

For the attention of Ascott parents.

LEAFIELD C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

This new school year has seen many new faces for Leaffield School. Even though I myself am new to the school and the area, I can still see the excitement that the children receive from accepting new people into their school, whether they are children, teachers or L.S.A.s.

As well as a new Head, the school has two new teachers, Mr. Staines, who teaches year 4 and 5, and Mrs. Flear, who teaches year 2 and 3 in the afternoons. Miss Squires and Mrs. Williamson are our new L.S.A.s. Mrs. Sarah Bentley was our secretary for one term, and Mrs. Dilys Peach has now taken her place. We would like to welcome all of these new faces. Also new to the village is our new vicar, Rev. Jane Knowles, who we are delighted to welcome into the school once every week to lead an assembly.

The year since September has seen the usual buzz of events and activities. The P.T.A. Fashion Show, in October, which was a roaring success and left us all astounded at the talent we have in the village. The 200 Club organised a very enjoyable Christmas disco for the children.

The end of the Christmas term also saw a very cold group of carol singers, organised by the P.T.A., wandering around the village, wishing for a warming log fire to cuddle up to. Although a very very cold evening, fun was had by all.

The children at Leaffield have amazed me at their incredible ability to learn songs, having learnt 12 songs in three weeks, without the assistance of any word sheets. Amazing! Their two performances of 'Hosanna Rock', held in the church, resulted in standing ovations and much enthusiastic applause. The children's performances are to be commended with one soloist and several other children bravely singing in small groups.

After having been in situ at the school for one whole term, I am starting to realise just how fortunate the children at Leaffield School are. Our class sizes are significantly lower than in other schools, and our team of teachers have many years of valuable experience between them. With only 17 children in class 4 (all year 6) and 17 children in class 1 and our largest class holding only 28 children, the children have more teacher time for themselves than in a class of over 30. We have already reached and exceeded the government's targets of 'no more than 30 in a class'! The school is also fortunate enough to have around 100 hours of L.S.A. support every week!

I would like to finish with an invitation to you to come and visit us, to look around and share in our busy timetable.

Liz Davies, Head Teacher.