

MILL RYTHE INFANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Friends

The countdown to Christmas has begun now that December is upon us, and of course this bitterly cold weather too. Our Christmas tree arrives on Thursday and we hope that it will be set up for the children on Friday morning. Next Monday we are putting the Christmas post box outside the hall entrance. Please could you make sure that your child puts class names on envelopes as well as children's names as we always get cards left that we are unable to deliver.

This coming Thursday morning the Year 2 children have been invited to take part in a Children's Society Christingle at The Hayling College. But we are making sure that the Year One children do not miss out and they will be making their own Christingles back at school.

On Friday the local Lloyds TSB Bank in Mengham is re-opening and launching their new image. Our KS1 pupils were asked to take part in a painting competition and some super art work was produced during a Golden Time afternoon. They could paint anything, as long as it had a black horse in it, of course. A representative from the bank has already been in to select the best ten pictures and they will be choosing the winner on Friday. The Manager of the bank has asked me to invite you and your child to a special magic show they are having at 3.15pm on Friday afternoon when you will also see some of the paintings displayed.

On Wednesday evening at 7.30pm FOMS are holding their next committee meeting here at school and at the same time will be making up all the 'smellies' you so kindly donated last week into beautiful gifts for the children to buy at the Christmas Toy Fair on 12 December. If you forgot to bring in your contribution on Friday, please hand it in to reception by the end of Wednesday so that it can be used. Many thanks.

Next week Year R are performing their musical production 'Santa's Magic Workshop' for their families - don't forget to bring your tickets with you.

Yesterday your child should have brought home a **Christmas Reading Challenge** card. KS1 children took part in a challenge earlier in the term and it proved to be a real success. This time we are inviting Year R to participate too. Please support your child by reading to and with them as often as possible and recording the titles on the card and signing them off. This can include books that your child has at home or has borrowed from the library as well as school reading material. We know that many of our older pupils are choosing to read very challenging books and may only read a couple of these in the course of 2 weeks - that really doesn't matter. What is important is that they set their challenge and see if they can give more time to their reading than they would do normally. Everyone who takes part will be rewarded and there will also be some extra special prizes for extra special effort. The challenge will finish on Friday 12 December so that I can check all the cards ready to celebrate achievements on the last day of term, 19 December.

School Meals

Firstly, please make sure that if your child would like the *Christmas lunch on Tuesday 16 December*, you order it **BY THE END OF THIS WEEK!** This will be the only option on that day so if you have not ordered it in advance, please ensure your child brings a packed lunch on the 16th.

Secondly, just in case you are not aware, on normal days, as well as the hot school meal there is also a packed lunch option which quite a few of the children are having from time to time. However it has come to our attention that, especially at this time of year, if children are having school meals their parents are expecting them to have the hot option! Please let a member of staff know if you **DO NOT** want your child to be allowed to choose the packed lunch. Many thanks.

Hayling BEST Christmas 2008 Window Spotting Competition

Trail sheets are available for 25p from Terracotta Pot Shop, Hayling Book Shop, Relatively Crafty, Paiges Fishing Tackle and J and K Supermarkets. The competition runs from 1 - 31 December and the idea is to seek out all the shops listed on the trail sheet and search their windows for something they don't normally sell. Mark the rogue item on the trail sheet and when completed return it to one of the shops for entry into a prize draw.