



Birkwood Primary School

www.birkwood.org.uk

Newsletter 12: Friday, 1st December 2017

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Dear Parents and Carers,



I can't believe it's the 1st December today. We will be reminding the children throughout the Advent period about the Christmas story and the real meaning of Christmas. Thank you to Mrs Birch's Mum for making our beautiful wreath. Things will really 'hot up' over the next few weeks as we begin our preparations in earnest. I always enjoy it when the children start practising Christmas Carols. The school will soon be trimmed up and ready for Christmas, thank you to all the staff. Our real Christmas tree is due to arrive today.

Christmas Fair Friday, 8th December (2-4pm) ~ will be the last non-uniform day, if you choose, we ask that your child bring in some 'baking or biscuits' Thank you. There will be lots of stalls, refreshments and Father Christmas will be making a special appearance. You are welcome to collect your child/ren from their classes to join you at the Fair, please remember to inform their class teacher before you take them home.

Raffle tickets are on sale until next Friday at £1 per book (25p each) Star Prize £100!

Please return unsold Raffle tickets as soon as possible. Thank you

The class who sell the most raffle tickets will have a special treat of a DVD, popcorn and hotdogs! Thanks to Mr and Mrs White. I will let you know who has won.

Christmas Dedication Baubles are now on sale (see separate request letter) ~ You can have your child's name on the bauble or in memory of a relative or friend, the year can also be added. The baubles will be hung on a special tree in school and then you will be able to take them home on Thursday, 21st December which is the day before we finish for the Christmas holidays. A bauble costs £2.50.

Christmas Disco for Years 1-6 ~ Tuesday, 12th December 5.30 - 7.00pm. Tickets on sale from Monday, 4th December (£2 with crisps and pop included) Hot dogs available at 50p each.

Selection Box Raffle Tickets ~ we will be selling tickets at 20p each starting on Monday, 4th December, the Draw will take place on Wednesday, 20th December.

Class visits to St John's ~ Thank you to Father David for making so many of our children welcome and sharing our parish church. The children have enjoyed learning lots about Advent and what this special time means to Christians.

This week

Year 5 Sportshall athletics on Monday ~ All of Year 5 competed in two teams. They came 4th and 7th overall out of 24 teams! Well done to everyone and to Mr Campbell.

Year 4/5 Panthers Class Assembly on Tuesday, was wonderful and the children shared their learning about World War II. The 3 Year 4/5 classes have been doing the same topic and all have done a different type of assembly. Everyone enjoyed hearing their writing linked to the topic, the dance, drama, art, singing and lots of facts; it was also very moving as the children were so respectful. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us and well done to Mr Markham, Mr Campbell and all of the children.

Christmas Light Switch On in Cudworth ~ after school on Tuesday, was a lovely community event when we joined with our friends from Cherry Dale and Churchfield Primary Schools. We enjoyed the carol singing and refreshments too. Our older children represented our school very well, we were all very proud.

Year 4 Jaguars Class Assembly ~ on Wednesday, was an opportunity for the children to shine and they did! Everyone was very impressed with their wonderful writing, artwork, dance, singing linked to their World War II and how well they spoke in front of a large audience. Really well done to all of the children, Mrs Cooke, Mrs Porter and thank you to everyone who was able to join us.

Today the School Council will visit the Houses of Parliament ~ we will be setting off at 7am and returning at approx. 10.30pm. We will visit the Houses of Parliament, attend a workshop, go on the London Eye, have an ice cream and call at McDonald's on the way home! I'm sure we will have a wonderful day!

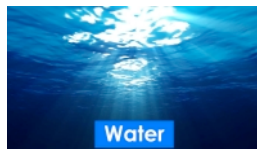
You would be most welcome to come to the following Class Assembly:
Year 1 Dragonflies Class Assembly ~ Wednesday, 6th December at 2.45pm

Dates for your diary:

- **Selection Box raffle tickets go on sale** ~ Week commencing 4th December (20p per ticket)
- **Year 5 Lions to St John's (Advent)** ~ Pm Monday, 4th December
- **Nursery Christmas Workshops (parents welcome)** ~ 10.15 for Am children and 2.00 for Pm children Tuesday, 5th December
- **Nursery closed all day for home visits on Wednesday** ~ 6th December (sorry for any inconvenience)
- **KS1 football multi-skills** ~ Wednesday 6th December
- **Christmas Fayre** ~ Friday, 8th December 2 - 4pm
- **Year 2 Robins, Year 2/3 Kingfishers and Year 3 Woodpeckers Nativity** ~ Monday, 11th December at 2.15pm and Tuesday, 12th December at 10am
- **Christmas Disco** ~ Tuesday, 12th December
- **Christmas Bingo** ~ Wednesday, 13th December
- **Choir and Brass Ensemble** ~ Wednesday, 13th December at 6.30pm performing at St. John's Church
- **Foundation Stage Sunflowers and Daffodils Christmas Nativity** ~ Thursday, 14th December at 2.30pm
- **Nursery Christmas Celebration** ~ Friday, 15th December at 10.00am and 2.30pm
- **Week Commencing 18th December** ~ Christmas Party Week
- **Sunflowers and Daffodils to Barnsley Civic to see The Magic Toy Shop** ~ Tuesday, 19th December
- **Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day** ~ Wednesday, 20th December
- **Mrs Dutton's Afternoon Tea for ex-pupils and special visitors** ~ Wednesday, 20th December (from 2.00pm)
- **Mrs Dutton's Retirement Assembly** ~ Thursday, 21st December at 9.05am
- **Christmas Soiree** ~ Thursday, 21st December at 6.30pm
- **Christmas at St John's Parish Church led by the Year 1 Dragonflies and Grasshoppers** ~ Friday, 22nd December at 2.00pm

We break up Friday, 22nd December

The House Winners last week were:



Team Water (Blue)



**The proud winners of the Attendance Award last week were:
The Zebras with 99.3%**

With many thanks for your continued support.
Mrs Julie Allen MBE, Headteacher