



Morgans Mail

☎ 01992 582162

SG13 8DR

18th December 2009

Morgans Hotline Number: 0844 412 1741

Dear Parents / Carers and Children,

Thank you from all of us at Morgans for the compliments and good wishes that we have received from many of you in the last few weeks. It is evident that everyone thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas plays and concerts. The quality of singing at Morgans seems to go from strength to strength, and was brilliant at our Christingle Service on Monday, which made us all feel particularly proud, festive and ready for the holidays.

Last Saturday I was privileged to attend the Hertford Choral Society Christmas Concert as Morgans Choir had been invited to sing several songs. Our children sang wonderfully and received many compliments for their beautiful voices and clear articulation. I know that the children also enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to sing with a fine adult choir.

The annual Key Stage 2 Paper Chain Competition has just been held in Queen's Hall amidst great hilarity, chaos and cries of dissent. Last year's winners, Year 6 were beaten into fourth place by this year's winners and the new Paper Chain Champions - Year 3. We now have a library full of paper chains made from scrap paper which will be recycled in due course.

Many thanks to everyone who have donated gifts under our Christmas tree, making our reception area look as though a very generous Santa has already made his delivery. Your kindness and generosity will be appreciated by those who would otherwise probably not receive a gift.

I hope that you all have a happy and restful holiday to recharge your batteries and to enjoy quality family time. I look forward to seeing you all again on 5th January safe and well and ready for another busy fun filled term.

Kind regards

Sue Dutt

Morgans Magnificents

Last week's Morgans Magnificents were the choir for their stunning singing during Saturday's Hertford Choral Society Carol Concert and during Monday's Christingle concert. There can't be many primary school choirs who sound quite so angelic! Well done to them and Miss Gilham.



Christingle Crescendo The Morgans Christingle Service

Years 1 through to 6 put on a fine concert for all assembled at Monday's Christingle service at All Saints Church. Renditions from all year groups proved rousing, with particular highlights being Year 3 with their stable animal noises, Year 4 with their German hymn 'Kling Glockchen (Ring, Little Bell)' and the heavenly rounds sung by the choir. The symbolism of the service was explained clearly by the children to all present. We hope you all enjoyed sharing this special occasion with us.





Home Access Grant



The government is about to launch a scheme called the 'Home Access' grant. The grant will make funding available for 270,000 children and their families to access ICT at home. Studies state that children who have access to a computer are more likely to achieve at least a two grade improvement in one subject and at least a half grade improvement in other subjects at GCSE level. '38% of teachers now set homework requiring ICT and 25% of school children do not have access to a computer and the internet at home' - The e-learning Foundation. This scheme aims at partly combating the digital divide.

Eligibility criteria for the Home Access Grant follows these guidelines:

- Children looked after (Years 1-13)
- Families that have children eligible for free school meals (Years 3-9)
- Children (Years 3-9) with parents that receive any of the following:
 - Income support
 - Income-based job seekers allowance
 - Receives the Child Tax Credit and has an income of less than £16,040
 - Has guaranteed pension credit
 - Has an income related employment support allowance
 - Receive support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act.

Eligible families will need to complete a form, expected to be available on the 13th January 2010.

The Home Access package will consist of:

- One computer
- Security, safeguarding and support
- 1 years 3g 'dongle' internet access

For further details please see Mrs Orton or visit www.thegrid.org.uk/learning/elearning/divide

Admittedly, this is difficult without internet access!

Christmas Chain Gang

Competition between Years 3 to 6 was frantic and many suffered paper cuts in readiness for Thursday's Paper Chain Competition. The children (and teachers!) treat the annual event with great enthusiasm and the total length of the chain created for all 8 classes was 240.2 metres! Official Paper Chain Judge Sadler deemed the results as follows: 4th (and defending champions!) Year 6, 3rd Year 5, 2nd Year 4 and 2009 Morgans Paper Chain Champions were Year 3.



Parent Reps Required

The Parent Council Working Group is still needing parent reps for the following year groups:

- Playgroup
- Nursery (a.m.)
- Reception (January intake)
- Year 4 (Mrs. Ledden)



Anyone interested can contact Jill Goehringer, Chair of the Parent Council Working Group, on 01992 509 033 or often found outside Mr. Miller's reception class mornings and afternoons.

Parties Aplenty...



A great time was had by all juniors at their parties.

Christmas Alone

On Christmas day a local organisation will be providing and serving Christmas dinner to people who otherwise would be spending Christmas by themselves. The Christmas dinner is at Sele School in Hertford and the presents you have so kindly donated will be distributed to the assembled guests. Thank you for your generosity and for giving something back to the local community.



2nd Hand Uniform

If you find yourselves having a clear out after Christmas, please donate any school uniform you no longer want for our 2nd Hand Uniform Sale which happens on the 1st Tuesday of every month. We held our first sale earlier this month which was very successful and resulted in some very happy parents picking up sweatshirts and fleeces for just £1.

School Meals

If your child(ren) receive school meals you will receive a bill for the next half term on the 5th January. Please remember that meals should be paid for in advance and all payments should be made by Monday 15th January, preferably by cheque made payable to Hertfordshire County Council. Any changes to school meal arrangements should be made in writing, giving one half term's notice if you want to reduce the number of meals taken.

Residential Trips

If your child is in Years 4 – 6 and you are struggling with the cost of school residential trips, please contact Claire Thompson in the Finance Office. There are opportunities for families on low incomes as well as those receiving benefits.

Roman-tic Farewell

Year 4 had a splendid Roman Day this Tuesday experiencing and learning about all things Roman. Slaves behaved, Foot Soldiers hot-footed around the activities available, Noble People proved noble, whilst Senior Officers, Senators and Mr Moore and Miss Ledden barked orders at their assembled troops. The children had a thoroughly great time, sampled the types of foods the Romans would have eaten, debated equality, made miniature shields and accompanying Roman soldiers and took part in a Roman quiz. Well done to them for being so creative in their subject delivery – all involved had a memorable day.

