



19th December 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

What a jam-packed Autumn Term we've had! The children have been a credit to their school and friends and here is a selection of things they have done this term:

- Infant and Junior Open Days
- Meet the teacher the meetings
- Pound for Pound Daily Mile
- Junior's Trip to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford
- Council Elections at both schools
- Y4 & Y5 swimming
- Year 6 Viking Day
- Year 5 trip to 'We the Curious'
- Multi-cultural Week
- European Day of Languages
- MacMillan Coffee morning
- Maths Day
- Federation Christmas Fair
- Y2 Nativity
- Reception Christmas Songs
- Y1 Christmas Carols
- Year 3 & 4 Christmas Carols
- School Discos

Staffing

I am thrilled to announce that we have appointed Mrs Jamie Collier to join our teaching team in Year 2 for January 2020. The partnership of Mrs Goodier and Mrs Collier has already started and I know the children have already warmed to her.

As always, I am privileged to have the support of a committed and professional team here at Churchdown Parton Manor Schools' Federation. Sadly, but understandably, we are losing Mrs Jo Whittall to retirement, someone who, in the time I've known her, has been a consummate and empathetic professional. She has given her all as a teaching assistant, teacher and now a school governor during her time at the Junior School. I'm sure you have met Mrs Whittall in passing, probably covered in mud and nettles after her sessions in the Forest School. We wish her the very best and I feel fortunate that I'll get to see her at subsequent Governors' meetings. Thank you Mrs Whittall – a true 2%er. Mrs Lydia Glen will be joining the team to cover Mrs Whittall's teaching commitments.

Friends

I need to say a huge thank you to the Friends for their sterling efforts with the Autumn events this year. The inaugural Federation Christmas Fair was a huge success – it was great to see a variety of activities available for all to participate in. I'll look forward to next year's festive fun.

Christmas events

Thank you to all who have attended this year's Christmas events – we hope you have enjoyed the performances as much as we have. The children should be incredibly proud of their efforts over the past 4 weeks.

School places

A quick reminder to our Year 2 parents that the closing date for Year 3 places at the Junior School is **Wednesday 15th January 2020**. You can access all relevant information at <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/apply-for-a-primary-or-infant-school-place/>

A message from the Governors

The Governors of Parton Manor Schools' Federation would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a wonderful 2020.

This is just to bring you up to date with the Board's activities since September. We have held 2 full board meetings and the resources committee has met under its new chairperson and with some new members. Two members have been on a financial training for Governors course. Two Governors have also been on a staff performance management training day. We have all been involved in online training too on various topics.

This term our focus has been class visits and every class now has a Governor attached to them. Some of us have been talking to the children about our roles in school and have answered some very stretching questions! I was told I would have to think very hard about my answers – and I did! We have continued to visit the Key Area Teams (curriculum matters) as before so that we can keep up to date with what is happening in school and how the children are progressing in their learning.

If you want to contact us there are usually some Governors dropping off/picking up in the playground or contact me at:
chair@partonmanor-inf.gloucs.sch.uk

Season's Greetings from:
Iola Garbett (chair)
On behalf of the Board of Governors

Spring Term

As a reminder, the Pre-School, Infant and Junior School will be re-opening on **Monday 6th January 2020**. Have a wonderful Christmas break and I'll look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year.

Merry
Christmas