Newsletter 13 - Friday 14th December 2018

Dear Families.

After seeing the Dress Rehearsal yesterday, I know that you had a real treat this afternoon! As always, the children have given their all! They really do put their hearts and souls into everything! Their singing was sensational as was their acting. A huge thank you to each and every one of you for making such an effort with the costumes you have provided. We appreciate how hard it is at this time of year, when there are so many other demands on your time and money but you absolutely came up trumps, the children looked brilliant! A huge thank you must also go our wonderful staff for getting the children ready. As you can imagine, it's not an easy task to coordinate all the children to be in the right place at the right time and learning all the songs but as always Miss Coxon and Mrs Blackshaw have done a phenomenal job! Thank you to Mr Parker for helping the children make the candles and for Mrs Dennis in ensuing our stage was here on time.

The festivities continue next week when we have an encore when the children will perform again for our local residents. We really wanted them to see what fabulous children we have at Henhurst Ridge, as well as building up our community links. Then on Tuesday, we have our Christmas Dinner which we're very excited about. The Director of Education for REAch2, Tim Culpin, will be joining us as well as our Regional Director, Yateen Bhoola, and other members of our regional team. In the morning, they will be conducting a monitoring visit to ensure the standards of education are where they need to be - I look forward to sharing their feedback with you next Friday. It will be a lovely opportunity for them to get to know the children and see what great things are happening here.

Next Friday, Miss Coxon and Mrs Blackshaw have a great day planned with party games, decorating gingerbread girls/boys and generally having lots of fun!

<u>Building work:</u> As you can see there has been some significant groundwork happening at the front of the building but it is still not yet complete. The construction company are waiting for a final part to arrive so that the remaining works can be finished and the groundworks completed. We are very nearly there! Hopefully, I will have more news for you next week.

<u>Eco Market:</u> As you are aware Henhurst Ridge is an Eco school and as part of us sharing this with you and our community we are holding our first Eco Market on <u>Wednesday 16th January from 2.30pm.</u> We would be extremely grateful if you could donate any quality unwanted books, DVDs (PG and U), bric a brac, clothes and unwanted gifts etc. to us before Monday 14th January. Further information will follow and we look forward to seeing all of you and your families there!

<u>Tyres:</u> We would really appreciate donations of tyres as we will use these as planters to grow things with the children, particularly in our Early Years play area that needs many natural elements. Many thanks for your help with this.

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Read Write Inc: All Set One sounds have been taught now so we have grouped the children according to which sounds they have retained so we can go over any ones they are not sure about or progress them onto new ones. Please continue with the Sound Blending Books and commenting in the Reading Diaries. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to Miss Coxon.

<u>Toys:</u> Can I just give a quick reminder that toys, however small, are not permitted in school? They are a distraction to the children so please do not allow your child to bring them in. They can also get lost. Many thanks indeed for your help with this. After Christmas, Miss Coxon will be choosing a child per week for 'Show & Tell'. This is where the children can bring something in that they would like to show and tell the class about.

Thank you once again for sharing our very special Nativity today. It really was brilliant or in Mr Parker's words, "Sensational!"

With very best wishes for a lovely weekend, Mrs Hopkins

