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We are coming to the end of a very busy term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the support and commitment they have shown to the school and to the staff and children for all their hard work. A big thank you to Errol and well done to the children who took part in the performances this week. Both performances were of a very high standard and have been very well received.

We have a wonderful school community at Horniman. This was shown particularly this term when sadly we said goodbye to Jo Jo. Mrs Brophy visited Jo Jo's family last week and delivered a cheque for £150 raised by donations from the school. The family have passed on their thanks to everyone for this kind donation. The cards and messages they received from Horniman were very special to them.

### **BUILDING UPDATE**

Our new community room is now scheduled to be built during the Spring Term. The delay has been due to a change of plan regarding the design of the room. It has been necessary to re-apply for planning permission.

### **AMPHITHEATRE**

We are aiming to formally open the amphitheatre in the Spring Term. We have been advised to make a retrospective planning application in order to formally seek the views of our neighbours.

### **SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE**

Earlier this week we sent out a questionnaire to seek your views on the school. We complete this questionnaire every two years. Thank you if you have already returned your questionnaire. We would be grateful if all completed questionnaires could be returned to school by Friday.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

We are aiming to clear the cloakrooms today. Lost property will be on display under the covered way before and after school. Any uncollected items will be given to a local charity shop at the beginning of the Spring Term.

### **NEW RECEPTION CHILDREN**

We will be welcoming 12 new children to the reception class in January. We have had several new children join the school this term and the school will be almost full in January.

### **EXTENDED SERVICES FUNDING**

We have just been informed that we have been awarded £40,000 from the Extended Services Capital Fund to redesign the front of the school and create a separate pedestrian entrance and disability access.

### **PLAY EQUIPMENT**

Plans are underway to install new playground equipment in the Spring Term. This will replace the climbing frame. We have also received funding to establish an orienteering trail on the school site. We also have plans to develop the raised area in the reception playground and have received some funding to support this project.

### **STAFF NEWS**

Mrs Marley retires at the end of this month. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers from the governors and parents at the end of term KS2 performance yesterday. Mrs Marley will be continuing to teach the YR6 class for three days a week until the end of the Summer Term.

On Friday we will be saying goodbye to Melissa Philips. Melissa has been working with us from a supply agency for nearly three years. She has shown a great commitment to the school and has worked with nearly all the classes during her time here. We wish her well.

This week we welcomed back Ms Brandt. Ms Brandt will be teaching the YR3 class from the beginning of term.

### **SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS**

School photographs were sent home via pupil post yesterday. For those children who had their photographs taken at the end of last week the proof envelopes were also been sent home yesterday.

### **PTA NEWS**

Thank you to parents and carers for helping at the Christmas Ball; thank you also to those who came. Together we have raised nearly £1600.

Photographs of children with Santa will be on display outside the school office by the end of the day.

### **AND FINALLY ..**

A big thank you to all the staff for their hard work and commitment again this term. I would like to wish everyone a happy and peaceful holiday and a happy New Year. School starts again on **Tuesday 6th January**.