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	Learning Reviews (3.15-5.15)
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Learning Reviews (4.30-6.30)
February	
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup>	Choir to perform at O2
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 & 4 Sportshall Athletics Finals (9.30am-1pm – UEA)
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup>	SAT's and Caythorpe Meeting (6-7pm)
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Half Term
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup>	New Half Term Starts for Staff and Children
March	
W/B Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Book Week
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	Cross Country County Finals (10.45am-3pm – Holkham Hall)
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Sport Relief
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	Cake Concert
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Caythorpe Residential
April	
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	Last day of Spring term
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	INSET
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Summer Term for Staff and Children

May	
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Early May Bank Holiday
W/B Mon 11 <sup>th</sup>	SAT's Week
W/B Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	Outdoor Education Week
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup>	Summer BBQ
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	End Of Half Term
June	
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	Start of Half Term for Staff and Children
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Photograph
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Concert Rehearsal
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Concert
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2/3 Concert
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2/3 Multi - Sports

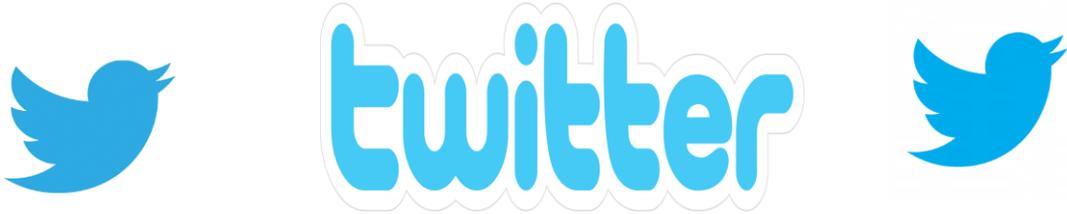
June Continued...	
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	New Year 3 Parents Meeting
Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day (Year 3 & 4)
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day (Year 5 & 6)
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	City Sports
Tues 30 <sup>th</sup>	City Sports
July	
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 3 Norfolk Show Trip
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	City Sports
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>	TRANSFER DAY 1
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	TRANSFER DAY 2
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Reports out to Parents
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Play (1.30pm)
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Play (6pm)
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Awards Assembly
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	Leavers BBQ and Disco
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	Leavers Events( Church Service, Assembly)
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	Last Day of Summer Term

Dates/Times are subject to change. Please check future newsletters and the school website

### TERM DATES 2019-2020

2019/2020	First day of term	Last day of term
Autumn Term 1	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October
Autumn Term 2	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December
Spring Term 1	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February
Spring Term 2	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April
Summer Term 1	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
Summer Term 2	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July
<b>INSET DAYS</b>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019</i>	
	<i>April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020</i>	
<b>MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY</b>	<i>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020</i>	

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**Term Dates for 2020/21**

2019/2020	First day of term	Last day of term
Autumn Term 1	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October
Autumn Term 2	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December
Spring Term 1	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February
Spring Term 2	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March
Summer Term 1	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May
Summer Term 2	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July
<b>INSET DAYS</b>	<i>TBC</i>	
<b>MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY</b>	<i>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021</i>	

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