

MILL RYTHE INFANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Friends

Happy New Year to you and yours ...

The Carol Service at St Patrick's RC Church was a delightful way to wind up what appeared to be a very long term and the culmination of our seasonal celebrations. Thank you to Father Andrew for hosting our service, and to all those of you who were able to come along and support the children, and hear their message. Christmas is such a special time for them and we try hard to let them enjoy every moment. Well done to all of them - this is our only whole school performance and this year they did us proud - the singing, particularly, was absolutely lovely. Our thanks must go to Mrs Coulter and her assistant Mrs Allen who produced a super Christmas meal on the Tuesday, which was much enjoyed by all. My appreciation too, to those members of FOMS who spent hours making sure that the Christmas parties went with a swing - we were thrilled that Father Christmas was able to spare a few moments out of his busy schedule to pay us a visit.

Keep an eye on the weather this week and if in any doubt check with the school website - www.millrythe.org and make sure that school is operating as usual. We will do everything possible to keep the school open but must always consider the health and safety of staff as well as pupils. We will also be using the new text messaging service to update you on any information you might need. Please tell us of any changes to mobile numbers as soon as possible so that we can stay in touch. Please note that only those who have signed up to our Parentmail service will receive the text messages - if you

have not already signed up and would like to please ask the office for a form.

At the end of term we said a sad farewell to Mrs Jill Reynolds who has been a Lunchtime Supervisor at the school since it was first built in 1974 - in fact I think she worked at the old Mill Rythe School and transferred across with some of the children when the infant school was opened. She has been a source of continuity for us all and we were very sorry when she decided that she would finish. Having said that, she had just celebrated a very special birthday! She asked for no fuss but we were able to present her with a gift and each wing made a special card. The children will miss her as will all her colleagues. We have taken on two new Lunchtime Supervisors - Mr Ball who started yesterday and Mr Miller who starts in two weeks' time. This means that Mrs Cooper who has had a dual role in school will take on more responsibility in the classroom supporting Mr Mandrill.

Minstead Residential Trip - July 2010

Just a reminder to parents of those children going to Minstead of the payment instalment plan:

£60 deposit paid in December 2009

£15 due by 29 January 2010

£15 due by 26 February

£15 due by 26 March

£15 due by 30 April

£30 final payment due by 28 May.

Havant College

is offering free courses in numeracy and literacy skills. Find out more by calling 023 9271 4010.

Starfish Children's Centre - Mengham Junior School

A copy of the latest newsletter is available to read in the school office.

We would recommend that parents check the qualifications and suitability of all staff and leaders running outside activities or services signposted by school.