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Wednesday 18th December 2024

Headteacher's newsletter

Dear Parents and Families,

As I write the last Headteacher's newsletter for 2024, I reflect on the term behind us and what a privilege and honour it is to lead our school. As always, I am so proud of our children and how hard working they all are. In a recent visit by our school improvement partner, she commented on the fantastic behaviour for learning that was clearly evident across the school.

This term has been so busy and productive; we look forward to sharing the latest news in our next newsletter this Friday. It has been so wonderful to see so many of you in school for our Christmas performances and class assemblies. I hope you have enjoyed watching them as much as I and the staff have!

Have you ever thought that you would like to get more involved in the life of the school by becoming a parent governor or by perhaps joining our newly formed Parent and Teacher Association (PTA)? Please contact the school office to find out more.

A reminder that the admissions window for applying for a **Reception place** for September closes on Wednesday 15th January 2025. Please don't leave it until the last minute. If you need any help, do not hesitate to contact the office team, who will be happy to help you.

A big thank you if you are following us and liking our posts on social media via Instagram, X or Facebook. It's a great way of tracking all our events and what the children have been learning about.

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PTO



Lost Property

Lost property will be displayed under the shelter in the junior playground at the end of the day on Thursday 19th December 2024.

Communicating with the class teacher

A reminder that parents may not always be able to speak to the class teacher after school or in the morning. Instead, parents are able to email the class teacher using the class email address. <u>classname@deptfordpark.org</u> for example: <u>pearl@deptfordpark.org</u>. Teachers will respond within 48 hours during term time working days. More urgent requests should go to the office via an email or phone call.

After School Club

Exciting news! We will shortly be running a free taster session in January. Please look out for further details when we return in the new year. It is also worth noting that childcare vouchers can also be used to pay for our After-School Club.

Extra-curricular clubs

Extra-curricular clubs will resume week commencing 13th January 2025.

Attendance and term time holiday

There is a strong correlation between pupil achievement and good attendance. All children are expected to attend school regularly and maintain an attendance of 96% or above in line with government guidelines. Absenteeism will be monitored and parents will be required to explain every absence period promptly. Term time holidays are strongly discouraged and absences away from school will be only authorised for **exceptional circumstances**.

Safeguarding

Please remember that mobile phones are not permitted in school, including the playground. Greet your child with a smile not a dial! **A big thank you** for your support and co-operation by not parking on the zig-zag lines outside our school gates. The children are much safer because of it.

Wishing you all a restful and peaceful break when it arrives on Friday! **Happy Christmas and New Year** to all our families who celebrate. We look forward to welcoming the children back on **Tuesday 7**th **January 2025**.

Kind wishes,

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