



# Hillstone News



It's been extremely busy in school and I have not had chance to write a newsletter for a couple of weeks. I wanted to apologise regarding the snow days—As you know I do my utmost to try to keep the school open. The head of Birmingham Education authority closed all Birmingham Schools on Monday but left it open to individual schools on the Tuesday, as each site is different. Julie and Alan had worked so hard on clearing the paths I knew that our site would be safe and as the majority of children live close enough to walk we decided to open the school originally on Tuesday. Unfortunately as the day wore on, it became more apparent that it would be extremely difficult for many of the staff to get here and park. So unfortunately I had to rescind that decision. Like most schools we were open on Wednesday.

## Christmas at Hillstone

We think Christmas is a magical time and the staff work so hard to ensure that the children have some joyous experiences as well understanding the Christmas story and continuing with normal studies. The children have a panto to attend, parties, Christmas Fair, Big Games and we just love inviting the community in to see the nativity performances and welcoming you to the Christmas cafes.

Although we know from your positive comments at these events that the vast majority of you share our values and fully support us - a small number of incidents have occurred. Inappropriate and abusive language and actions toward staff and volunteers have been witnessed - usually whilst we were simply providing a service or ensuring the safety of our children. It concerns me that people rise to anger so quickly. This does not set a good example for our children. Please ensure you behave in a polite and respectful way.

Rather than dwell on these individuals however, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the other members of the school community that have managed to share in our festivities for your continued support and wish you a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



### Attendance Trophy

At the end of each term, the best attending classes in KS1 and KS2 will get 1/2 an hour of golden time to be taken during the last week of term and used on any activity that the children should choose.



This term our golden attendance winners are 2N and 5B.

Punctuality League will be announced on the first Monday back.

### INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD



Thanks to Liz Parry whose hard work has secured us the International Award for another three years.



**Fighting for hope for homeless people**

We are delighted to be supporting the Crisis at Christmas charity. One of our parents is the director of this local charity and this year they are serving Christmas dinner at Colebourne School. We are supporting by lending them our minibuses to help transport people to the venue.

Items that children have collected will be displayed around the Christmas Tree and we will make reference to the idea of Christmas being a time for being thoughtful and giving to others less fortunate. If you could donate any items such as shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste, gloves, scarves, underwear, socks, reusable water bottles, hair brushes etc. they will be most grateful.

Please visit our website to see the complete list.



Thank you so much to the PTA who organised a great Christmas Fair and made a profit of **£400**

