

DUCKPADDLE NEWS

December 2013

Whetstone Parish Council

www.whetstonepc.org.uk



Merry Christmas

St Peters Church

Sunday 15th	4pm	Christingle
Sunday 22nd	4pm	Nine Lessons & Carols by candlelight
Christmas Eve	4pm	Crib Service
	9pm	First Eucharist of Christmas
Christmas Day	10am	Family Eucharist

United Reformed Church

Sunday 1st	11am	Worship with Communion and Christmas Lunch
Sunday 8th	10am	Rev Les Gill
Sunday 15th	10am	Rev Richard Eastman
Sunday 22nd	10am	JAM Club Service
	5pm	Christmas Songs of Praise Rev F. Ballantyne
Christmas Day	10.am	Mrs Betty Werry

Whetstone Baptist Church 2013

Nov 30 th	10.30 am	Christmas Fair at the Memorial Hall
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December

Monday 2nd	7pm	Carols Round the Tree at the Co-Op
Sunday 8th	10.45am	Christmas Family Service
Saturday 14th	7pm	Carols by Candlelight
Sunday 15th	6.15pm	Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve	11.30pm	Candle-lit Midnight Service
Christmas Day	10am	Christmas Day Family Service

It's good to be able to greet the residents of Whetstone and to wish you all a very Happy Christmas on behalf of the Churches of Whetstone

Christmas is one of the few times, if not the only time, when people seriously consider the local community, where it is heading and the values it is seeking to live by. Christmas is worth keeping if for no other reason than that we take a break from our usual activities and try to gain some perspective on where our lives and the lives of our community and our nation are going.

There are a number of guides or pointers in the Christmas story for helping us consider how to live life well. We see Mary and Joseph, a couple who supported each another in the ups and downs of life. Their stay in the stable reminds us of the need for every family to have decent housing and for safety and security to surround children at all times. Both Mary and Joseph were puzzled at the events that came upon them surrounding the birth of Jesus. However, they did not believe they had all the answers but were prepared to accept God's guidance in order to make the best decision in the perplexing situation in which they found themselves. It may not be the angel Gabriel guiding us as he guided Mary and Joseph, but as we too face puzzling or worrying events or dilemmas, we still need to pause and seek help, advice and guidance from others and even from God himself.

**May I wish you all
a very Happy
Christmas and a
peaceful New
Year**

Rev
Chris Allen
Vicar of
Whetstone

**Christmas Carols
Around the Tree**

Monday 2nd December 2013

**The Co-operative Store,
Whetstone**

6.45 pm - drinks and mince pies
7 pm - Carol Service

A partnership between Churches Together in Whetstone, Whetstone Parish Council, The Co-operative Food, Badgerbrook & St. Peter's Schools.



Badgerbrook Primary School

Badgerbrook has been a hive of activity since our last entry. Pupils have settled in well with their new teachers and we have an intake of 59 new Foundation students.

Children have been enjoying activities alongside the curriculum such as studying the Harvest Festival. Children in Foundation looked at different fruit and vegetables and actually painted with some of them, in addition to trying some more unusual fruit and making fruit salads.

Our Year One pupils produced and performed a wonderful Harvest Festival play to the



whole school and then to parents and carers, we're not sure who enjoyed this most, the spectators or the performers!

Year Two have been studying road safety and the classrooms are covered in various road signs and warnings.

Our Year Five have been looking at Sikhism and received a most welcome visit from a parent who treated them to food samples and a hairstyling session, in addition to talks about her religion and visiting the Gurwara.

Diwali cards and messages are also proudly displayed amongst the classrooms and numerous classes were able to carry out food tasting sessions along this theme.

As we write, our pupils and staff are embarking on a specialist project week looking at 'Super Heroes', not just the fictional kind, but also some of our real life super heroes. They'll be studying war veterans and paralympians, famous explorers, inventors and scientists. The project concludes with an open afternoon for supporters to come in and view all the work produced and a dress up day which we're all looking forward to.

Whispers of exciting things to come, namely Christmas, can already be heard amongst the children and staff, as plans are made for up and coming events such as Mad Hair Day,

a travelling theatre performance of Goldilocks, Nativity Plays, Class Parties.

We are looking forward to our very own Christmas Fayre organised by the 'Friends of Badgerbrook' (PTA Group) on the 7th of December 2013 between 1-4pm, everyone welcome.

Christmas Dinners, Carol Concerts for the Choir and class parties will all feature in this very busy half of the term.

