

# SCHOOL NEWS

Christmas Performances | Parent Council | Christmas Fair

## Farewell and Thank you

We held our autumn term meeting for the Board of Governors yesterday and said farewell to our Chair of Governors, Rahilah Nazir. It isn't goodbye as she still has two children with us at Etchells and I know Rahilah will continue to support the school and be a familiar face on the playground. On behalf of the school, I would like to extend our thanks and appreciation for her work as Chair and her tireless work to help drive improvements and develop Etchells into the fantastic school it is today.

## Welcome

I would like to congratulate Jayne Berry in securing the role of Parent Governor in the recent election. We were able to welcome Jayne to the Board yesterday and I know she will be a valued member. Many thanks to all the parents who voted - we had around 170 votes which was a terrific response.

I am pleased that Hamayoun Choudry is taking the role of acting chair until the end of the summer term and Suzy Taylor (our Local Authority Governor, employed by the airport) is taking on the role of vice Chair in this interim period.

Any communication for the Chair should be addressed to Mr Choudry and left with the school office.

## A message from Rahilah.....

After an amazing five years as Chair of Governors I am sadly stepping down due to an increase in work commitments. Firstly I would like to say a huge thank you to Cathy who has worked extremely hard to drive through improvements and build a strong working relationship with governors; this was recognised in our Outstanding Ofsted judgement for Leadership and Management. I would like to thank all past and present teaching and support staff at Etchells, whose sheer determination and dedication to their pupils and the school fills me with great pride. With their support and cooperation the governing body have been able to steer the school from strength to strength. I have always been made to feel very welcome in school and will miss the team greatly.

I would also like to extend a huge thank you to my Governors who have given up so much of their time to provide invaluable support and challenge to the school. They have supported me through some difficult decisions and worked incredibly hard to ensure that we are effective. I am pleased to introduce Hamayoun Choudry as the new Interim Chair and I am confident he will continue to lead you through to further success.

I would like to thank parents for their continued support of the school. Lastly, but by all means not least I would like to thank our wonderful pupils who make our school so brilliant. I loved coming in to school and being able to talk to pupils who were always very keen to share all their fantastic learning with me. I will miss all the smiling faces!

I am still a parent at the school and hope to continue to support the school in any way that I can. I wish you all the best of luck in the next stage of your journey.



## Christmas Performances

### ✻ EYFS (Nursery and Reception)

The performance of "Away in a Manger" will take place on Wednesday 6th December at 10am. 2 tickets per family have been sent home today. We are strictly limited to this allocation due to fire regulations and no further tickets will be issued. Could we politely request that where possible, buggies are not brought to the performance as space is so restricted. The PTA will be serving tea and coffee, and raffle tickets will be available from 9am onwards in the hall.

### ✻ KS1 (Years 1 and 2)

A letter came home yesterday for Year 1 and 2 parents to request 2 tickets for one of the performances of "Midwife Crisis". The first will be taking place on Tuesday 12th December at 9.30am. This is for adults ONLY.

The second performance is taking place on Wednesday 13th December at 2pm for families. Please remember that only 2 tickets are allocated per family. There will be no exceptions to this.

Ticket requests need to be returned to the school office by Tuesday 5th December.

### ✻ Year 3

The Year 3 children will be visiting, Smithy Croft, a local retirement home, to sing Christmas songs and carols to the residents. This will be taking place during the day on Friday 15th December. Due to restricted space for the children and residents, parents will not be able to join us on this occasion.

### ✻ Year 5

Year 5 children are performing a traditional carol service at the United Reformed Church in Heald Green. This will take place on Wednesday 13th December at 6pm. There are no tickets allocated and parents and friends are invited to just turn up and join the service.

Please note, Year 4 and 6 will have opportunities to perform later in the year.

### Final Donation Day

Next Friday will be the last donation day for the Christmas Fair. Children are invited to come to school in a Christmas jumper instead of their sweatshirt. The rest of the school uniform should be worn. If you don't have a Christmas jumper come in any Christmas colour! We are asking for a donation of a full, unopened bottle.

Donations are voluntary as always.



## Christmas Fair



The PTA Christmas Fair and Makers Market will be taking place next Friday on 1st December, from 5pm - 7pm. Please come and join us if you can for food, drinks, stalls, raffle and a performance from the school choir at 6.30pm. Entrance is £1 per family which includes a raffle ticket for hamper of goodies.

## Parent Council

Unfortunately, I have only had 2 parents come forward to represent their class as a rep on the Parent Council. The council is a really useful way to discuss parent opinion and to maintain positive communications between school and home. Some key decisions in school are based on feedback from the Parent Council and so it is preferable that we can continue to meet. I need at least 6 parents to come forward in order to ensure the Council goes ahead for this year. If you are happy to represent your class, please email me at [headteacher@etchells.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@etchells.stockport.sch.uk) by the end of next week.

## PE Kits

PE kits need to be NAMED and PE bags should also be named clearly on the outside. We are having difficulty keeping the cloakrooms tidy and some kits are unfortunately going astray. Please label PE bags clearly with a permanent marker or label so they can be returned to their owner.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows  
and the Etchells staff

## Dodgeball

Yesterday our Year 5 children took part in a dodgeball competition at Stockport Academy. The team did very well and came third overall; participants will be listed in the Special Mentions next week. However, an early special mention should be made for Samy, who received a 'Spirit of the Games' award for his passion and positive approach. It is fantastic to see Etchells' pupils recognised for such good attitude and sportsmanship.



One of the ways our PTA raise funds for the school is through [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://easyfundraising.org.uk). A large number of online retailers give a percentage of your purchase to your chosen charity. If you log onto their website you can choose Etchells as your charity. You can opt in to be reminded if you access a site which donates. There is also a useful App to download. Retailers include Amazon, John Lewis, Boots, Apple, Argos, M&S. We currently have 63 supporters who have so far raised £529 for school just by shopping online. please support us by logging on and if you are online shopping for Christmas, please click 'activate donation'.

