

25 November 2009



Dear Parent / Carer

Bushfield is a busy place as usual but I thought I ought to take a few minutes to share some of the things we've been doing recently. Additionally, there are a few extra dates for you to add to your diary.

Sports Round Up

We have had several notable successes this term on the sporting front including:-

Year 3 and 4 Badminton

This was a great opportunity for Year 3 to represent Bushfield for the first time. Firstly the team participated in the Radcliffe Cluster competition where they had to work through a number of activities which tested their badminton skills. The Bushfield team, lead by Captain Jamie, won this festival and progressed to the Milton Keynes Badminton Championship. This took place at the home of badminton, the National Badminton Centre, where the national badminton players train. The Bushfield team's skills were tested against the best and most talented children in Milton Keynes and we were very proud to achieve 5th place.

Year 5 and 6 boys development football team

This is the first year of our development team, which allows children who are still improving their football skills to represent the school in a competitive setting. Our development team attended a friendly festival at Stanton School where they went on to take first place!

Cross Country

There was strong competition to be a part of the Cross Country team this year and, after a competitive selection process, including many lunchtime practices, Bushfield entered an excellent team into the Milton Keynes Cross Country championship qualifiers at the National Bowl. The whole Bushfield team demonstrated excellent determination and strength and we are extremely proud of all the children who took part. We would like to wish our team good luck in the forthcoming final.

Tree planting

On 5th November Bushfield pupils were given the chance to get their hands dirty and plant 100 trees in the school grounds thanks to the 'Tree Appeal'. They were helped by employees from Santander, Milton Keynes.

The children thoroughly enjoyed learning how to plant the trees and will be able to watch them grow, see how wildlife is encouraged and even compare how their trees are growing with other schools who have also planted trees across the globe.

If you would like to find out more please check out the Tree Appeal website www.treeappeal.co.uk

NSPCC fundraiser

On Friday 13th November all children took part in an NSPCC Fundraising activity. The children danced themselves to fitness and so far have raised the grand total of £1,300 for this very worthwhile charity. I would like to thank you all very much for your generosity and remind you that all sponsor money should be sent into school in the envelope provided by **Friday 27th November**.

Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in the library at lunchtimes and after school between Tuesday 1st and Monday 7th December. This is a great opportunity for you to pick up some stocking fillers and help support the school. **Bushfield receive 100% commission on all books sold**. If you are sending your child into school with money for the book fair, please ensure that it is in a named, sealed envelope so that it can be handed to the class teacher for safe keeping!

Christmas is coming!

Christmas Crackers – we are going to be holding our usual Christmas Cracker Raffle near to the end of term for a bit of fundraising. Please support us by sending in either Christmas Crackers or raffle prizes however small. This will be an exciting raffle with some big prizes to be won but the more small prizes we have the better for all those taking part. Prizes or crackers can just be brought into the school office. If any of you have any links with businesses that might be able to support our raffle, please let us know. Crackers will be on sale before school in the week beginning **14th December**.

Christmas Concerts – join us for some singing and a celebration of Christmas at the following times:

- **1:30pm Wednesday 16th December**
- **1:30pm Thursday 17th December**

Tickets will be available from the office the week beginning **Monday 30th November** and a ticket request slip will be sent home shortly with your child. Refreshments will be served and there will be a festive raffle. We are looking forward to celebrating Christmas with you all.

Christmas Meal – this is always a popular dinnertime when staff don Christmas decorations and serve up a proper Christmas dinner to the children courtesy of our caterers. This year the Bushfield Christmas dinner is on **Wednesday 9th December**. Your child should already have brought home a menu, if not please request one from the office. To help the Radcliffe School cater for this occasion please make sure that you have ordered your child's Christmas dinners in advance.

And finally,

With our best wishes to Mrs Shirley.....

Mrs Shirley left us last Friday to begin her maternity leave. I'm sure you will join us in wishing her the very best and we look forward to meeting baby Shirley soon. All being well, Mrs Shirley will be returning to us at the end of the summer. In the meantime, Mrs Hinchliffe, who has shared Beech class with Mrs Shirley this year, will take over full time. I'm sure Mrs Shirley will be keeping in touch with us.

Best Wishes

Andrea Curtis

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