School closes on Friday 20th December 2013 for our Christmas holiday, by which time I think everyone will be glad of the break and re opens on Tuesday the 7th January 2014.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all readers, a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



St.Peter's Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Curve's 5th Birthday

As part of the Curve's school's network, we were invited to take part in their 5th birthday celebrations. This meant that during September Year 1 received support from a professional writer who helped them to write a play about toys as well as being helped to create their own puppet theatres by a professional designer... but the most exciting part of the project was going to Curve to perform their puppet plays! Continuing the Curve theme, Year 2 was then invited to take part in a dance workshop. They were taken to the top of the theatre to the rehearsal rooms where they met Emily and Rachel from Moving

Together. The children were introduced to Bollywood style dancing and were able to create dances about Rama and Sita

London Invasion

At the start of October, 44 year 5s and 6s, accompanied by 4 members of staff, embarked on the school's biennial trip to our capital, London. The trip had been extended from 3 days to 5 so we could pack in even more fantastic experiences. From the awesome Natural History Museum to the refined National Gallery, the royal walk (and seeing Sir Chris Hoy!) to the spartan HMS Belfast, the dramatic Globe to the inspirational St Pauls, the deadly Tower to the theatrical Matilda,

the surreal Tate Modern to the panoramic London Eye, we saw it all! The children were brilliant, a credit to both the school and their parents.

St Peter's is a great place to be. Everywhere you look there are happy children engaged in exciting lessons. Last year was a very successful year for the school, but this year looks to being even more exciting judging by what is happening already. Remember applications for next year need to be in by 15th January 2014. You are very welcome to visit the school to see our facilities and see enthusiastic learning taking place.

PLANNING UPDATE

RESERVED MATTERS PLANNING APPLICATIONS BY DAVID WILSON HOMES AND LINDEN HOMES

Blaby District Council has now received two reserved matters planning applications. David Wilson Homes (13/0803/1/MX) have applied to build 150 homes on land off Springwell Lane and Linden Homes (13/0771/1/MX) have applied to build 84 homes on land off Cambridge Road including a new bridge access.

Both of these applications have prior outline approval to build these homes. These applications now give the detail of the developments, known as reserved matters that will show how the houses will look, their style and appearance. It details the location of the affordable houses and also gives detail of the roads, footways and open spaces, as well as the landscaping details.

These applications can be found on the BDC website using the following links:

David Wilson Homes:

<https://w3.blaby.gov.uk/onlineapplicationssimpleSearchResults.do;jsessionid=23C057DFFE912C9FA8AEA1DC0B4FC593?action=firstPage>

Linden Homes :

<https://w3.blaby.gov.uk/onlineapplicationssimpleSearchResults.do;jsessionid=27FC4815676089CA70D521A84F13A342?action=firstPage>

Observations can **still** be made after the closing date directly to BDC, contact : Ian Davies 0116 272 7688 or email: planning@blaby.gov.uk

Edward Wright Room “Whetstone Parish Council”

Looking for a venue to hold a small intimate family/friends celebration in quiet pleasant surroundings with newly refitted kitchen facilities, disabled access and toilets, car parking for up to 25 cars all inclusive for £12 per hour, plus projector/computer links available at a small extra cost.

We have just the room for you at Whetstone Parish Council, Council Offices, Cemetery Road, Whetstone

Tele: 0116 275 1987— Email: whetstonepc@whetstone.org.uk



- Why do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries and a diet coke?
- Why do banks leave vault doors open and then chain pens to the counter?
- Why does the sun lighten our hair but darkens our skin ?
- Why can't women put on mascara with their mouth closed?
- Why is abbreviated such a long word ?
- Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavouring and dish washing liquid made with real lemons?
- Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour ?
- Why isn't there mouse flavoured cat food ?
- Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?
- Why do we leave cars worth thousands of pounds on our driveways and put junk in the garage. ?

JUST A MINUTE

YOUR Parish Council usually meets every third Thursday of the month, 7.30pm at the Parish Council Offices, Cemetery Road., Whetstone. The agenda for the meeting is posted on the Parish Notice Boards. Parishioners are more than welcome to attend, whether you have a specific interest in an item on the agenda, or if you just wish to see Council in operation. Below are several extracts of general items of interest from the minutes of the last three meetings.

JULY

- An overview of the recent planning hearing held at Blaby District Council was given to all members.
- The Clerk showed members pictures of the tree that was damaged on Sanderson Close Public Open Space, the police have been informed and they had distributed leaflets regarding the vandalism.
- The Public Open space on Vicarage Lane is to be closed for 26 weeks whilst Severn Trent Water Authority carry out essential replacement works.
- The Clerk has completed the forms for the request to house a defibrillator for the village.

