



**DANGER!**

### Safety around our School Grounds

PLEASE remember that children should NOT be allowed on the climbing frames at the beginning and end of the school day without a member of staff present. Similarly, please remind children not to climb the grassy banks and to use the bins available for any litter.

### Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

Thank you to those of you who signed our petition to save our Crossing Patrol Warden, Mrs Rowson. As you know, 2 years ago we fought a similar campaign and the then Council agreed that Anchor Road was a dangerous route and agreed that they should keep Mrs Rowson's services. We all know that Anchor Road is still one of the busiest roads in the City and most of our children have to cross it to get to school. It is hard to imagine just how dangerous it would be for our children to cross the road without some support from a Crossing Patrol Warden.

### Annual Copper Trail

The annual Copper Trail starts at the beginning of February. We will be asking the children to bring in any spare 1p and 2p coins they have and at the end of the Easter Term the class that has managed to raise the most money per child will win a visit to the Play Barn or Dimensions Pool in Burslem.



### Supporting the Royal British Legion

Many thanks to you for the support shown to our end of term fundraising event, 'Wear Something Red' in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Our non-uniform Day raised £475.72 A special thank you goes to Steelite International who, having heard of our Poppy display at the front of the school from one of our parents, sent us a donation of £100 to go towards the cost of the crosses. Their kindness was very much appreciated.



### OUR NEW ENVIRONMENTAL AREA

You may have noticed that our Environmental Area has been developing quite rapidly over the last six months. This is the section of land next to the MUGA, which was previously a 'spare' piece of ground.

It is hoped that when finished the area will be used by the children to investigate plants and animals in their natural environment. We have now landscaped the area to make it accessible. The area includes a pond, which will be used for pond dipping, bird boxes, hedgehog homes and even an insect hotel which was made and donated by Mr Stanford's dad. The children started some planting last term and created a tunnel made from Willow Weaving with the help of Nick and Tim from Forest Schools Wildwood. We still have lots more planting to do and aim to do most of this when the weather improves in the Spring Term ready, for our official opening in the Summer. We will keep you all posted over the next coming months with the new developments for this area.

### CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Thank you to everyone who came along to one of our Christmas events to support the children. I think you will all agree that the FS / KS1 production was a great success and the standard reached by our youngest pupils was a credit to them and the staff. Similarly, our older pupils performed brilliantly at the Church Carol Service - with our choir, orchestra, recorder groups and instrumentalists performing in front of a packed church. Sadly, due to the sudden illness of Fthr. Kevin we were unable to have our Christingle services, though the children were able to hold a special service in school. You will be pleased to know that Fthr. Kevin is now much better and was able to attend the rest of his Christmas services. Finally, thank you to those of you who came to hear the children singing on the balcony at the end of term—sadly, we could not arrange any snow this year to add to the atmosphere. Next year perhaps!

