

18<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Newsletter 7 Autumn Term 2019



Dear Parents,

Our 'Amazing Children's Emporium' Learning Adventure has continued over the last couple of weeks, with the children discovering more about the initial mysterious events. Children have worked with the teachers to develop the creative context of the Learning Adventure and are carrying out a range of learning tasks linked to the National Curriculum. In Year 4, the children have been exploring concepts about electricity by designing alarm systems to protect the ideas within the Emporium. In Year 3, the children are exploring concepts about light and shadows and are developing a special shadow puppet room for the Emporium. Year 2 children have been asked by Mr Fox (who works in the Emporium) to investigate toys with wheels and have carried out a scientific investigation testing the distance that different toy cars travel. In Year 1, the children have been helping underground hedgehogs to move quickly through the Emporium tunnels by beginning to design special rockets for them. In Foundation, the children have met some elves who are too tired to make the toys for the Toy Master, so they have been helping to design and make toy boats, including carrying out a range of investigations linked to floating/sinking and waterproofing. As you can see, the children have been very busy developing their scientific understanding and their Design Technology skills and it has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and engagement with the new Learning Adventure.

Thank you for all your kind donations to the recent Children in Need appeal and just over £308 was raised for the charity. The children thoroughly enjoyed bringing their teddy bears to school - the school felt very full! Well done, everyone.

Thank you for your recent attendance at the Foundation Stage and Year 2 information meetings. Your support is appreciated.

### **Staff News**

After about eight years, Mrs Joint, our Inclusion Leader, will be retiring at the end of the autumn term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Joint for all her hard work and support for the children, staff and parents of Rushcombe First School over the last few years. Mrs Joint is anticipating keeping in touch with the school. In the meantime, I will continue to coordinate SEND provision across the school. We wish Mrs Joint much happiness for the future.

### **Visit to Lockyer's Middle School**

Last Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, Hawthorn class visited Lockyer's Middle School, to take part in a workshop afternoon. Rowan class will be visiting the school on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Christmas Decoration Week**

A reminder that each class will have a morning or afternoon Christmas Decoration session between Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. On arrival, 9.00 am for morning group and 1.50 pm for afternoon group, please come round to the school office to sign in. You will then join the children in the classroom and take part in creative Christmas decoration making which could prove to be messy, so please come dressed prepared! The morning session will finish at 10.00 am and the afternoon session will finish at 2.50 pm. We look forward to working with you on the following days:

	9.00 -10.00 am	1.50 – 2.50 pm
• Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December:	Hawthorn	Rowan
• Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December:	Ash	Oak
• Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December:	Chestnut	Willow
• Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December:	Pine	Elm
• Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December:	Beech	Maple

Please return the reply slip, sent with the previous newsletter, if you have not had the opportunity to do so already. Thank you.

### **Christmas Concert at St Ambrose's Church**

Year 3 and Year 4 children have a special opportunity to participate in the Westbourne Orchestral Society's Christmas Concert, which will take place on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, in St Ambrose's Church. Please see letter sent previously, for full details.

### **Foundation Stage Christmas Nativity**

This year all our Foundation children will be performing their Christmas Nativity, 'Everyone Loves a Baby!' in the school hall. To enable as many people as possible to see the Nativity, there will be 2 separate performances on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 1.45 pm and Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 10.15 am. Due to the limited space in our school hall, each family will be offered up to 3 tickets overall. Tickets will be available on a 'first come first served' basis from the afternoon of the Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November in the main playground/Foundation base. There will be a reserve list for any unclaimed tickets from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

### **Key Stage 1 [Year 1 and Year 2] Christmas Play**

The children in Year 1 and 2 will be performing their Christmas Play, 'A Christmas Surprise!' in the school hall. To enable as many people as possible to see the play there will be 3 separate performances on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December at 1.45 pm and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 10.15 am and at 1.45 pm. Due to the limited space in our school hall, each family will be offered up to 3 tickets overall. Tickets will be available on a 'first come first served' basis from the afternoon of Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November in the main playground/Year 2 area. There will be a reserve list for any unclaimed tickets from Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Key Stage 2 [Year 3 and Year 4] Christmas Concert**

The children in Year 3 and 4 will be performing in a Christmas Concert, 'Bethlehem the Musical' in the school hall. To enable as many people as possible to see the concert there will be 3 separate performances on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 1.45 pm and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 10.15 am and 1.45 pm. Due to the limited space in our school hall, each family will be offered up to 3 tickets overall. Tickets will be available on a 'first come first served' basis from the afternoon of the Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November in the main playground/Year 4 area. There will be a reserve list for any unclaimed tickets from Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

Further details about the arrangements for the different Christmas performances, including any costume requirements, will follow soon.

### **The Friends of Rushcombe**

The Friends and Staff of Rushcombe have organised for the children to design their own individual Christmas card, which can be purchased by their families. Further information and details have been sent home recently.

### **School Photographs**

The children have had their school photographs and the proofs have been sent home recently. A reminder that you can order online direct from Frasers, the photographers, or return the form with a payment to the school office by Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. See separate information for details.

We look forward to seeing you at the forthcoming events and activities.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Mahon  
Headteacher

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