



Christopher Rawlins CE Primary School

"Stand firm and be deeply rooted in love" Ephesians 3:17

www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk



Friday 15th December

Dear Parents,

What an action packed few weeks it has been in the lead up to Christmas! Last week saw the start of our nativities and we were so very proud of the children's confidence, singing and acting skills. They worked so hard, as did the staff preparing them for their debut on the stage – well done everyone! We took part in St Mary's Christmas tree festival where the choir opened the event on Friday afternoon. The choir sang well, and students played their instruments with confidence and showed real resilience as part of their performance – a huge thank you to Mrs MacLean and Mrs Wearing for all their hard work with the choir.

This week has seen us making Christingles and taking part in the Christingle Service at St Mary's, thank you to all those families who attended. Christmas Dinner day was also a huge success this week – thank you to the PTFA who provided us with some treats to enjoy after our Christmas Dinner.

It is such a busy time of year in school, and also hugely rewarding for the children and staff. We have all felt very proud of our school community over the last few weeks – as they have demonstrated the school values of Courage, Responsibility and Compassion in the way they have approached different events in school.

This is the last newsletter of this year, I hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and spend valued time with family and friends.

Lauren Murrey and the Christopher Rawlins team

Cross Country Finals

Last Friday, we took twelve runners to the North Oxfordshire Cross Country Finals.

The weather was bitter cold but all our athletes were determined to do their absolute best.

Finlay J, Remi HS and Calen B all did well to finish in the top 10 in their races.

Our Year 5/6 girls competed as a team with Rose W and Mollie M finishing in first and second place, respectively. Our girls team finished in first place overall and we wait to hear if they progress now to the country finals.

Well done to all our competitors and thank you to the parents and relatives who came along and braved the cold to support our children.



Christingle Donations

Please can all Christingle donations for the Children's Society be brought into the school office by Monday 18th December. Thank you for your generosity and support with this.

Our Collective Worship focus is *Responsibility*

"Arise, for it is your task, and we are with you; be strong and do it." Ezra 10:4



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Governor update

As many of you know, Ian Bailey has been the Chair and a Parent Governor during his lengthy tenure on the Local Governing Body. Ian has now decided to step down from his role as Parent Governor, and Chair. We are hugely grateful to Ian for the hard work and dedication he has shown the school community during his time as a Governor. Ian has given willingly of his time and expertise, and has been a huge support to the school, thank you Ian.

Bernard Harris has been elected as Chair of our Local Governing Body. From January we will have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Local Governing Body, if you are interested in finding out more about this role please email, Claire Watmore School Business Manager office.3453@christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk there will be further details circulated to all parents in January about the process for the election of a parent governor.

PTFA Christmas bazaar

I wanted to say on behalf of the PTFA a huge thank you to all of the families who attended, and showed their support for the Christmas Bazaar. There was a great atmosphere, and it was a really enjoyable evening. Thank you also to the volunteers from the PTFA who organised the events, raffle and the stalls. The PTFA will announce how much money was raised shortly. All money raised is invested back into the school and we are really grateful for all of your support.

Staffing update

Mrs Golding has resigned from her post as Midday Supervisor. Mrs Golding has been a long serving member of staff at Christopher Rawlins, working for over 15 years at the school. We thank her for her service to our school community. We also say goodbye today to Mrs Price who worked as a Teaching Assistant in Key Stage Two. Mrs Price has been a great asset to our school and we wish her every success for the future.

KS2 Carols Round the Tree

Next Monday the 18th we will be holding Christmas Carols around the tree from 3.30pm. If you are able to join we would love to see as many of you as possible. Please collect your child as normal and then head to the hall through Reception for some festive carols.

Reception admissions September 2024

Online applications for children for Reception Year entry in September 2024 can be submitted online from Tuesday 1st November 2023, the closing date is Monday 15th January 2024. Parents of children in nursery still have to complete their application with Oxfordshire, being in our Nursery does not guarantee a place in the Reception year.

Packed lunches

It has been highlighted to us by Oxfordshire Health and Safety team that we are to remind parents that when sending in food for packed lunches that parents please cut cherry tomatoes, grapes and strawberries in half, and cucumber and carrots are cut into batons. This is to avoid any choking risk to children. Many thanks for your help with this.

