

Whilst not wanting to wish the well deserved holiday away. I

look forward to welcoming the children back to school on

**Tuesday 5th January 2010**

As always the doors will be open from 8.40am and school  
officially starts at 8.50am.



**Merry Christmas**  
and a **Happy New Year** from  
**Everyone at**  
**Westdale Junior School**

## Christmas Parties

The children have all taken part in their Christmas parties and from the excited shouts I have heard, seemed to have enjoyed themselves. Thank you for your contributions of party food and help in setting up. I'm not sure how the children managed to eat all that was provided but they have done.

## Carol Singing

A very well done to all the children who joined us at St. Andrew's . They performed a number of pieces and were a real credit to the school, themselves and to their parents. I know that the residents of St. Andrew's enjoyed the performance and look forward to our annual visit.

## Dinner Money

I have been informed by Nottinghamshire County Council that from the start of next term the cost of a school dinner will be **£1.95** a day. This makes the weekly cost **£9.75**.

## Christmas Fair

**A big thank you to everyone who joined us in school on Friday evening for our Christmas fair.**

The school was very busy and as a result we raised over £600. We are looking to spend this money on further developing our playground.

Thank you also to everyone who helped organise the event and to those parents and friends who helped set up and run the stalls.

## Attendance

Coming home tonight with your child should be a slip of paper. This outlines the percentage attendance of your child over the Autumn Term.

Attendance above 95% is the target to aim for although we would love to see your children here 100% of the time. We know that genuine illness can not be helped, but most poor attendance is due to holidays in term time and regular absence patterns, Fridays and Mondays being the most common.

The implications of poor attendance on a child's education are tremendous. A child with an attendance figure of 90% loses **four weeks** of school every year. This equals **24 weeks** by the time they reach Year 6 and their SATs. By the time they reach Year 11 and GCSEs, a child will have lost **a whole year** of education. A rather frightening statistic!