



The Priory Primary School

Pamber End, Tadley,

Hants, RG26 5QD.

Telephone: 01256 850062

www.theprioryprimaryschool.org



Seasons Greetings

Dear Parents,

16th December 2011

Like me, I am sure many of you can hardly believe that once again we are at the end of another calendar year. This has, once again, been a very good term and I hope that your child has enjoyed the opportunities and experiences on offer.

For us, there have been many highlights. You may have seen in The Times today the publication of the 2011 Primary Schools' Performance Tables. The position in the table is judged on the performance of last year's Year 6 children in the SATs, looking at attainment in English and Mathematics together, at Level 4 and level 5. The Priory is 10th out of the 314 schools in Hampshire and 167th out of the 14,678 schools nationally. I think this is a fantastic achievement and a great note on which to end 2011.

In terms of the adults in school, the children have undoubtedly benefitted from the enthusiasm of the new staff who have gelled seamlessly with the existing experienced staff. We all feel that Mrs. Candy, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Persin and Miss. Tucker have been great additions to the Key Stage 2 teaching team and similarly, Mrs. White and Ms. Budd have offered much to the school in their capacity of classroom assistants. We are delighted that Miss. Scott is now Key Stage 2 coordinator and she is a much valued member of our senior management team.

In the New Year, we anticipate that Mr. Jonathan Beckett will return and we are looking forward to him returning in good health. For the first half term, Jonathan will be supported by Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Persin and we anticipate that this will be helpful to him and will provide continuity for the children.

It has been lovely to see Mrs. Salsi back in school recently for a couple of social occasions. She and her new baby Isabella are doing very well indeed and I know that Tina is keen to return to her duties as a Governor in the New Year. Yesterday, we were delighted to hear that Mrs. Sowden gave birth to her first baby, Benjamin Christopher, 7lb 10oz. I am sure you will want to join with us in congratulating Kirsten and Darryl on this wonderful news.

Today, we will say an official "goodbye" to Mrs. Baigent. Ellen has been a lunchtime assistant for the past 12 years and as well as helping the children with their dinners and supervising them at play, she has been a loyal supporter of the school, always attending out of hours Priory events with Tony, her husband. She will be missed and we hope to see her back in school after Christmas, hearing the children read.

There have been a number of new trips over the past four months, all of which have enriched the children's learning. Year 1 visited Bekonscot model village, Year 4 travelled by train to reading museum to learn about the Romans and Year 6 went to the BBC. We have also had several interesting visitors to the school, including a guide dog in training (and her trainer!). Next term, we are looking forward to our whole school trip to RHS Wisley – I am sure that as in previous years it will be cold but enjoyable!





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It has been a very good term for fundraising, both for charities and for the school itself. The success of all our appeals and events has been due to the enthusiasm of the children and to much hard work from parents and staff. We are very grateful.

As the new year approaches I would just like to remind you, when dropping off your children in the morning please do not park in the 'Drop Off' zone (this is the area either side of the school gates). Please can you also pass this message on to anyone who brings the children i.e. child minders, grandparents, friends etc. The 'Drop Off' zone not only helps parents who want to drop and go but assists with the congestion and parking in the mornings.

Thank you once again for your tremendous support this term and year and on behalf of everyone at The Priory, may I wish you a very happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, 3rd January, 2012!

Kind regards,

Suzanne

