



Birkwood Primary School

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Newsletter 15: Friday, 21st December 2018



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Dear Parents and Carers,

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year

Thank you to everyone who has supported events this term such as: Class Assemblies, the Bring and Buy, Sporting Events, the Christmas Fair, Bingos, Discos, Christmas Nativities, Soiree and the Church Service.

I really appreciate all the support received from parents/carers, friends, families, Governors and all of our wonderful staff throughout the year.

Thanks to you, Birkwood continues to go from strength to strength!

Thank you also on behalf of all the staff for your very generous gifts, Christmas cards and wishes. We hope you enjoy the children's cards, calendars and gifts. We would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas with your friends and families and all the very best for the coming New Year.



Christmas Parties ~ the children have really enjoyed themselves this week, they always look so different and grown up in their party clothes! Thank you very much for party food donations. All children in school have received a Christmas present of a special book; Father Christmas visited Foundation with presents too.

Nutcracker Ballet at the Royal Opera House in London last Saturday. We had the most wonderful day together starting with a tour of London (with Mrs Porter as our tour guide!), we saw the Houses of Parliament, the Cenotaph on Whitehall, Downing Street, the London Eye and even the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace right in front of the coach! The ballet was just magical, we loved every single minute and couldn't quite believe we were watching the Royal Ballet. It is certainly something that I will remember forever!

On Tuesday, our **Nursery children entertained us with their Christmas Celebrations**. We couldn't believe how confident they've become, they looked so special and when you think they're only 3! Thank you to all of our families who were able to join us, well done to all of the children, Miss Davis, Mrs Medlock, Mrs Sabin and Miss Sabin.

On Tuesday morning, The Worshipful Mayor of Barnsley, Councillor Steve Green joined us for Whole School Assembly. He was very impressed with our children and how well behaved they were and also all of the wonderful opportunities they have ~ he could see why we are an outstanding school!

The Drama Group treated us all to an amazing performance of **Cinderella** on Tuesday. We couldn't believe how they've learnt all those lines in and amongst everything else. Thank you to all of the cast and Mrs Porter and Mrs Rennison. The children loved it and just about got the idea of what you do in a pantomime!

Thank you for your support with all the fantastic **Christmas Jumpers** on Wednesday! The children looked just great and the staff too! **Christmas Dinner** was wonderful; 280 dinners throughout school! Thank you to all the lunchtime and kitchen staff for making the Christmas Dinner and for working so hard throughout the year. I just helped a bit to serve the dinners and was exhausted!

Our Sunflowers and Daffodils really enjoyed their trip to Barnsley Civic to see Jack Frost on **Wednesday** ~ It was a magical experience for them all and they loved every minute, even going on the coach. Thank you to Miss Ward, Miss Jenkins and all of the staff who supported taking our little ones on their first school trip!

Carol Services at St John's ~ It was lovely to see our Key Stage 1 children on Wednesday share parts of the Wriggly Nativity at church and then Key Stage 2 this afternoon. The children on Wednesday spoke so clearly and their singing was beautiful! I'm sure that our Key Stage 2 children, led by the Year 3 Robins will do us equally proud today. Thank you to Father David for all his love and support for our school throughout the year.

Attendance ~ On Thursday, we celebrated the children who had 100% Attendance with no Lates during the Autumn Term. **114 of the children** received a special certificate and a Curly Wurly. This is an amazing number and there were 18 prize winners too: Joseph Curran, Layla Rowbotham, Liam Paterson, Finley Stewart, Adam Musgreave, Bobbie Davies, Charlie Kirk, Zuzanna Grzybowska, Ivy-Rose Rowbotham, Evie Middlehurst, Cody Waltham, Sienna Walker, Sierra Lidster-Kirton, Evie Wilson, Chloe Goodyear-Beevers, Jayden Coward, Jenson Horrell and Harryson Randle.

Thank you to Provide Education for their kind sponsorship of the prizes and to Mrs Booth for choosing them.

The Selection Box Draw was also held on Thursday morning with lots of prize winners! This helped to raise **£85.90** towards School Funds, thank you. The Dedication Baubles also helped to raise **£92.50**.

Esafety ~ Mr Sandwith reminded the children about keeping themselves safe online as I'm sure some will have new tablets and phones from Father Christmas!



The Christmas Soiree last night was also amazing! It was a great showcase of the brass, choir, drama, music and dance opportunities the children have at our school. Congratulations to all of 73 of the children, to Mrs Porter, Mrs Sutton and a big thank you to all of the staff who helped after a long day at school. It was lovely to see so many of you supporting your children too, thank you.

'Rock and Pop' around the Christmas Tree with Barnsley Music Service was really enjoyed by all the staff and children today ~ they joined in singing traditional and modern Christmas songs, accompanied by a range of instruments. We all loved it!

On Sunday, 23rd December we are very excited about the **Choir and Formation Team** showcasing their talents at Hope House Church. We are delighted to be asked and it will be an amazing high tech event on the theme of **'Nativity, the Musical'**, with big screen clips, readings and carols. We are all really looking forward to it.

Children are asked to meet at 5.15 please; the Performance is from 6 - 7pm.

Choir - are asked to wear their best Christmas party outfits; plenty of fancy hair ribbons and gelled hair!

Formation - school will provide new 'Sparkle and Shine Christmas Outfits' for the dancers to change into on arrival at Hope House

You can celebrate Christingle at St John's Church on Christmas Eve at 5pm



**The proud winners of the Attendance Award last week were:
The Woodpeckers with 99.7%**



A reminder that School reopens on Monday 7th January 2019

With thanks and Happy Christmas wishes and blessings,
Mrs Julie Allen MBE, Headteacher