



Dear Parents,

What a fantastic week we have had! The children's performance of 'Santa's On Strike' was truly wonderful and I am so proud of their achievements. Many schools have opted not to do whole school performances of this nature now, in favour of a more rigid timetable, but I'm sure you'll agree with me that the confidence boost they have had through performing as they did, will inspire them right across the curriculum and in all they do in life. Moments like that are to be forever cherished and I hope the memories created will live with you for a lifetime.

I have received a lot of thanks from many of you, so I know how highly you value the exciting opportunities we are providing for your child/ren and I am delighted that so many of you and members of your family have been able to join us for this weeks events.

### Special Thanks

A MASSIVE 'THANK YOU' on behalf of all the staff for the treats and gifts that many of you have sent us this week...the sugar boost has been really needed!!! Your kindness is very much appreciated.

### Open Session

With everything else going on we forgot to schedule in an open session for the children to share their work from this term with you. Apologies for that; we will organise that as soon as we return in the New Year.

### 2012 Topics

After the holiday the whole school will be doing an exciting topic based on a class novel all about a house that sails away. If you have time to take your child to the library to get some books out on countries around the world, or to start thinking about things they'd like to learn relating to world geography please do so and do encourage them to

**Read  
Write  
and practice their maths**

Having a rest to recuperate is essential over the holiday but if the children go 2 whole weeks without doing any reading, writing, etc they will be much further behind when we return and it will take a while for them to get back up to speed, so please build in some quiet time with your child/ren over the holiday.

### Clubs

A letter will be sent out in the New Year to inform you of clubs, although please make a note that both Sports Clubs will be on as usual with Mr Wing.

**Pick-up time is 4.30pm.**

### Redmile Toddler Group

The Toddler group will be starting up again in the New Year welcoming babies and children under 5, Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers, Childminders who are welcome to join in with play and chat.

**It will be open every Wednesday morning during term time, and have a different craft or activity for children to enjoy.** The first session will take place on the **16th January** between 9.30-11.00am. The cost will be £1.50 per family.

### Plimsolls

It has come to our attention that a number of children do not have indoor plimsolls. It is ESSENTIAL that they have some as muddy trainers on our hall floor with the under floor heating is not a good combination as it's very difficult (and costly) to clean. Please ensure your child definitely has some for after the holidays if they haven't already got some. It is worth noting, that if they don't have a change of shoes then doing PE bare-foot is not ideal when others are wearing them, especially when playing vigorous games.

### Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Holy Communion at Barkestone Church, 8pm. It's the final festive service, after the Carol Service and Nativity & Christingle...all are very welcome!

St Peter's Church Redmile has their Carol Service at 6pm on Christmas Eve.

### The New Year

School re-opens to pupils on Tuesday 8th January.

Wishing you all a happy, peaceful Christmas and all good wishes for the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J.V. Hopkins  
Head Teacher

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