AUGUST

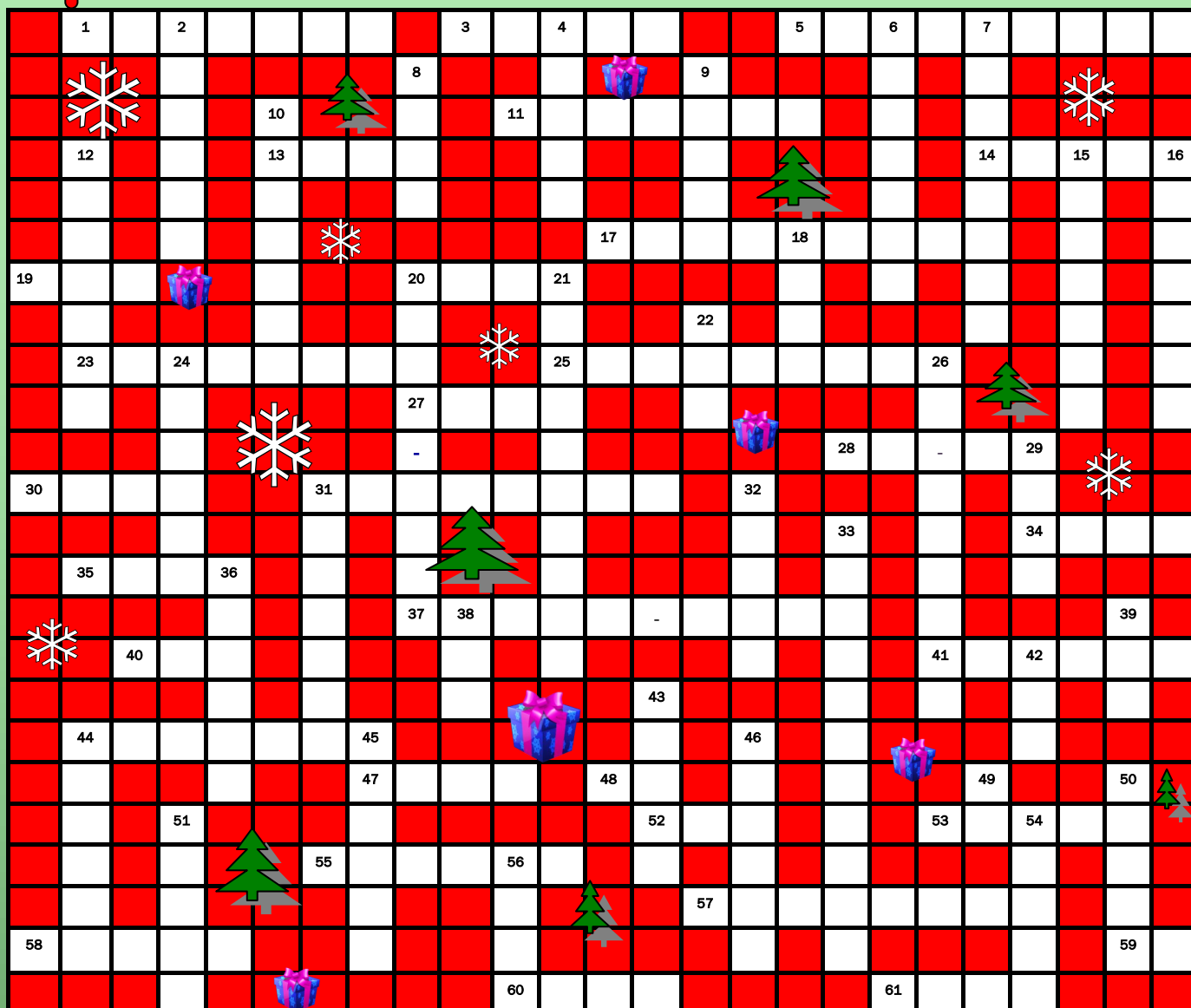
- Members discussed the perverse decision of the planning appeal and resolved that the Clerk would write to the Planning Inspectorate.
- The Clerk updated members that he had written to all parties who had expressed an interest in the £10,000 village fund, and that the Parish Office was amalgamating the requests.
- Members discussed the possible locations for the Defibrillator, the Clerk would progress with the costings.

SEPTEMBER

- Members discussed the Speed Camera data that had been captured on the Enderby Road. The Public Open Spaces working party would look at this in more detail to decide how to use this information.
- The Clerk updated members that the Smack Alley fence had been replaced with black paling fencing and was a marked improvement. New bins had been ordered for Trinity Park and High Street Car Park as these were now in the control of Whetstone Parish Council.
- The BB19 Youth Bus had been visiting Trinity Park on Thursday evenings in order to engage with the young people in the Village.

The next four meetings of Council take place on Thursday 19th December 2013, 16th January 2014, 20 February 2014, 20 March 2014
e-mail:Whetstonepc@whetstone.org.uk Tel: Leicester (0116) 2751987—Fax: Leicester (0116) 2753395
(The office is open Monday to Thursday 9am-4pm and Friday 9am-1pm (an answer machine is in operation at all other times))

Just for fun, hope you enjoy it.



