



THE OWL

December 2018 Autumn Term



End of term

Celebration Assembly on Friday 21st December will be at 9.05am followed by mulled wine and mince pies for parents and carers. Term ends at 2pm, where children are to be collected from St Mary's Church, Reed. They do not need to bring book bags to school on the last day. We hope to send everything home by 20th December. It would be helpful if you could send in a plastic carrier bag with your child's name on for any additional cards or gifts to come home. Please continue to read to and with your child and encourage them to read from a wide range of material in the holiday. Staff will collect in the school reading books until January.



Christmas parties

Parties for all our children will take place on Wednesday 19th with Early Years having games in the morning and Years 1-4 in the afternoon. Nursery children who do not normally stay for lunch, are able to do so on this day until 1.15pm. There is a charge of £2.25 for this, which should be paid to the school office. All children may come to school in party clothes on Wednesday but please make sure that they are warm enough to go outside to play and have appropriate footwear.



News from Reed First School Governors

As promised in the November Owl, the advert for our Headteacher role has gone live this week on the Teach in Herts website. Shortlisting is scheduled to take place on 22nd January with the interviews on 31st January. Please let anyone you think will be suitable or interested in this role know about it and invite them to contact the school for more information. If parents have any questions or concerns, please do come and talk to us.

Governors have been looking at their roles and we have added a new role that Liz Jakeman will be performing and that is as a Parent Liaison Governor. Liz will be the go-to person when you have a query but it doesn't quite need to go to governors and will act as a sounding board to direct parents. Shelley Ward has also taken up the role

as Vice Chair and Teresa Davidson as our PR and Marketing Governor.

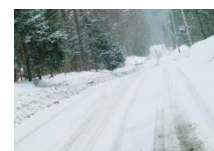
We have been in to school and attended the school council meeting and listened to the children on what they have been doing in school and the feedback that they would like to give us. It is a very well run meeting and a brilliant example of how objective and courteous meetings should be! They also sent a written report in to the Governor's Meeting and we look forward to receiving them in future meetings.

The Christmas Production was a real treat, showcasing the vast range of talents and musicality in the school. Well done to all involved!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on the Governing Body for all their hard work this year. Thanks, of course, to Mrs Harvey and the whole school team who work tirelessly, volunteers and you the parents for your support. I hope that our staff, pupils and their families enjoy the end of term celebrations and have a restful holiday.

Adverse Weather

Closure of the school is always a last resort and any decision will be taken after an assessment of risk and any guidance given by the local authority. If it is possible to give advance warning, you will be contacted by ParentMail or letter. Out of school hours, parents will be notified via the new notification system, please see below. Alternatively, parents can check the HCC website (<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk>) and listen for updates on local radio. Please do not telephone the radio stations directly as they cannot manage a large volume of calls from parents.



School Closure Notification System

Hertfordshire County Council have introduced a new school closure notification system, if parents have not yet signed up for this new system, please do so as soon as possible, at member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489

FoRS Festive Update

Present Wrap

One of our favourite events of the year, the children delighted the FoRS fairies at our Present Wrap. They all took great care in choosing the perfect gift for their loved ones, and we hope they all made them home in one piece! Thank you again to all of our volunteers who helped on the day.



Christmas Hamper

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated items for the Christmas Hamper - it is over-flowing with festive goodies. Tickets for the raffle are available for £1 each, and will be sold after school every day this week.

FoRS will draw the raffle on Friday morning, in Celebration Assembly.

- First prize - Bumper Christmas Hamper
- Second prize - A bottle of Jack Daniels Bourbon
- Third prize - Large tub of sweets

100 Club Christmas Draw

In this Friday's Celebration assembly, we will hold our 100 club Christmas draw, where the winner will receive a whopping £50 prize - a little treat to make your Chrimbo that little bit more merry. If you would like to join, please ensure you sign up before Thursday evening to be in with a chance of winning.

Cake Sale for St John's Church, Royston

Many of the children have been saddened by the tragic arson attack on St John's Church, and we have been asked by them to help raise monies for them to show our support. So in the way we do best, FoRS will be helping the children sell cakes and biscuits after school on the week commencing 7th January. Any baked donations will be very gratefully received.



Next FoRS Meeting

The next FoRS meeting will be held in the school hall on Friday 11th January at 9am. If you'd like to know more about what FoRS are planning throughout 2019, why not join us for a cuppa?

As 2018 comes to a close, FoRS would like to thank you all for your continued support. We really couldn't do it without you.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and the happiest of New Years.

The FoRS Team

Swimming

Swimming will resume on **Wednesday 16th** January for children in Years 1-4.

Thank you ...

For your generous donations to the Make a Wish Foundation UK, following our performances of Prickly Hay last week, we raised £144.15.



Thank you also for giving £49.00 to Save the Children on our Christmas Jumper Day last Friday. Half of any money collected after our Carol Service will be added to this with the remaining money going to St. Mary's Church, Reed.



Night Owls

Please could we remind you that the collection time for Night Owls is by 5.15pm. While we are sympathetic to the occasional emergency, please could everyone ensure that children are collected by this time or arrangements are made for someone else to collect them. Please advise us if this is happening by leaving a message on the school answerphone.

School admissions

Parents wishing to take up a Reception place for their child here must apply by 15th January regardless of whether they are already accessing our Nursery. Please make sure you complete the online application in good time. Similarly, parents of children in Year 4 need to apply for a place at their chosen Middle School by the same date. Apply online at

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Considerate driving and parking

A number of drivers are still using our disabled space to turn their cars round. While most parents warn their children to stop, there is no kerb there so children sometimes run through. In order to keep everyone safe, please could you turn round at the junction further down the road. Thank you.

And finally...

The staff and governors would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support of the school throughout this year. We wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas holiday and look forward to welcoming the children back on **Tuesday 8th January 2019**

Diary Dates

Please look at our school website for up to date information and dates.

December 2018

19th Party Day – non uniform day

20th Toy Morning & Movie Afternoon

21st - Celebration Assembly (9.05am)

- Carol Service at Reed Church (1.20pm)

- End of Term (2pm)

January 2019

7th INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

8th Term starts

11th FoRS Meeting (9am)

15th Reception & Middle School application

Deadline

15th PE Club starts (3.15-4.15pm)

16th Swimming starts

16th Choir starts

17th Athletics Club starts

17th Bowls Club starts

18th Celebration Assembly (2.45pm)

February 2019

15th Home-Start Dress Down Day

18th – 22nd HALF TERM

March 2019

7th World Book Day

15th Red Nose Day

22nd Youth Makes Music – Year 4