

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start with a huge thank you for all the support you have given over the Autumn Term. We have enjoyed an exciting build up to the Christmas Holiday with the Christmas Fayre, class parties, nativity performances from Reception and It's Christmas Y4, KS1 carol singing and KS2 - Y3 hosted service at St John's Church Werrington. The PTA hamper raffle raised in excess of £1200 which is an amazing total - made possible by your very kind donations, ticket buying and the magical work of our PTA. We appeared to have a good number of our school family winning hampers which is great - I hope you are enjoying them!

The Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre was very successful and incredibly well supported - thank you once again. As you know each year group in school nominated a charity for their Enterprise Week focus. The Charity fund raising from the Fayre was as follows:

EYFS - Reindeer food and Nativity collections £219.81 for SHINE supporting Hydrocephalus.

Y1 - Decorated Baubles £83.30 for REACH Upper Limb / **Y2** - Biscuits £37.20 for Little Miracles.

Y3- Santa Cupcakes £34.90 for Sue Ryder / **Y4** - Tree Ornaments-Crispy Trees-Love Rocks £98.61 for SEPILOK Orangutan.

Y5 - Christmas Tea Lights £117.71 for Thorpe Hall / **Y6** - Clay decorations £300.70 for Changing Faces.

As you can see the funds raised not only provided an interesting focus for the children but also raised useful funds for the charities concerned. It is amazing that our school community is very able and more than willing to support local, national and international charities. Our Year 6 games provided great entertainment raising a massive £430.36 - it was super to see everyone having so much fun. Once again **THANK YOU** very much indeed.

WPS - Soke Education Trust (SET - Sustain Empower Transform) Academy News

Further to the letter from Claire Spooner SET Chair of Trustees I can confirm the process being undertaken to convert to Academy Status and form part of the Soke Education Trust, will have concluded on January 1st 2018. This marks an important milestone in the school's history and ongoing development. The decision to embark on this journey focused on sustaining great outcomes and opportunities whilst being able to positively enhance the life chances for all. The role of the LA is now diminished and through working collaboratively within SET we will continue to provide the very best for our children. 2018 will represent a new challenge personally as I assume CEO responsibilities for the Trust. I will however be retaining an Executive Headteacher role with the majority of my time associated with WPS and I do look forward to maintaining close contact with our children and families.

Car Parking and consideration for our neighbours

It is regrettable that School has been in receipt of wholly justified complaints regarding the inappropriate parking behaviour exhibited by some parents/carers associated with WPS. I do urge everyone to consider the impact of their vehicle management around the local environment and support us in maintaining positive contact with our neighbours.

Staying Safe Online

As the Christmas holidays are now upon us, many of you may be considering buying or indeed have bought new games consoles, mobile phones or tablet devices for your children. Whilst such devices provide lots of enjoyment and form an important part of the high-tech lives that we live, it must be remembered that they may also pose risks. One of our main concerns is the risk of young people being contacted by people they do not know and who may wish them harm. In school, children are taught never to give out their personal information online, never to arrange to meet anyone online and to report anything upsetting or strange to a trusted adult. It is important that you encourage your child to tell you, or another trusted adult, if someone they do not know starts talking to them online. In order to help protect your children further, you should ensure parental controls and security & privacy settings are in place and monitor what they are accessing online. You can find further help and advice at www.internetmatters.org and www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety. Should you have any concerns about the online safety of your child, please do not hesitate to speak to their class teacher or the police on 101, depending on the level of urgency. Mrs Threadgill - Deputy Headteacher.

I wish everyone a Happy Christmas and holiday - I look forward to welcoming you all back on **Thursday 4th January**.

Ben Wilding - Headteacher