

*Orchards Community*   
*Middle School Newsletter*

What a fantastic term this has been. We enjoyed a wonderful start and things keep on getting better and better each week building up to what is normally a busy but exciting last few **days of term. There are many highlights but you'd have to go** a long way to beat the entertainment offered by our Christmas Concert and Staff Pantomime package! The Autumn Term is always an unknown package due to new staff, new children to the school and improvements to the **learning environment so I'm delighted to report that we are** right on track with our highest expectations. The new year 4 settled really well and have now begun to write their own passages of Orchards history. Recently, they enjoyed their first educational visit to Hampton Court and as well as enjoying a great day out they received rave reviews from the public for their excellent behaviour. In the same week they did a top quality presentation of their Spooky Friday poetry for the parents.

At the other end of the school we have been giving the Year 7 pupils a whole range of responsibilities through the Prefect system and to use an anagram the Prefects have been perfect!

Our school sports teams have been amazing with a 90% success rate in all matches Year 4-7; the Year 7 Netball team **won a local schools' tournament and our cross country**

runners showed grim determination to conquer the challenging Gallops course in Findon—Silver medals for Erika Jureviciute, Hannah Buckthorpe and Adam Harrison. On the Monday assembly we asked all the children who had represented the school the previous week in fixtures to stand up and it was well over one hundred—amazing. All in all if you see a happy man with a big red jolly **face it's not Santa— it's me! Ho Ho Ho!**



## Diary Dates

30th November 2009

*Year 5 Egyptian Week*

*Year 7 Publishing Week*

2nd December 2009

*Year 4 Tudor Day*

15th December 2009

*Christmas Concert 7:00 p.m.*

16th December 2009

*Xmas Dinner, Mufti Day & Disco!*

17th December 2009

*Staff Pantomime 5:00 p.m.*

18th December 2009

*Term Ends*

4th January 2010

*School closed for Inset*

5th January 2010

*Children back to school*

## Attendance

After a stunning start to the year with us reaching our 95% target for attendance for the first half term we have been hit badly by illness.

Top of the league for November

6 Plane 96%

6 Lime 95.9%

4 Birch 95.2%

Well done to those classes!

