Rack House Newsletter Friday 16th December 2016

Happy Christmas

As this is the final newsletter of the year, may I wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a peaceful new year. The children are getting excited as Christmas approaches and this is always a joyful time of the year where we meet friends and relatives who we may not have seen for some time.

From all the staff at Rack House have a lovely holiday and enjoy this time with your children as they grow up so fast!

Christmas Nativity Plays

The Christmas Nativity plays always make me feel that Christmas has begun and the performances this year were fantastic. The children have clearly worked hard to learn all their lines and also the numerous songs and movements which went with the play.

Children always make Christmas and we must remember that Christmas is not just about presents. It is easy to get caught up in the consumerisation of Christmas, however the Nativity Play performed by the children reminded us all of the true value and meaning of Christmas. Many thanks to our children for a great performance! I would also like to thank the staff who have worked so hard and given their time freely to ensure the production was such a success.

Dates for the diary

Next week is our final week in school before we finish for the Christmas break. We will be open until 3.15 pm on Friday 23rd December and will re-open school at the usual time on Monday 9th January. In the final week we will have Christmas parties and Christmas lunch on Thursday 22nd December. On this day we are happy for you to send in party clothes for your children to change into.

On the final day children can come to school in their own clothes and bring games in which are not electrical. This is because these games are generally expensive and the school cannot guarantee that they will not get damaged or lost! The children will finish the year with a party lunch provided by the kitchen as our final celebration of the year.

Reception Drop- off

From the first Monday back, January 9th, Reception children will be dropped off by parents at the door outside the main gates. This transition happens to develop independence for the children who are met by Reception staff and walked to their classes. From January 9th only the nursery child's parents will be walking through the playground. If you have any concerns about this please contact me or speak to your child's class teacher.

New in-house After School Club

We will start our school After School Club from Monday 9th January and we have had a fantastic response from parents. I know this will help most of our parents with their child care after school and if you are interested in your child attending full time or for any days, please contact the office. Due to the demand, if numbers exceed 24 at any stage we will just put on extra staff and meet the needs of all our parents and children.

Breakfast Club

A reminder that when we return on January 9th, the cost of the Breakfast Club will rise to £1.00 per day per child. This is to reduce the loss we incur on this club. The children receive a drink and breakfast from

7.45 am and the club sets children up for the day. We will not be making a profit on this price rise, just reducing our losses. I hope you can understand why we have to do this.

Year 5 Dance Extravaganza

Our year 5 children have been working with the Dance Department from MHA over the last few weeks and today performed their routines for parents and the school. The children worked hard to learn the routines and performed extremely well. A fantastic performance, Year 5. Well done!

Attendance Assembly

Attendance Assembly will take place for KS1 at 9 am on Wednesday 21st December and for KS2 at 2.30 pm the same day. We have had to split the assembly up this year due to the growing numbers in school and the length of time it takes for our little ones to sit through. All parents are invited to these assemblies and it is always great to celebrate the achievements of our children.

Christmas Assembly

Our whole school Christmas assembly will take place on Friday 23rd December at 9.10 am where we will celebrate our children's work, sing some Christmas carols and celebrate the term.

Parking on Newall Drive

Rack House has a good relationship with residents in the surrounding community. Can we therefore request that parents and carers be mindful and courteous about where they park on Newall Drive and Yarmouth Drive when dropping off or collecting children, so as to not block driveways or park inappropriately where there are road markings. This is respectfully requested to preserve the ongoing relationship that Rack House has with its neighbours and to ensure maximum safety for our children.

Parent Comments and Suggestions
<u>Disability Equality</u>
Please state any way in which you feel we could improve our provision to cater for people with disabilities of any kind.
<u>Safeguarding</u>
As you are aware, we consider the safeguarding of our pupils to be of the utmost importance. If you wish to make a suggestion as to how we can improve our existing safeguarding arrangements, please let us know.
My safeguarding suggestion is:
Parents' Suggestion/Comment Slip