



A Message from Mr Maxwell

It's been such a busy couple of terms, I even forgot to do a November Flier – apologies for that. Both schools have achieved such a lot, from Eastbourne Youth Radio to some amazing Christmas shows and carol concerts. All this on top of some fantastic learning in the classrooms.

Behind the scenes, we have been recruiting lots of new staff to support the pupils, and trying to ensure that our systems and policies support good learning at all times. Please keep an eye on the federation websites to keep up to date with new policies etc.

Thank you, as
always, for your
ongoing support.

John Maxwell



CSI Update

As you are aware, to support our creative learning community, we work with a group of local primary schools in an informal collaboration, which we have called the CSI (Collaboration for School Improvement).

On our INSET day in October, teaching staff from Hankham, Bourne, Park Mead, Pashley Down, Roselands, Stafford and Stone Cross all benefited from joint staff training led by an outside speaker. As well as the cost advantages of sharing training, staff from the different schools were able to benefit from discussing and sharing ideas with one another.

A Reminder about What We Do if It Snows

If it snows, we do everything we can to stay open. We only close the school on snow days for two reasons:

- If it would be dangerous for the children to attend school;
- If too many members of staff (many of whom live far away or in places which do not have gritted roads) cannot travel because of the snow, which would mean that we couldn't offer adequate supervision.

If we do decide to close, we will let you know through SchoolComms, by email, on the website and on the federations' Facebook page – please make sure we have your up-to-date contact details. If you are signed up and do not hear from us, assume we are open.

Please understand that the decision to close would be the last thing that we would want, and would only happen in the most extreme conditions. All our fingers are crossed that we won't need to make this difficult decision at any time.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch was a delicious success at both schools last week. We were treated to a fantastic meal, cooked by our wonderful catering teams, and the children were telling us how much they enjoyed themselves.

A big thank you to the kitchen teams from Harrisons, and also to the staff and parents who helped us make sure all the children had a great lunch.

P.E. in the National Curriculum

We would like to remind you that P.E. is an important part of the National Curriculum, and we are keen that all pupils participate in their P.E. lessons each week.

In order to do this, each child needs to have a P.E. kit in school and we suggest that as this is only worn for a maximum of two hours a week, it does not need to go home after every week, but could be washed during the half term and main holidays.

PTFA News

Our PTFAs have lots of exciting events planned for the rest of the year, including more mufti days; discos, a Mothers' Day shop; movie nights; and the Summer Fair. I would like to thank all the PTFA stars for their commitments to our schools and for their hard work and kindness.

The PTFAs rely on your support. All parents and carers are automatically members of their child's school's PTFA, and we are so grateful for any offers of help or expertise. You are all welcome to join us! Please pop in and see Mrs Wallis or Mr Walton if you could help.

Our New Behaviour Policy

Hopefully you will have received my letter about the new behaviour policy, which we will be introducing after the Christmas holidays. We are really keen that this policy is successful as it can be – particularly for the vast majority of children who always make positive behaviour choices. Your support is vitally important to us, and we appreciate that you also want the behaviour to be the best it can be.

Our training day on Monday 6th January will be focused on this new policy, which also follows on from the CSI training day in October. We are really excited about this positive change, and look forward to having feedback as the year progresses.

PTFA – Can You Help?

Our PTFAs are registered as charities, and as such must have certain positions filled by named individuals (e.g. chair, secretary, treasurer). The Stafford PTFA are particularly looking for someone with an interest in finance to be their treasurer. This wouldn't have to be an onerous task, but is a necessary one as the money raised from your support has to be accounted for accurately. Please see Mr Walton if you could help with this.

Federation Dates

Don't forget to add these to your calendar!

- **Staff training day – school closed**
Monday 6th January
- **NSPCC Assemblies**
Week beginning 13th January
- **Mufti day to raise money for our author visit**
Friday 17th January
- **Parent Partners Meeting**
Monday 3rd February at Roselands
- **Stafford Parent-Teacher Consultations**
Monday 10th February from 2.00 – 7.50pm
- **Roselands Parent-Teacher Consultations**
Tuesday 11th February from 2.00 – 7.50pm
- **PTFA Movie Night at Roselands**
Friday 14th February
- **Half Term holiday – school closed**
Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February
- **First day of Term 4**
Monday 24th February
- **Book Week for both schools**
Monday 2nd – Friday 6th March
- **Author visit**
Monday 9th March

NSPCC Visits

You will see from the dates list above that the NSPCC will be visiting us in early January. They are regular visitors to the schools, and indeed to schools across the country. They will do assemblies to all the children, and also run some workshops on personal safety, stranger danger, self-protection etc with some of the older children in years 5 and 6.

As part of this free service, we also support the NSPCC with fundraising, as they are a charity supported mainly by donations and grants. Without their continued support, we would be unable to offer these necessary assemblies and workshops as regularly as we do.

Please look out for more information about our fundraising challenge when we come back in the New Year. We hope you will join us in raising funds and donations for this very worthwhile cause.

NSPCC

Merry Christmas to you all!



On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank you for the many kind words, cards and gifts we have received this week. They are very much appreciated.

We would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas, and a happy, peaceful and successful New Year. Have a good rest! **Please remember that the children will return to school at the usual time on Tuesday 7th January 2020.**