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*Executive Head: Sarah Bennett*  
*Head of School: Kim Kemp*

18 December 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

I have really enjoyed my first half term at Stimpson and it has certainly flown by! It has been a pleasure getting to know the staff, parents, local community and of course your delightful children better. It certainly has been a busy half term with so many fun events for us all to enjoy.

### **Year One Teachers**

We are thrilled to welcome on board Liz Jones, a highly experienced teacher, who will be taking over Mrs Boulton's class from the start of the Spring Term in January 2016. She has over 17 years' experience and to help support the smooth transition, has worked with the children and met with Mrs Boulton to ensure a thorough handover occurs. We would also like to say a sad goodbye to Mrs Boulton and I am sure you will join with me in wishing her all the best in her new role.

### **School Clubs**

We are really pleased to inform you of an increasing number of club opportunities for the children next term in addition to a continuation of the other clubs the children already enjoy attending. Sadly, we are not able to participate in Young Voices this year and appreciate this is disappointing. However, as stated on the club letter, we are now starting a choir on Wednesday's after school and we will therefore look to providing a performance opportunity as a part of this club. Providing the children with more club opportunities is something we would really like to build upon so if you have any skills or interests and would be happy to run or support a club please contact the school. Thank you.

### **School Uniform**

It has come to my attention very recently that there are a number of parents/carers who are concerned with regards to the quality of the school uniform. We are therefore looking into a new supplier. Meanwhile, please use the current supplier and we can confirm the uniform itself will NOT change. Naturally, we will inform you as soon as we have any further information.

### **Adventure Playground**

As you are aware, the adventure playground has sadly been out of action. We have had people in to provide a quote, but at present, they are saying it cannot be fixed. We are therefore requesting a couple of other companies to assess and please know that it is a priority from our perspective to get this sorted as soon as possible. If anyone knows someone who can help support with this, I would love to hear from you. Thank you.

### **E-Safety Update**

E-Safety is an important part of keeping children safe at Stimpson. We have extensive security measures in place in school, which monitor our systems both internally and externally, to help safeguard pupils from potential dangers or unsuitable material. E-Safety is taught to all pupils, explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online. Your help would be appreciated in supporting the importance of E-Safety by talking to them about how they can keep safe at home to ensure a consistent message to minimise the risks.

### **Useful websites for more information include:**

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)  
[www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)  
[www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org)  
[clickcleverclicksafe.direct.gov.uk](http://clickcleverclicksafe.direct.gov.uk)  
[www.bbc.co.uk/onlinesafety](http://www.bbc.co.uk/onlinesafety)

### **Change of Inset Day**

To facilitate staff training it will be necessary to amend the school diary slightly next year. The school will now be **closed** for staff training on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February** but **open** on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016**. This is to accommodate the availability of external trainers. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

### **Deck the Halls**

Deck the Halls was a huge success and it was lovely to see so many parents/carers attend the session. I am not sure who enjoyed making the decorations more – the children or the parents! Thank you so much for supporting such a lovely event.

### **Christmas Fair**

The Christmas Fair was another massive success and raised an incredible £1,019.70. We would like to thank all the parents and families who came along and supported us and enjoyed the different stalls, face painting and refreshments all raising money for the school and the children. None of this would have been possible without the army of volunteers from Helping Hands and other parent staff volunteers who gave up their time to help make the Christmas Fair such a success. Thank you to everyone!

Thank you also to our special guest Father Christmas who spread a little Christmas magic. We are very grateful that he was able to spare the time at what is a very busy time for him.

The winners of the games that took place at the fair were:

#### **Guess my name**

The winning name was Harry and won by Max

#### **Santa's Journey**

This was won by Louise - 2CF

#### **Pin the nose on Santa**

The winner was Jack - RRS

#### **Ski Jump**

1<sup>st</sup> place was Jacob – YR 5

2<sup>nd</sup> place was Ben – YR 5

3<sup>rd</sup> place was Miss Critchley!

Well done to all the winners of the fair and thank you all for coming. A final special thank you to Carrie, the Chair of Helping Hands, who works tirelessly to organise events like this.

### **Christmas Performances**

The talent at Stimpson is incredible. Watch out for new entries to Britain's Got Talent! The performances were amazing and the children performed so beautifully. Thank you to all the staff and their hard work to ensure they were such a success. Thank you to all the parents/carers who came to support the children and of course a massive well done and thank you to all the stars of the shows – the children! You were all brilliant.

### **Cinderella**

I am sure your children have informed you what a great performance this was and how much they enjoyed it. The children had an amazing time and behaved impeccably. They were an absolute credit to the school and to you so much so that one of the theatre staff commented how well-behaved they were. Well done to everyone.

### **Class Party Day and Christmas Lunch**

The festive spirit was definitely in the air! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the dinner and a massive thank you to all the lunch time staff who cooked an incredible 300 Christmas dinners. The class parties were thoroughly enjoyed and the children certainly consumed lots of delicious treats!

You can certainly see how busy yet fun-filled this half term has been. Finally, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to another exciting term ahead.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Kimberley Kemp  
**Head of School**