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Katharine House Santa Fun Run

This take place on Tuesday 19th December on the school field.

This year in discussion with our Sports Council, we will not be providing hats in order to be greener and cut down on waste. Please can the children arrive at school in their kit ready to run including trainers, and bring their school uniform to change into. If children have their Santa hat from last year, please reuse it or bring another festive hat/accessory to wear. If their kit can be red – great – but this is not essential. We are asking for £1 to run which will be donated to the work of Katharine House Hospice, this donation will be uploaded to SchoolMoney for parents to pay.

Basketball Club

Letters to existing members will be going home next week regarding reserving your place for next term.

There are 4 new places available for next term for KS2. Please e-mail reception ASAP if your child would like one of these places. It takes place Monday evenings 3.10 pm until 4pm in the school hall.

Safeguarding contact numbers

If you are unable to speak to a member of our Designated Safeguarding Team at school and have a safeguarding concern, please contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) directly who will be able to advise you. If you have a concern about a child, please call MASH on 0345 050 7666.

End of term arrangements

Just to confirm, as published and shared with parents in the Dates Card, there is no Church Service at the end of this term. Children will be collected at normal time on Wednesday 20th December from their classrooms.

TA Vacancy

We are advertising a vacancy for a TA for 4 days a week. For further information please visit <https://www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk/vacancies>

High Flyers Breakfast and After School Club

'Ho ho ho!' It's been a fabulously festive week here at High Flyers. Our crafty crew have been doing lots of creative activities. We have been racing like Rudolph and playing outside, laughing all the way. Not long before we break up, and we have a sleigh-load of festive activities.

High Flyer of the term: Leo has perfectly embodied the High Flyers ethos. His unwavering willingness to lend a hand, coupled with his remarkable kindness, has made a significant impact. Leo's initiative, particularly in supporting younger students, is commendable.

High Flyers of the week are: Oliver for his exceptional kindness and thoughtfulness, attributes that have greatly enriched our community. Harley also earns a Highflyer spot this week, her constant, radiant smile symbolising her burgeoning confidence and independence. Well done.

We offer breakfast and after-school service for children to play Monday – Friday, within school.

You can book through our website: <https://www.highflyers.org.uk> or on our booking platform: <https://highflyersoxfordlimited.ipalbookings.com/>

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Diary dates

Monday 18th December

EYFS The Mill trip

Monday 18th December

KS2 Christmas Carols Round the Tree from 3.30pm

Wednesday 20th December

Last day of school (normal finishing time)

Monday 8th January

INSET day

Tuesday 9th January

First day back at school

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Learning Certificates

Owls

Gus for showing increasing confidence with coming into Nursery and taking part in the Nativity singing the songs with enthusiasm.

Penguins

Damian for being eager at Forest school this week. He showed great enthusiasm on the scavenger hunt.
Jack for his kind heart and beautiful manners towards staff and friends alike.

Flamingos

Emma for being a kind and considerate member of the class who is always happy to help.
Jacob for great progress with his reading recently – keep it up!

Peacocks

Rafferty for great application of knowledge in our History lesson.
Noah for great application of knowledge in our History lesson.

Woodpeckers

Orson for showing great improvement in his reading focusing on segmenting and blending.
Lilly for showing enthusiasm and working hard to improve her reading.

Hummingbirds

Charlie H for showing good determination with art activities and working really hard, well done.
James for sharing good ideas in class discussions and being really helpful, well done.

Toucans

Zach for improving his explanations of mathematical problems using key vocabulary
Iris for being an excellent role model, helping her peers and challenging herself to always do her best

Parrots

Calen B for the effort he puts into his maths work and for taking on challenges and for the progress he has made in his reading.
Remi H-S for being an active learner and demonstrating enthusiasm for learning by offering good contributions to class discussions.

Hérons

Ollie P for really imaginative writing in his literacy work on his Land of Never Believe Animals.
Amelie for really impressing me with her creative writing and island descriptions.

Kingfishers

Anna for your instructions on how to steal Christmas, the instructions were clear and it is very neatly decorated.
Toby for all your fantastic topic homework, I can see a lot of hard work and effort have been put into them.

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