

# UPDATES

## The East Anstey Primary School Newsletter

### From the Head

Dear Families

Welcome to the race to Christmas. Now that the clocks have gone back and half term is already a distant memory we are beginning to turn our thoughts to the festivities and celebrations that make an Anstey Christmas. This newsletter will give an indication of what learning will be happening, what events are planned and hopefully some useful messages for the end of term.

The juniors have been learning all about the World Wars, culminating in the remembrance services and a theme day (still to come). The infants have been learning all "about me", including work on bones and bodies. These topics will now gradually draw to a close as we head towards the end of the term.

#### Christmas Play

Fever pitch appears to have been reached with draft scripts out for some of the children. I would like to emphasise to all that they are just that – draft at this stage and we expect many changes to be made. Do let me know if you have any queries about the play.

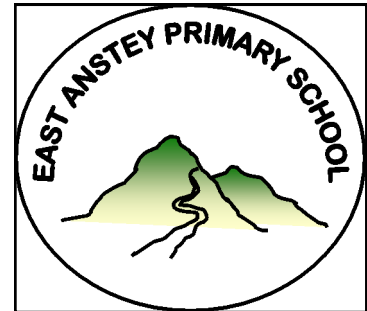
#### Questionnaire Feedback

Thank you for very kindly taking the time to fill in and return the recent parent questionnaires. They are always very useful to us and give us an indication of how we are doing and what needs to be done. The feedback this year has been very positive with a few suggestions coming forward:

- Parent curriculum pack. We will be putting together an information pack for parents at the beginning of next term that will include an explanation of levels and a homework guide.
- Progress feedback. Detailed progress feedback will be provided at parent's evenings. This can be provided in written form on request (please ask, we won't be offended).
- Chain of Command. If you have an issue that needs to be resolved at school the first port of call will be the class teacher (or Teaching Assistant for minor issues). When I am not on site Mrs Yarney is designated teacher in charge but I can always be contacted for important issues.

There are many exciting events in store such as Theme days, Christmas Play, Christmas Parties, Christmas Lunch and the Carol Service as well as PTFA events. I do hope to see you all at some stage over the next few weeks and would like to wish you a very happy and enjoyable end to the Autumn Term.  
Best wishes to you all

Tim Gurney



Late Autumn Term 2012  
Nov '12 Number 60

#### Dates for the Diary:

(Dates may be amended or added)

##### Nov

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Children in Need Day  
Sat 24<sup>th</sup> PTFA Family Bingo Night

##### Dec

Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Play Performance 1  
Thu 13<sup>th</sup> Play Performance 2  
Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Play Performance 3  
Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Carol Concert, 2pm\* **Note date change**  
Tue 18<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner  
Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party, pm  
Fri 21<sup>st</sup> last day of term (games & non-uniform)

Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Dec to Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Jan –  
Christmas holiday

##### Jan 2013

Mon 7<sup>th</sup> non-pupil day  
Tue 8<sup>th</sup> children return

#### House Points

Totals so far



Ruby	96	points
Emerald	143	points
Amber	95	points
Sapphire	77	points

committed

The East Anstey Team

caring

Mr Gurney Mrs Everett-Kelway Mrs Yarney Mrs Partridge Mr Deveney Mrs Attwood Mrs Loftus  
Mrs Buckland Mrs Dennis Mr Yarney Mrs Glasspool Mrs Vigus Mrs Mair

# JUNIOR NEWS

Dear All,

Just a quick update on what the juniors are doing this half term.

Firstly, we need to say welcome to Emily, who has joined us in year 5 and Dave Yarney, who has joined us as a teaching assistant.

The play rehearsals have started already and all the children are very excited about it. We will be working on play script in literacy and also other activities such as advertising posters for the performance and designing programs. We have been working on observational poetry and completing some autumn art to accompany it.

In maths, we will working on topic maths such a measure, shape and data handling.

Our topic of the world wars continues. We will be moving on to the second world war and what Britain was like for children at that time. We will have our theme day when the children will hopefully experience school through the war years. We will also think about the Holocaust through RE and PSHE activities.

In science we will continue with electricity and making circuit boards. We will start work on a joint DT/science project making working torches and games, using what the children have learnt this term.

Dance will be our PE focus and games will be netball and hockey. No football boots are needed for PE now as the field is too wet. Please have suitable clothing for outside, as we try to get out regardless of the weather. Girls need to make sure their hair is tied back for PE please.

In music we will be beginning a project on the composition of Christmas tunes and working on carols.

Thank you for your support with homework and getting it in on time. As requested, **all** children have been given homework diaries to store their spelling sheets in. Nightly reading should continue, even if your child has completed their reading target. It is most beneficial to their reading and comprehension progress, to read 15 minutes a night from their stage book (to an adult as often as possible for younger readers) then continue with a home book afterwards, if they prefer.

