

Reminder: Please keep the school office informed of updates to mobile telephone numbers. Thank you.

What's on Next Week				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			Whole School to Church	Christmas Jumper Day
	9.30am KS1 Christmas	9.30 am KS2 Christmas		9.00am Celebration
KS2 Movie Night	Performance	Carol Concert	Toy Day	Assembly
3.00– 5.00pm	2.00pm KS2 Christmas Carol Concert	2.00pm KS1 Christmas Performance	2.40pm Hawk class assembly	Christmas Dinner Day
				End of Term school finish
				at 1.05pm

Time to Reflect

Christmas provides us the perfect chance to reflect on the year that has passed and to appreciate all that we have. I have spent time in both schools this week just listening. Listening to the conversations between children and staff where the positivity of the relationships in school is clearly evident. I have heard beautiful singing with soloists and classes preparing for the Christmas performances. Children who have the confidence to shine in front of others. I have heard staff talking to parents and offering assurances working in partnership to secure the best outcomes. I have heard lots of praise from a range of sources for our children - their behaviour, attitudes and manners being impeccable.

It is easy at this time of year to get caught up in the madness of the season. I saw an article on Twitter asking teachers not to get into the annual ' who is more tired than who' and 'who is working harder than who' debates which tend to perpetuate at this time of year. Our staff ARE tired, as are the children, but they remain focussed on the children and are giving their all.

This is the time of year where the British Values of tolerance and mutual respect come to the fore. We understand that this time of the year isn't easy for everyone and we are mindful of that in school too. For families who are experiencing loss or trauma, whose circumstances are difficult or for whom Christmas means being apart from loved ones for any reason, we aim to understand and support where we can. We will remind the children about their network of trusted adults for the holiday period in case they have any worries at this time of year too.

As we countdown to the festive break, with a diary packed full of events in school, I just wanted to take the time to reflect on how warm and nurturing our schools are. At the heart of this ethos are the children. They continue to amaze me every day and I am so lucky to have the opportunity to work with each and every one of them.

Mrs M Cross Executive Headteacher

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IPad App of the week Percy Parker HD by Sherston Software Limited (£1.49 / £0.74 VPP)

An excellent app from Sherston software. Children love learning their times tables by singing with Percy! Children join in with the charismatic Percy Parker and his band as they sing entertaining, memorable songs about each times table.





All photographs can be purchased via ParentPay for $\pounds 3$ per A4 colour copy.

Spot Light on Excellence...

Busy, Busy Busy!

As always, we have lots going on at Dordon but this week has been particularly eventful. Let me fill you all in...

On Monday, we invited Marathon Kids into school and introduced our new initiative to improve children's fitness. Three days a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) the children will have the opportunity to run or walk around the playground at lunchtimes and the House Captains will be recording each child's laps. When the children complete a certain amount of laps they will receive a certificate. If you want to find out more please visit <u>https://</u> <u>marathonkids.org/</u>. The children have been really enthusiastic completing their laps this week and been very proud to tell me about it too.

On Wednesday, parents of Year 6 and Year 2 came in to see their children perform with Craig from The Hippodrome. I was so utterly proud of both year groups! Year 2 showed off their performance based on Snow White with a little bit of Spice Girls thrown in for good measure and Year 6 were brilliant as circus performers too.

Finally, we had some Christmas Crafts in the hall on Thursday with Cheryl Neil from Warwickshire County Council. There was a lot of interest in the craft session, so much so, we had to select names out of a hat. Parents and children had a great time getting into the Christmas spirit!

Miss McGroarty

Please note that although we check the suitability of IPad applications, they can be changed without notice.

Christmas Fayre

Can we say a big thank you to everyone who came along us raise just over £850 for school.

Also thank you to all the children for making amazing decorations and games for the House stalls and for setting up the hall. And finally to all the staff and volunteers who helped and without whom the Fayre would not happen.

Crazy Hair Day

Thank you to everyone who came to school with crazy hair today and help us raise £140 for our Sponsored Charity of the Year Zoe's Place. If you haven't paid yet you can still do it via the Parentpay website.



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STORY AND PICTURES BY MAURIC

Here is what Kingfisher class have been enjoying this half term:

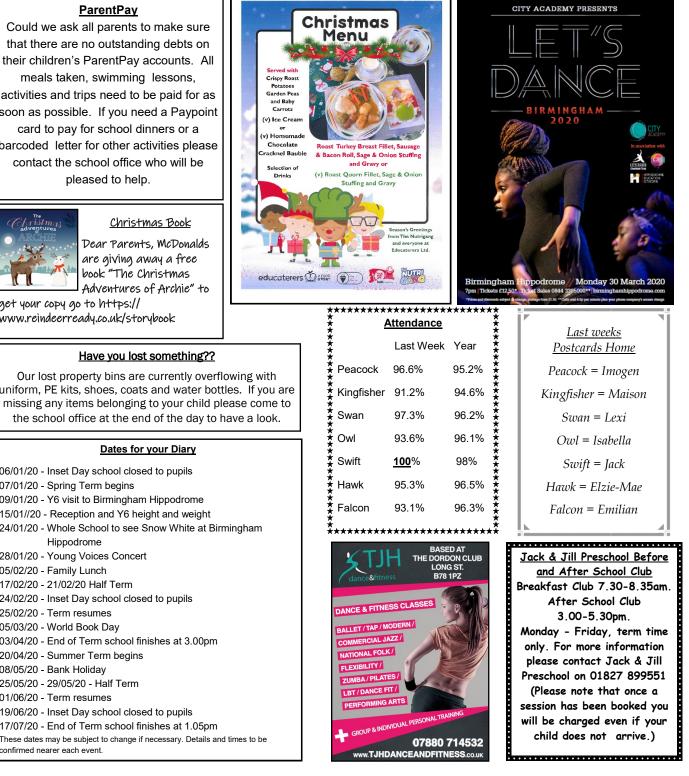
"I like getting GEMS for handwriting." Isla

"I love Thrive when we pretend to go to different places as a class" Apheia

"I like reading 'Where the Wild Things Are'." James

"I liked putting the pages from the story 'The Lonely Beast' in the right order." George

> Config @Dordon Primary



activities and trips need to be paid for as soon as possible. If you need a Paypoint card to pay for school dinners or a barcoded letter for other activities please contact the school office who will be pleased to help.



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are giving away a free book "The Christmas

get your copy go to https:// www.reindeerready.co.uk/storybook

Have you lost something??

Our lost property bins are currently overflowing with uniform, PE kits, shoes, coats and water bottles. If you are missing any items belonging to your child please come to the school office at the end of the day to have a look.

Dates for your Diary

- 06/01/20 Inset Day school closed to pupils
- 07/01/20 Spring Term begins
- 09/01/20 Y6 visit to Birmingham Hippodrome
- 15/01//20 Reception and Y6 height and weight
- 24/01/20 Whole School to see Snow White at Birmingham Hippodrome
- 28/01/20 Young Voices Concert
- 05/02/20 Family Lunch
- 17/02/20 21/02/20 Half Term
- 24/02/20 Inset Day school closed to pupils
- 25/02/20 Term resumes
- 05/03/20 World Book Day
- 03/04/20 End of Term school finishes at 3.00pm
- 20/04/20 Summer Term begins
- 08/05/20 Bank Holiday
- 25/05/20 29/05/20 Half Term 01/06/20 - Term resumes
- 19/06/20 Inset Day school closed to pupils
- 17/07/20 End of Term school finishes at 1.05pm
- These dates may be subject to change if necessary. Details and times to be confirmed nearer each event.