

The Edith Borthwick School

Weekly Update

Friday 1st December 2023

Head's Update

Sorry, our newsletter is simplified this week due to staff absence! We will be back to normal again next week.

This week we have coped with the drop in temperatures. Our learners have still enjoyed playing outside once we have wrapped them up warmly! Over the weekend our lower school play equipment fitting is starting, which is great news. Soon the learners will be able to enjoy a climbing area that has been funded predominantly by FOEBS.

We have been getting ready for the Christmas Fair. The letter is coming out today to explain how it is running, but it is a cashless event, so tickets to participate need to be purchased beforehand. In preparation for the day, the teachers and other staff members decorated a number of Christmas trees which have been lent to us by FOEBS. The staff had a really fun time after school decorating the hall whilst singing Christmas songs (Thanks to Jerry and Louise!) Thank you for all the donations of decorations – we now have plenty of lovely ones and don't need any more, but we really appreciated them. We are now urgently looking for donations of the following items:

- Chocolate (which must be nut free)
- Plastic bottles or cans (drinks, toiletries etc...)
- Raffle Prizes
- Pre Loved Toys
- Soft Toys

Can I remind you that it is fine to keep your children at home if they are really poorly - signs might be: not eating, sleeping, upset stomach, unable to settle and crying, to name a few. I know that you are all amazing in trying to help us to have good attendance levels, but we are trying to prevent the spread of infections, as that is leading to our issues with staffing. Thank you to all the classes that we have had to partially shut this week and last week. It is always a last resort and one that we will only use if we do not have enough staff to keep classes safe.

Today was our last coffee morning before Christmas and Abbie our OT assistant came and spoke to parents about strategies that we use in school and strategies for home. Jenny said that it was lovely to see so many parents. This group is a way of parents being able to meet each other for support and off loading!

Staffing Update

After Christmas we have some staffing changes. Jaz from Flamingo is leaving us to move to a school local to her. We wish her very best wishes and thank her for the time that she has been with us. Lucy, one of our wonderful Deputy Heads, will be going on maternity leave soon and Tracy Hanlon will be joining the SLG as Assistant Head to cover her. We have three new teachers joining us. Fiona, who has already started, Sarah and Danielle. We want to give our new staff a warm welcome and wish our leavers good luck.

On Tuesday we interviewed six candidates for the family worker position. We appointed Liane, who will be joining us after Christmas. She will be joining Tasha and Paula in our family worker team.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

Maggie ☺

Upcoming dates

Christmas Fair

Wednesday 13th December 2023

Covid Vaccinations

Monday 18th December

Christmas holiday

Wednesday 21st December 2023 to Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Back to School

Thursday 4th January 2024