9th December 2011

Dear Parents

What a lovely week we have all had at school starting with last Friday's Christmas Bazaar. An expertly organised event with something for just about everyone from visiting Santa in his Grotto, to games, tombolas, raffles, children's crafts and plenty to eat and drink. Over £2000 was raised to spend on the children thanks to the generosity of all of you who attended. A special thank you to the Friends of Engaines for organising the event.

Infant + Reception Nativity
We have been entertained this week by our younger children telling us the story of 'Humph' the bad tempered camel and his involvement in the nativity. Of course the eventual outcome was that Humph became a better tempered beast after visiting the baby Jesus in the stable.
The children were brilliant, speaking clearly, singing beautifully and amusing the audience with their telling of the nativity.

Pantomimes!
The reception and infant children were themselves entertained on Wednesday by a theatre company who performed their version of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. Very well received by all of the children and staff.
On Thursday the juniors travelled to the Mercury Theatre to watch a performance of Beauty and the Beast. They had a fantastic time and really got into the pantomime spirit.

Dates for Next Week
Monday 12th Dec  UKS2 Dress Rehearsal 2 p.m.
Tuesday 13th Dec  UKS2 Christmas Productions 2 p.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Wednesday 14th Dec  Children's Christmas Dinner - £2
LKS2 Dress Rehearsal – School – 9.30 a.m.
LKS2 Carol Service – Church – 5.30 p.m.
UKS2 Party – Boys bring savoury food. Girls bring sweet food.
Thursday 15th Dec  LKS2 Party – Boys bring savoury food. Girls bring sweet food.
Last day of term

Last Week at School before Christmas
It would be rather pleasant to see the children looking a little more Christmassy in the last week. Perhaps some seasonal headbands, hats or a little tinsel in their hair.

Shortest Day
This winter the shortest day is on 21st December after which the days will begin to lengthen. However, it will be some time before we return to having lengthy periods of light in the evening.
With this in mind can I ask that you look to making your child as highly visible as possible when they are on their way home from school, particularly if they attend after school clubs.
Christingle Service
St. James Church, Little Clacton. Sunday 11th December 3.00 p.m. Each child will receive a Christingle. Service followed by refreshments in the Parish Room. Collection to the Children’s Society which does great work with troubled children.

KS2 Team Points

1st Yellow Team 70 points
2nd Green Team 59 points
3rd Blue Team 31 points
4th Red Team 21 points

Well done Yellow Team!

Talk Homework
There will be no ‘Big Write’ next week. We will set ‘Talk Homework’ again next term. Thank you for your support.

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS NEXT WEEK

PLEASE REFER TO WEEK 1 FOR MENU NEXT WEEK –
CHRISTMAS DINNER IS ON WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER - £2

FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS
This week I was in school (nothing unusual there) to watch “Humph the Camel”, the Key Stage 1 Christmas Production and what a joy it was. The children obviously enjoyed it as much as the audience. A big thank you to everyone involved and in my opinion a real indicator of the commitment of the staff that with all the pressures of the job they find the time and energy to produce such a gem. There have been some changes on the Governing Body. Mrs. Pam Simms has taken over from Mrs. Sue Elliott as Partnership Governor, Mrs. Emma Levy has changed her status to Community Governor and, after following the prescribed process, Mrs. Senchall was the only candidate who put herself forward for the Parent Governor vacancy and will therefore join us at the next meeting. Anyone wishing for more information on the work and responsibility of the Governing Body can contact Mrs. Ann Engle, Bursar, or myself. We are also always open to suggestions for any issues, which parents wish to bring to our attention for discussion by the Governors.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas and all the best for 2012.

Mrs. H. Funnell

Friends of Engaines
Christmas Bazaar 2011
The Friends of Engaines would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents, guardians, teachers and TA’s for their help at the Christmas Bazaar. It was a very successful event with just over £2300 raised. Thank you also to all those that attended and supported the bazaar as it wouldn’t be a success without you. Well done also to the School Council children for their fundraising efforts with their own stalls. It was great to see the children using their initiative and coming up with their own fundraising ideas. 2011 has been a very successful fundraising year and the Friends of Engaines are looking forward to making 2012 just as successful.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Many thanks.

Wendy Bilsby.

Yours sincerely

MR. E.W. BROWN