



**FRESSINGFIELD
COFE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

DICK WHITTINGTON

It's panto season, and we are delighted to announce that FOFSA have bought tickets for the entire school to watch Dick Whittington in Diss on the last day of term—Wednesday 19th December. Last year's panto was a roaring success with the children (Oh, yes it was!) and we all enjoyed Dame Willy-winkie sitting on Mr Taylor's lap! We're sure this will be a great way to celebrate the end of a busy term! As FOFSA are paying for the tickets, the only cost will be the transport, which is £3.75. Children will be given a drink and a biscuit snack at the panto, and we will have a slightly later lunch when we get back to school. All children will need a packed lunch on this day. Please check your emails for the letter sent today.

WILDLIFE AREA

We are currently talking to the Suffolk Wildlife Trust about the development of the wildlife area on the school field, following the success of the Walk on the Wild Side. We are hoping that work on the area will start in Spring.

There will be some fairly large landscaping projects that will need to be carried out, for which we will require your help, including: digging and lining a pond, planting a hedge, pollarding the big willows and building a decking area. If you have access to a mini-digger, or are trained in the use of a chainsaw, or are a skilled carpenter, or know about planting or have no specialist knowledge, but just love wielding a spade, please come forward and let us know. We will need all the help we can get in the new year. Thank you.

Our school value this term is *peace*.

The Christmas Season always starts early in primary schools, and anyone walking around our school over this last week would have heard the strains of Jingle Bells played on Year 3&4's recorders, children singing about a star in Bethlehem, a Bossy King telling his servants what to do and many other children rehearsing for their Christmas shows. It is all starting to get a little glittery and a little exciting, so it's no surprise that this newsletter seems largely to be concerned with Christmas events. Ho, ho, ho, everybody!

CHRISTMAS FAIR / CHRISTMAS DINNER / CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

The FOFSA Christmas Fair will be on Friday 14th December, which is the same day as the Christmas Dinner and the Save the Children Wear-Your-Christmas-Jumper Day. The children are invited to come dressed in their favourite Christmas jumper if they bring in a donation for this deserving charity. Please join your children for a visit to Santa's Grotto. Look out for further details over the coming weeks, and pencil the date in your diaries as you are welcome to come and join us for the fair.

GROUNDS DAY

There will be a Grounds Day on Saturday 1st December in order to: coppice a hazel tree; empty some compost bins; wheelbarrow a large pile of wood chippings; and remove a lean-to from outside Yangtze Class. Please see the separate sheet for more info and let us know if you can come.

CHILDREN IN NEED

A big thank you to everyone who donated for our dress down day. We raised £155 for worthy causes.

CAROL SERVICE

The Stradbroke High School Pyramid of Schools carol service will take place at Stradbroke High School at 4.15pm on Friday 7th December. We hope you can join us.

JUMBLE SALE

FOFSA would like to say a big thank you to everyone who donated to the Jumble Sale and Bags2School. The event raised £133.

NATIVITY PLAYS

The Early Years and Key Stage 1 Christmas shows are in full production. Waveney Class will be staging 'The Bossy King,' whilst Danube and Colorado Classes will be sharing 'The Night Before Christmas,' which has been written by the wonderfully-talented Mrs Buckenham. The shows will be performed as a double bill at 10am on Wed 12th and Thursday 13th December. There will also be a dress rehearsal on Tues 11th December to which those with younger siblings, or grandparents are invited. Tickets will be available soon.

WE LOVE SLEEPING!

The children in KS2, working with Mark James of One Life Suffolk, will be learning soon about the importance of sleep.

Sleep is incredibly important for health and well-being, especially at this time of year, when the excitement and busy-ness of the approach to Christmas gets us all excited and starts to wear us all out. Statistics seem to show that children in Britain are getting less and less sleep each year and part of this is due to the widespread availability of screens in children's bedrooms.

So, in order to help your child feel bright, cheerful and alert, ready for the school day, please consider bringing bedtimes forward a little bit and limiting access to screens (especially in the last hour before bedtime). Instead, encourage your child to fall asleep with a good book. Thank you.

SHARE

Thank you for supporting us this week with the Maths Share mornings. We hope you found them useful.

PTO- Please see Lydia's Finland article overleaf.

LYDIA'S ARTICLE ABOUT THE EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

Here we reproduce Lydia's article about Finland Day, which I'm sure you will enjoy reading.

YANGTZE CLASS' FINLAND DAY

Children in Yantze Class dress up in the Finland colours and learn about Finland!

On Friday 28th September, Yangtze class at Fressingfield Primary School learned about Finland as part of the European Day of Languages. The whole school took part and each found out about a different country. Yangtze class learned about the Moomins, knitting, and how to speak Finnish and they even tried some Finnish food and sweets.

Ms Adams, herself from Finland, taught the children some Finnish words. The numbers up to ten are: yksi, kaksi, kolme, neljä, viisi, kuusi, seitsemän, kahdeksan, yhdeksän and kymmenen. They learned how to introduce themselves too – 'My name is Lydia' is: 'Minun nimeni on Lydia.' 'I am ten years old' is: 'Mina olen kymmenen vuotta vanha.'

Before that, the children learned about the Moomins and the writer Tove Jansson. They took an online personality test to find out which Moomin they were most like, then painted that character for a large display in the library. They looked amazing when they were complete.

In the afternoon the children did some knitting (and even some micro-knitting) as this is a popular hobby in Finland. It was hard, but most children got the hang of it eventually!

Then everyone tried some Finnish food – salmon on seedy rye-bread. Dylan kept saying, "I really like that!" They also tried a spicy and salty liquorice sweet, but the only person who liked that was Rosanna who shouted, "It exploded in my mouth!"

Everyone enjoyed the day and would love to do it all over again.

