

~ Mayor presents award ~

We were very proud to receive the Mayor, Councillor Lisa Lambert, and her consort, Mr Ken Lambert to Old Earth on Monday.

They were in school helping present all our children with an award to recognise their amazing Eco work and for the achievement of the 'Gold' standard in Yorkshire in Bloom. Mr Brendan Mowforth, from Yorkshire in Bloom, explained how we were chosen as the ONLY school in Yorkshire to receive this discretionary award; then left it to the Mayor to present the certificate to 4 members of our Gardening Club. A terrific accolade for every child from age 2 to 11 who helped to grow vegetables, fruit and flowers across all our organic allotments, wild flower meadows and bee gardens.

We were really pleased that the Mayor then spent over an hour looking round every classroom in school. Led by 5 of our school Ambassadors, she took great interest in all we were doing and had wonderful things to say when she had finished. We are delighted that the Mayor wants to come back in the summer to see our gardens in their full glory AND to eat a school lunch containing the produce we have grown—we cant wait !



“A happy school where all are motivated and feel safe to thrive”

Old Earth School Newsletter

PARENTS' FORUM

On Wednesday we held the first Parent Forum of 2015-2016. A number of parents came along to discuss 'Safeguarding' in our school. The meeting was very constructive and a number of good points were raised.

Strengths:

- >The parents felt strongly that school held their **child's safety & happiness** as a paramount concern & dealt with issues & incidents efficiently.
- >Parents felt that school trips were **risk assessed** correctly and these messages explained to children in all classes.
- >Availability of Safeguarding documentation on the school website.
- >The school's approach to **training for all** staff was seen as a real strength.
- >**E-safety** was seen as excellent with some parents explaining how their children had taught them how to be safe online.
- >Parents asked about the '**safer recruitment and selection**' of adults working and volunteering in school and agreed that the measures in place kept all stakeholders safe.

Agreed Actions:

- >Include a **Blog** on the School website in the **Safeguarding section** for parents to ask questions about the subject.
- >Promote the role of the **Welfare Officer**... see below
- >Investigate the possibility of including some of the training materials, for parents to access, on our school website. E.g. Prevent (radicalisation); Child Sexual Exploitation etc

As many of you will know, **Mrs Holden** is our School Welfare Officer / Worker. She is employed to support children and families on issues such as safeguarding, but also with any pastoral issues that arise.

Mrs Holden can be contacted through school, or can be found in the yard most mornings in her Barney the Dinosaur coloured coat (she'll love me for that, Editor!!).

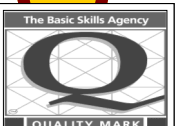
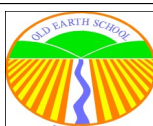
SECRET SHOP

Next Wednesday is Secret Shop Day. This is your child's chance to buy a wrapped 'Secret' present for mum & dad. If you wish your child to buy up to two presents please send in £2 a present NEXT WEDS (9 Dec). They will get time in the school day to visit the shop to choose... a great service from our amazing PTFA—thank you !



Mrs Holden with some of her Y1 friends, helping out Big Ted who was feeling sad today.

Week 13 Issue 409
Friday 4th December 2015



KS1 Nativity

The children in KS1 (Years 1 & 2) have been practising hard this month to make sure their Nativity Play tells the story of Jesus' birth really well.

Tickets have gone like hot cakes, and both performances are now full... even with the 140 extra tickets available in the new bigger hall !

To make sure as many people can get tickets as possible, we would ask that any children who will have seen the production at school DO NOT take the place of a parent or grandparent who has not had the chance to watch and enjoy. Any returned tickets will be reimbursed and re-distributed to people on our waiting list... thank you for your support.

Prior to both performances next Wednesday (2pm & 6pm) the Y1 and Y2 children will be selling Christmas decorations etc that they have made in class as part of their Enterprise Education. Doors will open 40 minutes before each show to allow parents to enjoy a good shop !!



