



# Vernham Dean Gillum's Church of England Primary School

## Newsletter

Friday, 21st October 2016

### Christmas Panto

#### This year the Panto is coming to Vernham Dean!

We have booked a pantomime company to perform to the children at the Village Hall on Friday 25th November. More details to follow after half term.

### Murder and Curry Night

Thank you to Carol Ward and all the team, helpers and acting crew for a wonderful evening on Friday. £1578 was raised; the PTA have already bought 5 large colourful bean bags for the library which the children think are fabulous!



### Inset Day

**Monday 31st October** is a staff training day so no school for pupils. We hope you have an enjoyable Half Term and look forward to seeing everyone back in school on **Tuesday 1st November**

### Achievers and Behaviour & Values Certificates for Friday 7th

**Willow** Freya, Sam  
**Maple** Charlie, Ollie  
**Oak** Harry H, Amelie H  
**Beech** George H, Billy

### Friday 14th

**Willow** Alice, Harry  
**Maple** James C Megan M  
**Oak** Wilf, Matilda W  
Act of kindness Harry S

### Poppy Appeal

We will be selling poppies in school after Half Term. They will be available from the office for a donation to the Poppy Appeal.

### Bag2School

Collection bags will be sent out after Half Term. If you are having a clear out of old clothes, please save suitable items for the next collection on Thursday 17th November.

### Schools Direct

We are pleased to announce that we will be offering a graduate tuition place for Schools Direct teacher training in September 2017. Please see the Train to Teacher section in the News and Events section of our website. Details are also on page 2 of this newsletter.

### Chess Club

We have been very lucky to have Andrew Garrod leading Chess Club. Unfortunately, other commitments mean he is no longer available but he has written to the children to encourage them to carry on playing. A huge thank you from us all.

### Website

More Information has now been added. Please check our pages for news, Class information, calendar dates and lots of photos especially this week of the children enjoying their activities at PGL Residential.

### Attendance

Many thanks to all families for supporting the school in being punctual and keeping absence to minimum this half term. Just to clarify that we lock the gate at 9:00am when lessons start. A couple of facts to share with you about absence:

- 90% attendance is like having a day off every 2 weeks
- Most children should routinely have attendance rates of 97% or more. This is the equivalent of 6 days absence a year.

### Dates for your Diary

01/11 Yr R 2017 intake applications open  
 09/11 Saxon League HBT  
 10/11 Heart Matters Afternoon  
 16/11 Individual school photos  
 Open Afternoon 2017 Intake  
 17/11 Bag2School  
 17/11 Maple & Willow Class Trip to Marwell Zoo  
 18/11 Children in Need Spotacular - 'Spotty' dress down day for £1  
 25/11 School Panto - Dress down for Winter Wonderland  
 02/12 Winter Wonderland  
 08/12 School Christmas Disco  
 09/12 Governors Christmas Lunch for pupils  
 13/12 Choir to sing at village coffee morning  
 14/12 2pm Christmas Service St Mary's Church  
 03/03 Quiz Night  
 05/04 Easter Service

### INSET DAYS

31<sup>st</sup> October 2016  
 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017  
 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017

### Term Dates 2016/17

#### Autumn term

5<sup>th</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> December.  
 Half Term 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October;  
 Inset day 31<sup>st</sup> October

#### Spring Term

3<sup>rd</sup> January - 7<sup>th</sup> April  
 Half Term 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Feb; Inset day 27<sup>th</sup> Feb

#### Summer Term

24<sup>th</sup> April – 25<sup>th</sup> July (inset days 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> July)  
 Half Term 29<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June

### Church

**St Mary's** Vernham Dean  
 Family Service 10:00am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month  
**St Peter's** Hurstbourne Tarrant  
 Family Service 10:00am 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month

### Celebration Worship

Just a reminder that this starts at 3pm. Please do not arrive earlier than 2.55pm as we have to set up the hall.

### **A letter from Andrew Garrood**

*Thank you so much for the wonderful card you made for me; I shall keep it on my desk to remind me of the great afternoons spent with you playing chess.*

*I am sorry that I cannot keep coming on Wednesdays to our Chess Club but I hope that you will keep on playing. Now that you all know that the school has chess sets as well as the giant set outside, there is no excuse not to!*

*I know many of you already knew how to play the game before we started chess club and I know some have learned to play the game at chess club. You have all got a lot better at the game in a short period of time but most of all I hope that you all really enjoyed playing. I will say this: the more you play, the more fun it gets. So if you have enjoyed it, the only way to enjoy it more is to keep playing more!*

*Keep having fun! Andrew*

### **GRADUATE PLACE FOR SCHOOLS - TRAIN TO TEACH**

#### **DIRECT TEACHER TRAINING (ITT): SEPTEMBER 2017**

We are pleased to announce that we will be offering a graduate tuition place for Schools Direct teacher training in September 2017. School Direct is a fantastic experience and is a school-led teacher training programme which is designed by a group of schools in partnership with a university. The course lasts one year. You would be based at our school but would have a second practice in another school.

If you would like to find out more, please come and meet us; call the school on 01264 737241.

#### **WHAT CAN VERNHAM DEAN PRIMARY OFFER YOU?**

As a school we can offer a place with an established and highly regarded Schools Direct Consortium in Andover.

Our team here in school are dedicated and enthusiastic practitioners who care passionately about teaching and learning. During your time with us you would be very much part of the team from the start and become immersed in school life. Your school mentor would be an experienced teacher but all the team would be here to support your training in order to prepare for your newly qualified teacher year. You wouldn't be expected to teach a class full time unsupported until the school feels you are ready; it is hard work but rewarding.

#### **WHAT QUALIFICATION WOULD I GET?**

Schools Direct carries the award of qualified teacher status (QTS) if successful but also leads to the award of postgraduate certificate in education (PGCE).

#### **FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT A SCHOOLS DIRECT PLACE**

To find out more go to <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/teacher-training/find-training-programme>

**St Mary's Church**

## **Christmas Fayre**

**Saturday November 26th**

**Vernham Dean Village Hall from 4pm**

**Fun for all the Family 'Balloon Twister'**

**Toys and Games, Granny's Attic**

**Home-made Cakes and refreshments**

**Bottle Stall and Raffle**

**Donations and items for the stalls to Liz Holmes, Julie Drury or Shelia Thomas**