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| **Little Gaddesden C** |

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Dear Parents,

On Tuesday our Hertfordshire Advisor visited us to review our attainment and progress in external tests. She also spent the afternoon watching how Science is taught in the school, visiting lessons, talking to children and looking at their work. She was very impressed and felt on her visit that the quality of education in our school was outstanding. Many thanks in particularly to Ms Allen and Mrs Blumsom

Today we have had a visit from the County Attendance Officer. Overall she was pleased with levels of attendance at the school, but a few individuals will be receiving letters about attendance from Herts County Council.

Last Thursday the school football team played at home against Dundale School, despite the cold they played very well and won 1-0.

**Letters home this week**

Class 2 – Carols at Sunnyside Church – please return your consent form if you haven’t already

Class 3 – Swimming Spring Term 2020 – Consent and payment due by Wednesday 11th December

Class 4 – Hertfordshire School’s Gala – Royal Albert Hall, March 8th 2020. **Signed consent forms need to be with the Office by Monday 2nd December.**

**Christmas Play Costumes – Class 1 & Class 4**

Following the information in last week’s newsletter about costumes, please could Class 1 bring in a plain white t-shirt (no logos) and black bottoms (they can wear their PE leggings or jogging bottoms).

Mrs Steeds is meeting with Class 4 tomorrow to run through the play and will be discussing costumes with the children then. Your child will come home tomorrow knowing what they need to bring in for their costume.

**Christmas Lunch**

If there is anyone else who would like a school Christmas Lunch on Thursday 19th December who doesn’t normally have a school meal on Thursday week 2 please let the Office know by Wednesday 4th December. The cost of the meal will be £2.60 and you can either pay by cash or via your School Gateway account.

**School Uniform**

We are proud of the fact that our children look smart at school, however I have noticed a few children have recently not been wearing black shoes to school and do not have their hair tied back. Can we remind all parents that they should ensure that their child comes to school in the appropriate uniform and has long hair tied back.

Please also ensure that your child has a correct PE kit in school with them every day. Thank-you

**Photos**

Details of how to log-in to view your child’s photos came home with the children last week. To qualify for free delivery into school prior to Christmas, you need to place your order by Monday 2nd December.

**Game On Lunchtime Football Club – Replacement Sessions for Year 1 & 2**

Class 2 have missed 2 lunchtime football sessions this term due to the weather. Game –on will be running replacement sessions at lunchtime on Wednesday 11th December and Wednesday 15th January.

**Paperless Office**

In an effort to make the school office more efficient and environmentally friendly, from next term we will be aiming to reduce the amount of paper which which we send home. We will:

* Be sending letters about trips, sports events and visits via email once a week on a Thursday with the weekly newsletter. Copies of the letters will then go onto the website.
* Be sending home a letter to ask for your consent for your child to travel by coach or mini-bus to local sports events (e.g. Tring School, Berkhamsted Sports Centre) to cover the rest of the academic year rather than sending a letter and asking for signed consent for every trip. We will inform parents of these trips via the weekly newsletter.
* Be using School Gateway for consent for all trips and visits as well as payments.

With this in mind, we would like to encourage all parents to set up and use their School gateway account. If you need any help with this, please pop into the Office to see Mrs Bancroft on a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday. If you are unable to access email and would still like a hard copy of letters, please let the Office know.

**Reminders**

Please can we remind parents that dinner money for this half-of term is due tomorrow , 29th November. Please can we ask all parents of children in classes 3 & 4 who have a school dinner to ensure that payment is made by tomorrow.

If you haven’t returned payment and consent for the theatre trips on Wednesday 18th December, please can you do so by Monday 2nd December. Reminders were sent out to those parents last week. Thank-you to everyone who has paid and consented for the trips.

See below for a message from The Friends

Yours sincerely

**Charis Geoghegan**

**Headteacher**

**Friday 29th November: Film Night and Christmas Jumper/Festive outfits!**

We will be showing Arthur Christmas tomorrow after school - money and consent forms to a committee member. Also, children can come to school in a Christmas jumper or festive outfit in exchange for a gift for the Christmas hamper/tombola. Please bring gifts on Friday drop off and pick up!

**Christmas Fayre: Saturday 7th December 12pm - 2.30pm**

Please bring all your donations for the tombola next week!  Also, we will have our usual cake stall so please do put your apron on and bring any cakes, muffins or biscuits (bought goods will also be greatly received)!

**Christmas Cards**

We have raised just over £200 for the school through the sale of our Christmas cards and presents this year - a special thanks to Claire Franklin who has organised this again this year!

**Facebook**

Thanks to Carly Nair (again), we have a new Facebook page: www.facebook.com/friendsoflittlegaddesdenschool

Please follow the page for info and photos!

**Amazon Smile**

As Christmas approaches, a reminder that by using Amazon Smile as your default website for all your Amazon purchases, the Friends receive 0.5% of all eligible purchases!

**Lottery**

This week's lottery draw is complete - congratulations to our first winner, Dawn Bassil, who won £20.  So far, we have sold 65 tickets with 27 supporters giving the school a fantastic £1,352 annual fund! The more tickets sold, the bigger the individual prize each week and the more money is raised for our school so spread the word!