

Talbot Primary School Newsletter



Friday 15th December, 2017



Thank you to the PTA!

The PTA capped a superb term last Friday by staging a Festive Fair on what must have been the coldest day in the year! Not only were the volunteers un-deterred by the ice and sub-zero temperatures but the choir, our hardy children and their parents and carers all turned out in force. Due to the dedication of the PTA volunteers, Christmas arrived early at Talbot Primary and successfully raised over **£1,280** – a phenomenal achievement for two hours!

As you will have seen from recent PTA Newsletters, in excess of **£30,000** has been pledged to support spending projects across the school. This is a hugely generous donation which will be spent on, amongst other projects:

- updating and renovating playground equipment
- renovating both the Key Stage One and Two libraries
- providing each class with a budget from the PTA which they can use to buy items such as extra books and toys for their class

As a school, we are utterly committed to ensuring that your generous donations, given over a number of years, will make a difference for all children as soon as possible. Plans are already in place to ensure the children can support us in choosing new equipment and installations for the playground.

Thank you for your generous donations, participation, volunteering and engagement in events – the pledges will make such a difference.

The term came to its traditional conclusion today with a visit to St. Andrews Church – a wonderful opportunity for all our children from Reception to Year Six to be together to reflect on the Autumn term. To the uninitiated outsider, the sight of nearly 500 children navigating their way to the church must be a sight to behold! However, it is one which we all look forward to as members of staff at Talbot. It was so nice to hear some of the children's favourite songs from their performances last week again, as well as some of the teachers' best memories from this term – thank you Mrs Callaghan, Miss Marsden, Mr Youdan and Miss Wood for not letting us down! They really captured the essence of our school and made the children (and staff) chuckle.

We hope you enjoyed the various Christmas shows from last week. My key abiding memory of the productions was the sense of unity and inclusion throughout all of the performances – all children joining in, all children participating to the best of their ability. The performances were made even more special for the children due to your contributions to St. Gemma's Hospice, raising a phenomenal **£733.50** for the charity. Thank you for your kind donations for such a worthy local cause. Gemma the Giraffe will be pleased!

In order to coincide with the PTA Festive Fair, last week saw our first 'buddy class' event. Each class has been assigned a 'buddy' year group or class with whom they can collaborate and get to know. Last week's sessions were superb as not only did our younger children get to meet and work with the older children, but the older children were fantastic role models for the younger children. Walking through school last Friday afternoon the atmosphere was so calm and settled. I was very proud to see how well the children worked together on their craft projects and encouraged each other at every opportunity. Further buddy sessions are planned later in the year so the classes can continue to get to know each other.

I would like to end the newsletter by saying a very special farewell to Mrs Walton. As our Nursery teacher, she has been superb in making sure that our youngest children have the best memories of their first days at school. Through her unwavering commitment to nurture and support, Mrs Walton has ensured that our Nursery setting is a welcoming and warm environment. Thank you for all that you have achieved during your time with us Mrs Walton.

We also said goodbye to Mrs Campbell, our Superintendent this term. Mrs Campbell had been a member of the Talbot team for 17 years. The pride she showed in ensuring our parquet flooring was the best it could be was unrivalled. I am sure you will join us in sending our thoughts for her health as she moves on from Talbot.

Please accept our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. We look forward to seeing you again on **Wednesday 3rd January**.

Regards, Mrs Parm Gill

Additional Information



In a bid to combat illegal and dangerous parking near to schools, the council has invested in a new parking enforcement vehicle. The vehicle utilises camera/video capacity to identify illegal, dangerous and inappropriate parking. Footage captured by the vehicle is verified by parking enforcement officers and where an offence has been committed, fines will be issued.

As winter takes a firmer grip, with inclement weather and darker mornings and afternoons, it is vital that all parents and carers be responsible for parking sensibly and considerately for the safety of everyone in our community.

A reminder that key dates for the academic year are on our school website:

<http://www.talbot.leeds.sch.uk/files/key-dates-2017-18--v2.pdf>

SAVE THE DATE - PTA QUIZ!

Get your babysitters booked and your team organised, the PTA Quiz Night will be taking place on

Friday 26 January 2018
(7.45pm for a prompt 8.00pm start)

It's teams of six, with preference given to existing Talbot parents.

Further information and the forms to enter teams will come out in the first week of next term.

Best wishes

Talbot PTA
talbotpta@hotmail.co.uk

Payments Information

Our preferred payment method for school meals, visits, workshops and other activities in school is via Parentmail wherever possible. If you prefer to pay by cheque, please make your cheque payable to *Leeds City Council* (please write your child's name and class on the back).

If you do need to make payment in cash, it is important that you bring the correct amount as we do not have change readily available. Thank you for your support.

After-School Clubs

After-school clubs will resume from 15th January and run until week commencing 19th March.

Homework and Film Clubs will continue as normal. Minecraft, Lego, Movie-Making, Dodgeball and Drawing Clubs will have new groups. See your Parentmails for further information.

New clubs for Years 1, 2, 3 and 5 are Football, Gymnastics, Karate and Team Games respectively.