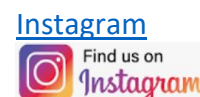




### News from the Federation – 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023



Whilst it may feel like I write this every week, this has been a particularly busy week at Trumpington Meadows. Thanks to all the parents who came to watch the Years 1 and 2, and the Reception performance and well done to all the children (and staff) for their hard work putting on these shows. Years 5 and 6 visited the pantomime this week at the Cambridge Arts Theatre with some of the children ending up on stage, whilst the Surprise Room was also a great success. Thanks to our Y6 volunteers for their wrapping skills at lunchtime and to Mr Taylor for helping to make this happen.

This will be the last newsletter for the term so can I please wish you all a very happy Christmas and new year. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January.



#### **Pantomime:**

Years 5 and 6 visited the Cambridge Arts Theatre this week – all our Key Stage 2 children have been able to attend the pantomime for free thanks to the Panto Wheels charity. Year 6 also attended a pantomime at Trumpington Community College this week and saw some of Trumpington Meadows's alumni in action!



#### **OPAL:**

Recently, we have introduced wheels as part of our playground development. Children are now able to use scooters and bikes as part of their play outside. We will be giving parents an opportunity next year to come and see our OPAL project in action – this will continue through 2024 and donations and support will remain very welcome!



#### **Dates and Events**

##### Term Dates:

These can be found on our website using the link: <https://www.trumpingtonfederation.co.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=133>

##### Last day of this term

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

##### First day of the Spring term

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

##### Lego League Competition

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January

##### Year 6 at PWC

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January

##### Young Voices at O2

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January

#### **Attendance**

We continue to track pupil attendance. We aspire for all children to have attendance over 95% and the government defines a pupil with attendance below 90% as persistently absent. If your child is in this category, you will likely receive a letter from us regarding this. We understand that, especially at this time of year, there are a number of bugs going around and are available to support any parents and carers with attendance and punctuality. Just get in touch.

As a school, our attendance this year is around 94%. This is an improvement on previous years so thank you; however, we will be aiming to increase this further next year.

### Reception place deadline:

Applications for Reception class places must be made by 15<sup>th</sup> January. If your child already attends Nursery at the Federation, you must still apply for a place. Children are not automatically given a place. Further guidance about admissions can be found using this link: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/primary-reception-junior-or-middle-school>

### Reading over the Christmas holidays:

Please encourage your child to keep up the reading over the holidays. Children in Y2 - Y6 can still use Accelerated Reader during this period. They can choose to read physical books or books on Myon via the link in their class's Google Classroom. Over the holidays, we encourage children to quiz upon completion of a book but they should not be helped with the answers. They can find the link to the quizzing website using our school's website. See below:



### Message from Mrs Dalton, Executive Headteacher:

Firstly, we would like to give a big shout to all the staff who work so hard at the Federation. Their effort in organising performances, celebrations and trips and visits this term has been phenomenal. Many giving up their time and weekends to attend training and support extracurricular events.

Sadly, sometimes it is easy to send of an e-mail, or post something on social media that is negative about our schools. We value feedback and are always seeking to improve. It is also however just as easy to write an e-mail or post something positive too. A thank you or well done can also go a long way to motivating staff and volunteers to keep putting on extra events such the Christmas Fair and giving up their own time to take children on fieldtrips and visits which extend well beyond the usual school day. We know that many parents are extremely busy, but if we all give a little and work together then we can ensure that our children continue to benefit from these opportunities.

All fund raising this year is being used to support the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) project. This is greatly enhancing playtimes and lunchtimes at the Federation. All fundraising will be put towards this project. But we need your help and support too. Staff cannot do this alone. We look forward to continuing our collaboration in the New Year and wish everyone in our community a happy holiday. Children will be welcomed back to school on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January.**

