



**DECEMBER 2017**

### Note from the Principal

The temperature has certainly indicated that winter has arrived. No snow as yet despite several warnings! The additional gloves, scarfs and hats have been essential and we always remind children to put on their coats when playing out. Extra reminders from home are a good idea and will help support the lunchtime staff in particular.

This newsletter is full of important information so please take the time to have a read.

### School Meal Price Increase

Please be aware school dinners prices from January 1st 2018 are increasing.

Children in Years 3 to 6 school meals will cost £1.70 per day. Nursery meals will cost £1.50 per day.

### A smooth start to the day

We need your help again! In order to ensure a calm and smooth start to the day it is essential that children arrived on time and have a consistent routine. The vast majority of children do arrive on time and we have noticed a real improvement.

We also need at this time of year all parents and carers to stay outside when they drop children off. If you need to speak to an adult the cloak-room is the most suitable place. Teachers cannot speak to parents at the start of the day. There is always a member of staff on the terrace who are happy to speak to you about any issues. Thank you for your support with this.

### Children In Need

Thank you for all your contributions for Children in Need—the final amount raised was £148.53. Well done!

### Parking

Thank you to parents for not parking on the zig zags or yellow lines outside of school. This is a safe areas for our children to cross the road, especially useful for dark mornings and after-

### Staffing News

Mr Ruddock will be leaving us at the end of this term and we wish him every success in his new role.

From Monday 8th January Mrs Lorne will be working in Year 4 with Mr Pritchard. Mrs Lorne will be coming to school before the Christmas holidays to meet the children and look at their books.

If anyone would like to discuss this with me please catch me on the terrace either at the start or end of the day.

### Social Media

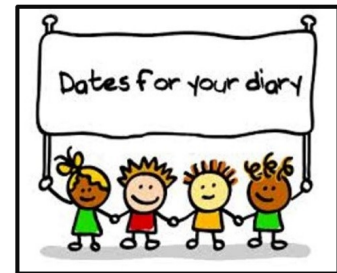
Merlin Top understands and appreciates the benefits of social media; however, ; there may also be some significant negative impacts, such as cyber bullying, which the school does not tolerate. In order for us to set the best example possible to pupils at Merlin Top, we would like to invite parents to do the same. Please think about what you are posting online.

If you have any concerns regarding social media, please speak to a member

### Breakfast Club

Please bring children to breakfast club between 8-8.30am. Hot food such as beans on toast and porridge are served which is great for cold mornings!

Children must have food to attend and arrive before 8.30am.



### Dates for your Diary

#### Friday 8th December

Phoenix Christmas Fair; children can be collected at 1pm or 3:15pm. If you do not want to attend the fair children will be taught as normal. Children should be collected from their classroom door, we are not able to let children go from the main entrance.

#### Wednesday 13th December

Carols by Candlelight—more details to follow.

#### Thursday 14th & Friday 15th December.

Christmas Tree Festival—please come along and support your favourite charity.

#### Wednesday 20th December

Children's Christmas Lunch—place your order and pay via parent pay.

#### Friday 22nd December

9:15am Attendance Assembly.  
**School closes at 1pm** and re-opens on **Monday 8th January.**

### Attendance

Please ensure appointments are made out of the school day where possible. If you need to take your child to the dentist, doctor or hospital, please ensure you bring to school the appointment letter.

Our attendance team is now monitoring children who are regularly late to school and collected late.

### School Contact Details

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