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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much to the many families who joined us in the school grounds for a wet start to our November Community Club last Sunday morning. We were pleased that the sun came out briefly and that so many jobs were completed to prepare the garden area. The chickens were delighted to get all of the cut down corn cobs fed to them by the children and the rabbits enjoyed a little extra attention too. After observing Remembrance Day at 11.00, we all took the opportunity to enjoy toasting marshmallows on the fire pit to make smores and warmed up with some hot chocolate. Have a look at the photographs on the website under the 'Latest News' tab at the bottom of the home page. Perhaps you may like to join us for our next session on Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> between 10.00 and 12.00 which will have a gardening and Christmas Crafts focus – wrap up warm!

Anti-Bullying Week has provided the focus for a great deal of positive work this week. We have worn odd socks all week to express individuality and followed the national campaign to 'Make Some Noise for Anti-Bullying' in our Circle Times to help us all to understand the important messages behind the activities taking place this week.

Congratulations to the children from our After-School Club who entered a competition called Perfect Pets. All of their entries were selected for publication in a special Perfect Pets book series. This was a competition for children aged 4-11 from clubs and schools all over the country and we are very proud of their success! We are looking forward to seeing their work in the book very soon.

Lost property seems to have become more of an issue in school lately and can be quite overwhelming to deal with! Please can families make sure that **all uniform, jackets, coats, hats, scarves etc are labelled with your child's name** to help us in keeping this under control. The old metal cupboard which stored lost property has been disposed of and we are putting together a new system. All items which are named will be returned to children's classrooms during the course of the week. At the end of each week the remaining lost property will be available for checking in the playground managed by a member of staff. Thank you for your support with this.

The RFC (Rockmount Friends and Community) are very busy planning ahead for the Winter Fair on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Separate letters are being sent out about this so please do offer your help wherever possible.

We enjoyed a very enthusiastic Parent/Carer Forum meeting this morning for our first full meeting of the year. Staff provided information on the use of our Learning Kitchen as well as the Filtering and Monitoring systems to safeguard the children's use of computers in school. We discussed numerous other points - please check the website to see the minutes which are published following every meeting and to see the list of class representatives and how to contact them.

We are aware that the festive season will be upon us very quickly. With some of our school events starting early in December, we thought you may welcome a breakdown of the dates which are already published on the calendar on the school website:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	Winter Fair from 2.50-5.00
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Nursery Concerts 10.45 and 2.45
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Reception Christmas Concert 2.15-2.45
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Year 1 Christmas Concert 2.15-2.45
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Concert 9.15-10.00 School Christmas Lunch
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Year 2 Christmas Performance 2.00-2.45
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Concert 2.15-3.00
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Community Club Gardening/Christmas Crafts 10.00-12.00
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Decorate a Christmas Jumper Day Class parties
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December</b>	Last day of term

Finally, a plea for your support in ensuring that the children are in school promptly in the morning. The school gates are opened at 8.35 and we expect children to be in school by **8.45**. Our daily phonics and reading sessions start at 8.50 in all of our classes and it is difficult to avoid interruptions to learning when children are arriving in class after 8.45. It is very important that all of our children do not miss out on any of this time; we are relying on parents/carers support to make sure that teaching and learning gets off to a flying start each day!

Many thanks to the school community for your support as always.

Have a lovely weekend,

Helen Carvall