

Dear All,

Another busy month has passed by in a blur and now there is no ignoring the Christmas carols.

Many thanks to all those parents who were able to attend the Willow and Holly inspire sessions. Both sessions turned out to have a very clear 'division' theme. I was also delighted to hear how quick the children's mental maths was. Year 3 and 4 certainly gave me a run for my money! Judging by the comments in the visitor's book it was clearly enjoyed and valued by those who attended.

Staff training continued into November with all class teachers attending SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) training. This was another important point in our School Improvement Plan. All teachers have spoken positively about their time out of the classroom.

Miss Mason also started a new course called Independent Learning Assistant and will be out of the classroom for a few days this term and next. The course is designed to help develop children's independence within the classroom.

Miss Boyce also spent two mornings visiting experienced Early Years teachers at both Castle Cary and Baltonsborough. I thoroughly enjoyed my mornings in Cherry Class and I know Miss Boyce found the time extremely useful.

Another success of the month was the annual kitchen audit. Both Mrs Cooper and Mrs Battye worked extremely hard and following a demanding inspection achieved a 93%. They received numerous compliments about the school's lunch provision, with the inspector asking to show some of their ideas and practices to other school kitchens.

During the month we were delighted to launch our new website. Much work has been done by both Jann and Jude Herlihy and I'm sure you'll agree it is a huge improvement on the previous offering. We will endeavour to keep it up to date and regularly refresh the photos.

Monday 20th saw both Holly and Willow enjoy a day of archery and stone age activities. The children all appeared to love this experience.

Other successful events of the months include;

- The Community meal
- Play leader training for year 5 children
- Music concert

Finally, thank you for the many parent questionnaires we received last week. We were delighted by the many positive comments, but also keen to address the issues that were raised.