# **NEWSLETTER**

ISSUE - 1

## **DIARY DATES**

# JANUARY

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup>

Lunch orders due in

Sat 24th

Cross Country Y3-6

Stratford Recreation

Ground

Sun 25th 10.30am

Education Sunday St.

Laurence Church Bidford

Thurs 29th 9am - 12pm

Y5/6 School Games

Alcester Grammar

# FEBRUARY

Mon 9th

Pantomime Day Whole

School

Mon 16th - Fri 20th

HALF TERM

Mon 23rd

Back to School

Tues 24th

Class photos

## **Happy New Year**

It has been lovely to welcome all the children back to school this week for the start of a new term. On behalf of all the staff at TG school, we would like to wish all our families and friends of the school a happy and fulfilling 2015.

#### **Volunteers Needed**

We have more new books in school for both classroom use and to add to our accelerated reader library. We now need to cover the books with tacky-back (it helps to protect and preserve the books). We would appreciate it if anyone can spare half an hour in the morning at drop off or in the afternoon before pick up Tuesday to come in and help. We will be offering refreshments to all volunteers. Please speak to Mrs Hendry or Miss Britt if you are able to help. Alternatively, we can give you a pack to take home and cover.

## Congratulations!

We would all like to offer our warmest congratulations to Mrs Uttley who has been informed this week that she has successfully completed her Forest Schools training and is now a qualified Forest School Leader. We will now be able to develop our Forest Schools programme so that children in all year groups will have the opportunity to benefit from these fantastic learning experiences. If anyone is interested in helping out at the Forest school sessions (Monday and Wednesday afternoons) you would be very welcome, please speak to the office or Mrs Uttley to find out more.

## **Education Sunday**

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January the four schools who are part of the Heart of England Parish will be joining together to share in a service at St Laurence Church in Bidford. Our choir will be performing (a choir letter will be coming out next week) and all children and families are most welcome to come along to the service which celebrates the links between our schools and the church. The service will start at 10.30 and should last approximately one hour. Refreshments will be served in church after the service.

#### **PTA School Disco**

The PTA are hoping to organise a disco for this term. Unfortunately the person who has previously acted as DJ is no longer running discos. If anyone can recommend a suitable DJ for a children's disco, please let the office know and we will pass the information to the PTA.

### **Dinner Menu**

The new dinner menu was sent out yesterday. Please make sure that all menus are returned by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January thank you.

\*\*If you, your child or any member of your family have difficulty in accessing the school and/or the school's facilities and services, please contact the School Office for assistance.\*\*



# **Reminder for Parents-Leave of Absence During Term Time**

As you will all be aware, current attendance regulations stipulate a Head Teacher may not grant a leave of absence during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what he/she views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. If the leave is granted, the Head Teacher is able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued and not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Parents are asked to respect the new regulations under which the school must work and if there is a need to take a child out of school during term-time, an application or request <u>must be made in advance</u> and make clear how the circumstances are exceptional.