Lots more pics on the Blogs

Reception & Nursery Nativities—Mon 14th Dec at 2pm & 6pm

NSPCC Workshops

In assembly this week, the children in the Juniors were educated & informed about key "safety" messages, from NSPCC staff. Following the assembly, the children in Y5 & Y6 learnt about other more age appropriate safety issues & strategies they could use to make sure they remain safe. These included reporting to the NSPCC's Child line or key members of school staff; plus personal actions when faced with incidents. Important messages which (sadly) need to be shared with our youngsters.

Girls' Football Report

Despite a spirited performance from our girls' football team, they ended up losing 4-0 to a well drilled Parkinson Lane team. Our girls, in their first game, had to take on a squad who had been playing together for 2 years. Never giving up, the team gradually gained confidence and became much more competitive in the second half. It was difficult for the coaches to pick a girl-of-the-match, but in the end chose the very talented Holly W, who saved numerous goal bound efforts. Led by 2 professional female footballers— Kirsty from Liverpool FC and Scotland and Laura from Huddersfield Town this club has been terrific. Mr Cook & Mr Calderwood are in contract talks to see if we can get the coaches back in the new year... we must beat the transfer deadline !!!

NOTICEBOARD

DINNERS : Next week is week 2 on the menu

LABEL YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHES : With the wellies, hats, scarves, coats and gloves season upon us, please could we re-iterate the need for parents to sew' or sharpie pen' their child's name in their belongings please.

HOLIDAY CLUB : Last chance for booking holiday club next Wednesday (9th). Get your forms into Mrs Handscomb asap, confirmation will then be sent out.

FEES DUE : Thursday 10th final payment in 2015 for Little Earth Nursery, Old Earth Nursery and Out of School Clubs

HOMEWORK CLUB : Cancelled until after the Christmas holidays
CHRISTMAS DINNER (Thurs 10 Dec) & **CHRISTMAS PARTIES** (Thurs 17 Dec) : Payments for both of these dinners will be the price of a school dinner—amazing value !!!!!

Payments (£1.80 per dinner) should be made as follows :

Juniors who normally pay for their dinners—pay by Parent Pay as normal.

Juniors who normally bring sandwiches—pay in cash (in named envelope please). Please send in from Monday.

Infants : Free as normal.

JUNIOR TRIP TO THE REX ON PARTY DAY : Please pay for this trip via Parent Pay—a note has come home tonight.

THIS WEEK

Monday : Girls' Football match

Tuesday : Parent & Child Festive Arts Club

Wednesday : Parents' Forum—see article; Year 4 trip to Victoria theatre

Thursday : NSPCC Workshops for Y5/6

Friday : KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal

Monday : Year 6 Romans' Day; Parents' First Aid—last one.

Tuesday : 3pm—Parent & Child Festive Arts & Crafts Club

Wednesday : Secret Shop—see article;

Year 5 'Victorian Experience' - parents can come and listen to their Y5 child sing Victorian songs in assembly, then enjoy a 'Victorian Tour' around the classrooms—one not to miss;

Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics—Calderdale Finals; 2pm & 6pm KS1 Nativities for Parents

Thursday : 9am PTFA Tombola labelling—can you help for an hour?; Christmas Dinner day

Friday : 2.45pm Carols in the yard & Christmas Fayre, until 4.30pm... see you there!

NEXT WEEK

Christmas Fayre Next Friday (11th Dec)

Join the whole school family in the yard for carols, followed by our Christmas Fayre in school... special visit from Father Christmas is planned (get your tickets for Santa in the yard anytime next week)
Any more donations to the entrance hall PLEASE

**CONTACT
US...
DETAILS**

Telephone : 375316
Fax : 370584 Website: www.oldearth.co.uk
Email: admin@oldearth.calderdale.sch.uk

Thought of the week : Milad-Un-Nab (birth of the prophet Muhammad) 'He who speaks of knowledge, praises God; he who seeks it, adores God'