

# News on the Nineteenth

Ponsbourne St Mary's Primary School  
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## DECEMBER 2011

### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



A huge **Thank You** to all of our generous parents for supporting the school at the Bazaar. The children made some wonderful gifts in school and at the art clubs - thanks to the parent/staff team. Hopefully, children were able to make a gift for each member of their family. Christmas fund raising took in excess of £1000. The school intends to purchase more child friendly camcorders for children to make their own films, digital cameras and a new sound system. Our fundraising has been boosted as Paula Darby has secured £4£ funding from Barclays Bank. Thank you Paula.

A special thank you to Rachel for organising the Christmas card/gift project. These funds raised went directly into the FTS account.

### KS2 Attainment

Parents can now access the DfE website at [www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance](http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance) which has published performance indicators showing achievement and progress of pupils at the end of KS2. As parents will see, Ponsbourne's pupil progress and attainment is very high.



### SWIMMING

Furzefield resumes on Monday 9th January. Year 3/4 will be swimming next term.

### START OF TERM

Monday 2nd January is a bank holiday; Tuesday 3rd January is an INSET day. Please return to school on

**Wednesday 4th January,**

8.50 am with correct uniform and resources.

### PUNCTUALITY

Next term we will be monitoring punctuality. Children should be in the playground for registration at 8:50. If the register has closed children must be signed in at the office by their parents. The reason for lateness will be recorded in the Late Book.

### HALF TERM

Half term is **13th to 17th February**. Please keep this in mind if you are planning holidays. Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February is an INSET day so children return to school on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February**.

## SNOWY WEATHER

If it snows, and you are in any doubt as to whether to brave the weather to get your children to school, please don't take any unnecessary risks. If the school is closed, a text message will be sent to your mobile phone and you go to

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/>

but whilst you are waiting for the call remember, 'if in doubt - don't go out'.



## FTS FUND RAISING

We thank the Friends of the School (FTS) for organising events to raise money and subsidise events such as the Christmas Pantomime annual treat. Our recent Shopping Evening was a great success due to the brilliant team organising and running this event.

Shopping Night raised **£700**

Mrs Bullah also matched the total through UBS -the bank she works for.

Bonus Ball raised **£300** for school this term.

The last cake sale raised **£22.50** - on day of Xmas Tree Festival.

If you have ideas about what you think we should spend funds on, let us know.

The FTS welcomes more volunteers to suggest, organise and run events to raise funds from which **all** children benefit. If you would like to get involved, speak to your class representative.

## Jack and the Beanstalk



Many parents and grandparents from Ponsbourne St Mary's went to watch the KS2 children perform 'Jack and the Beanstalk' in the Clarissa Farr Theatre on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> at Queenswood School. They were treated to a wonderful evening.

Every child's performance was absolutely brilliant!

Queenswood School said it was once again delighted to open up its theatre to Ponsbourne St. Mary's.

It always an exciting experience for the children to perform on a real stage, with lighting and sound facilities to highlight their talents and strengths.

The performance was highly entertaining. Well done to everyone involved!

## The Magical Christmas Box

Thank you to Adventurers and Explorers for this year's Nativity Play performed in St. Mary's Church. The children's performances were absolutely fantastic, with lots of enthusiasm and great talent and really set the scene for Christmas celebrations.

Staff would like to thank all parents for their support both in attending the productions and with costumes, singing etc.

**Well done everyone!**

## Booster Classes.

Booster classes for Year 6 pupils will start on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January.**

Maths will be the focus for the half term.

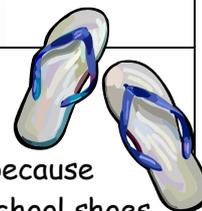
**LEGO WORKSHOP  
AFTER -SCHOOL CLUB**

Next term we will be offering a Lego after-school club on a Monday evening. It begins on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January**.

If you haven't yet signed up for this you can still join and spread payments. Speak to the school office.

**Children in Need**

A fantastic £62.00 was raised for the Children in Need appeal. Many thanks to the school council for organising the collection.



**Shoes**

We are concerned with the appropriateness of shoes, in particular girls' shoes, being worn to school. Children complain of cold feet and we have had several accidents because there is no grip on the shoes. Children like to run around and use the climbing frame so school shoes should be sturdy; fashionable soft pumps are not suitable school shoes. Boys are welcome to wear **BLACK** trainers. Coloured trainers are **NOT** acceptable.

Please support us in ensuring your child's safety at playtimes and wearing correct uniform.

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to all the parents that help in school regularly, in many ways.

Thank you for all the donations we received for the Christmas Fayre, including the electrical appliances always donated by the Millwood family.

Thank you to Mrs Smith, Mrs McHattie and Mrs Pryor for their help with art club.

Thank you to Mrs Darby, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Hatch and Ryan and Amber's nanny for making the Christingles.

Thank you to Mr Morris who has donated lots of resources and helps with various odd jobs.

**KINGSWOOD**

A meeting will be held for parents on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January at 3.30pm** to discuss arrangements for Kingswood. This will be an opportunity to ask questions.

**FULL PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2012.**

Payment not received by this date will result in loss of deposit and cancellation of place. If this date causes you financial difficulties please speak with the school office.

**School Crossing Patrol**

There is still a vacancy for a school crossing patrol person. Mrs Charles fought to get funding for this but we still can't find someone. Do you know of anyone?

**Bag2school**

The amazing amount of £228 was raised from Bag2school.

Fantastic - thank you!

**SINGING LESSONS**

Mrs Perry will be offering singing lessons on a Tuesday morning at the same price as Chris - £7.50 for 15 mins.

Children can work towards taking grades in singing just as they do in playing an instrument.

**Christmas Gifts and wishes**

The staff would like to thank you kindly for your good wishes and very generous gifts.

They are very much appreciated and we very much enjoy teaching your lovely children.

We wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas  
Thank You for all your support this term.

**Happy New Year.**

