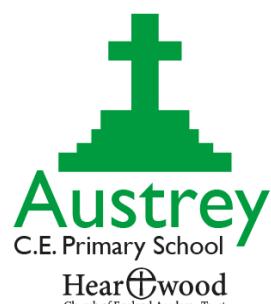




Newsletter 3 2018 Autumn term 2



*The beauty of Christmas is not in the presents but
in His presence'*

Matthew 1:23

What a fantastic end to the term we are having here at Austrey Primary School. The recent Christmas productions were excellent and really well attended. The enjoyment factor was clear to see, not only in the pupils but in the audience too and it certainly was worth the many hours of hard work that everyone put in to make it such a great production.

We hope that the pupils and staff haven't peaked too soon as we still have the Church Service to do on Friday 21st December, 2pm start. As always, could you please ensure that you park sensibly around the church and especially at the Bird in Hand, which is open for business that afternoon.

Every year at this time of year FACES and all its volunteers help the Tamworth Rotary Club to collect money for the Santa Sleigh appeal. A huge thanks to everyone involved in the 2 walks that took place in December. A couple of staff took part in the one on the 13th December and although it was freezing cold it was a really worthwhile evening. Don't forget that pupils are back to school on **Tuesday 8th January 2019**. From all the staff at Austrey we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and see you in 2019!!!!

Best wishes

Mr Lee Kilkenny Headteacher

Miss Meg Griffiths Deputy Headteacher

Our topics for the term

Wagtail Class	Traditional Tales
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Robin Class	Towers And Turrets
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Owl Class	I am warrior
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Kingfisher Class	Victorians
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SENDco

We are delighted to announce that we have a new SENDco in post to support Special Educational Needs at Austrey and our sister school Newton Regis. Her name is Mrs Stephenson and she is a very experienced teacher. She has already held meetings with a number of parents and we feel confident she will complement and improve on existing practice.

Church Matters

We have our Christmas service at St Nicholas on Friday 21st December, starting at 14.00. It would be lovely to see you all for this special service.



Holiday Dates 2018/19

INSET Day: Monday 7th January 2019

Return to school: Tuesday 8th January 2019

Term ends: Friday 15th February

Spring term holiday: Monday 18th February-Friday 22nd February

INSET Day: Monday 25th February (this has been changed original date was March 18th)

Return to school: Tuesday 26th February

Term ends: Friday 12th April

Easter holiday: Monday 15th April- Friday 26th April

Return to school: Monday 29th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May

Term ends: Friday 24th May

Whitsun holiday: Monday 27th May- Friday 31st May

INSET Day: Monday 3rd June

Return to school: Tuesday 4th June

Term ends: Friday 19th July 2019

Other Key Dates

Friday 21st December: Christmas Church Service 2pm start/ Break up for Christmas

Monday 24th December: Christingle Service at St Nicholas Church

Tuesday 8th January 2019: Pupils return to school

Pantomime

As you are aware we will be taking the children to see Peter Pan at the Hippodrome in Birmingham on **Tuesday 22nd January**. We want all pupils to attend this fantastic production and all staff from Austrey and Newton Regis will be attending . It was a fantastic show last year, that all age ranges enjoyed and we can't wait to take everyone again this year.

Budget Squeezes

As with many schools around the country we are expected to deliver much more, with effectively far less money. We are not scare mongering, it is a fact. We will continue to find cost cutting measures wherever we can so that front line services can continue as they do now. Moving forward we will continue to budget well as we have done since I arrived and make every penny count.

BDMAT

This should potentially be our last term as part of the Heartwood MAT. From the 1st April 2019 we will officially be part of the Birmingham Diocese MAT. We still have a couple of things to finalize but all being well we look forward to the new merger on that date.

Morning Procedure

Could you please encourage KS2 pupils to enter school on their own at the back door by Kingfisher. If you have pupils in EYFS, KS1 and KS2, by all means bring the younger pupils in, settle them and then you can leave via the office or side gate. If the older ones could sort themselves it makes for a much calmer start to school.

School Stars

 *A big shout out and well done to all these stars who make our school great* 

FACES volunteers for the Santa walk, All the pupils for the brilliant productions, Mr Cartwright for fixing the fences in the corner by the paddock and last but by no means least all my brilliant staff who work hard throughout the year to support Austrey school.

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