There are going to be lots of seasonal activities taking place towards the end of term such as the carol concert and Christmas card making.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas play and carol concert.

Dawn Everett-Kelway  
 Claire Partridge  
 Elspeth Dennis



Last call for these vouchers. They are no longer being given out at the store, but we have another few days to collect. Please send any in to school by Wednesday 21st November. Thank you.



This Friday (16<sup>th</sup>) is Children in Need day. For those that want to take part, our theme this year is to dress up as doctors, nurses and patients for a donation of £1.

There will be lots of fun and games including face painting and a treasure hunt.

# INFANT CLASS NEWS

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school - we hope you had a good half term. We have a busy half term ahead, continuing with our topics on 'Our Senses.' We are also looking at the story of Guy Fawkes and we will be talking about Remembrance and why we have poppies. We will be beginning our play rehearsals and getting ready for all the Christmas activities to come.

**Christmas costumes**

The children will be told shortly what their part in the school production of 'Peter Pan' will be. As usual the wonderful Mrs

Attwood will be starting to gather costume bits together and if we need you to find something for your child then we will send home a note. Mrs Attwood spends a lot of her own time sorting out the costumes, so if there are any parents who could offer a little bit of help in the coming weeks we would love to hear from you.

**Home work (Year one and two)**

Just to remind parents that we are sending spellings home on a Friday alongside some maths practise. The children will be tested the following

Friday. Children can hand in their homework on the Friday morning, as I'm sure they may want to practise their spellings a few times over the course of the week.

We hope that we see you over the coming weeks and if you have any questions or queries please come in for a chat.

Liz Yarney,  
 Janet Buckland

**Our plans this term:**

Literacy	Traditional tales, firework poetry, stories with a pattern, recounts.
Maths	Counting, comparing numbers, addition and subtractions, patterns of numbers, measures, problem solving and money.
Science/Geography/R.E.	My senses, Christmas around the world, Hannukah and the Christmas story.

Important thought for the end of term...

*"Hold on tight to your dreams" ELO*

## Acceptable Use Policy Agreement - Internet and ICT Systems in School

Accompanying this newsletter is a copy of the school's Student/Pupil Acceptable Use Policy regarding the use of the internet and ICT systems at school, together with a permission form for parents/carers to sign and return. There is also a second permission form concerning the use of digital and video images in school - again to sign and return. We would be grateful if these forms could be returned as soon as possible but if you do have any queries about these issues please contact the school.

## PTFA

**Bingo Night:** Just a reminder that Saturday week, 24 November, is the Family games evening, with games, bingo, disco hot dogs, pay bar etc. If you could purchase tickets from Melinda, School or myself it would be helpful for catering purposes. Please come along and help support our school. If you are able to make a cake or tray bake it would be much appreciated, just let me know. Many thanks, Tracy Brock.

## Free School Meals

Families are being encouraged to apply for free school meals in any cases where they qualify. Even if you do qualify, your child does not have to take a school meal if they do not want to (they can still bring a packed lunch). Since last year, extra funding has been allocated to schools depending on the number of children qualifying for free school meals. This funding is allocated directly to those qualifying children and can be used to provide curriculum support if necessary or help towards school trips and extra-curricular activities etc. All applications are completely confidential and qualifying children are not identified within school in any way. Last week's update had details of how to claim, but if you missed this, please contact the school office or look on the website ([http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/learningschools/supporting-children/financial support/free school meals.htm](http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/learningschools/supporting-children/financial%20support/free%20school%20meals.htm)) for details.



# Grand Christmas Show

Families are invited to

# Peter Pan

In East Anstey

By JM Barrie

Adapted by Tim Gurney ©2012

to be staged in the school hall on

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> and  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm

Look out for the booking form to  
reserve your tickets.



## 2012/2013 TERM DATES

### Autumn 2012

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December  
 Non-pupil days - Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September  
 Half term - Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

### Spring 2013

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January to Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March  
 Non-pupil days - Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January & Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March  
 Half term - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

### Summer 2013

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July  
 May Day Holiday - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May  
 Non-pupil days - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

## Thank You

To Hannah Sparks for stepping in to lend a hand at lunchtimes in school. We are very appreciative of her help.

To Mrs Vigus for our special school meals last week - delicious as always.

To all our volunteers who come in to class and listen to readers - your help is invaluable.

East Anstey PTFA invites you to a

# BINGO NIGHT



**Saturday**  
**Nov 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**6pm - 9.30pm**

**West Anstey Village Hall**

**HOT REFRESHMENTS**

**Everyone Welcome. Come and have a '41'!**

**Adults £4**

**Children (under 14) £2**

**Pay Bar**

**Raffle**



**Tickets available from Melinda (07584 071134) and from Tracy (01398 341406) or on the door.**