Across

1. Church on King Street
3. One of Santa's Reindeer
5. You can find this in a pear tree
11. Park near the Council Offices
13. Five of these in the Christmas song
14. Silent Much loved carol
17. Our Village
19. Shepherds looked at the baby Jesus like this
20. Robin is a Christmas variety
23. Very peaceful place in the village
25. Festive time of year
27. Santa 's bag
28. Could keep your chickens in here
.... Dong
31. Clergy house maybe
34. Final part of a prayer
35. Oliver, Trinity or Warwick
37. Public house on main street
40. Santa's helper
41. Could tie this on a gift
44. Parish Council workplace
47. Oak, Ash, Elm ?
48. Jolly Santa's cry
52. Monument in village (and 57 across)
53. Prickly bush
55. Shiny and
57. See 52 across
58. Runs through the village
59. Santa repeating again ?
60. Type of festive cake (and 39 down)
61. See 21 down

Down

2. Whetstone Council
4. Christmas
6. Sandwich shop
7. They pull santa's sleigh
8. On the Village green
9. Christmas Pie
10. Hope you get lots of these
12. Castle in the park maybe
15. Hung on the fireplace
16. Stars do this
18. Type of pudding
20. Club on the Warwick Road
21. Village Publication (& 61 across)
22. Follows 9 down
24. Jesus' first bed
26. Church School
29. Partridge lives in this tree
31. Whetstone status
32. You can put gifts in these
33. School by the brook
36. Public House
38. Church on High Street (INITS)
other half of cake (& 60 across)
39. On a pretty dress maybe
43. Festive weather
44. Village park
45. Night, record ?
46. Christmas Dinner
49. Jolly Santa's second cry
50. Gift from a wise man
51. Christmas Song
54. Village Florist
56. Silent night, Night



**Santa will be visiting
near you on**

Monday 9th	Vicarage Estate
Tuesday 10th	Attfield Drive
Monday 16th	Burnham Drive
Wednesday 18th	Springwell lane



CRIME AND DISORDER



Please note that the Police are no longer based in the Parish Offices.

Beacon Officer Pc Kirti Chauhan

PCSO Simon Stevenson

The following crimes have been reported to the team over the last 30 days:

- 2 Theft from motor vehicle
- 3 Burglary other than dwellings (sheds/outbuildings/garage)
- 5 Theft
- 1 Damage

To leave a message for a member of the Safer Neighbourhood Team call 101 and when prompted enter the officers ID number. For PC Kit Chauhan enter 4214, or for PCSO Simon Stevenson enter 6073. Or you can email a member of the team from the local policing pages of the Leicestershire Police Website.

As the days are gradually getting darker I would like to offer the following tips to make your home more secure during the winter months:

- Burglars are less likely to target a home that looks occupied. Use a timer to switch lights on if you won't be home until after dark
- If you go out in the evening leave a light on.
- Make sure you close and secure all windows and doors before going out.

If you see anything or anyone acting suspiciously – REPORT IT!

There has also been a slight increase in garden sheds being broken into. Please ensure your shed is secured with a good quality padlock and where possible don't keep expensive tools, cycles, golf clubs etc in your shed especially if they can be seen through the window. An alarm or outside light can blow the cover of darkness for a would-be thief.

As you will soon be putting the Christmas tree up in your houses, I would like to remind you not to leave presents under the tree where they can be seen from the front window as burglars love window shopping.

In the run up to Christmas when you will be out Christmas shopping please be extra vigilant and leave shopping out of site in the boot of your car with the receipts removed from bags. Remember: if you leave it on show – expect it to go!

Leicestershire Police will commence their Christmas drink drive campaign on December 1st. We want you to enjoy the festivities, but please remember; if you go out drinking alcohol don't take the risk of getting behind the wheel, get someone else to drive who hasn't been drinking or alternatively take the bus or a taxi. If you've been drinking the previous night and you cannot be sure you are safe to drive – then don't take the risk.

If you need any further crime prevention advice, please visit <http://www.leics.police.uk/advice-and-information>

There will be no online webchat in December but please log on to <http://www.leics.police.uk/blabywebchat> on Thursday January 30th, 2014 at 6.30pm where you can find out more about security marking those expensive gifts.

The Safer Neighbourhood Team wishes all residents a crime free Christmas and a Happy New Year.

WHETSTONE CRIME FIGURES

Local crime figures are now available on the national Police website: www.police.uk. This website provides you with helpful information about crime and policing in your area. Enter your postcode, town, village or street into the search box, and get instant access to street-level crime maps and data, as well as details of your local Policing team and beat meetings

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