



NEWSLETTER 7

15th December 2021

Dear parents and carers,



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School has been a hive of activity at the moment – as you would expect at this time of the year. Enjoy reading about some of the activities the children have been undertaking. It has been wonderful for the children to share their Christmas presentations with you – a great opportunity for them to speak publicly and perform to an audience too. Thank you for being such brilliant audiences - I am just so proud of the children so I can only imagine how you feel! Have a wonderful Christmas with your loved ones – wishing you peace and fun in equal measure (and maybe a flurry of snow!)

Christmas Performance Recordings

We are delighted that Mr Dougan has recorded all Christmas performances this year. We know there will be wider family members who would like to enjoy the performances. Details of how to access the recording via Drop Box have been sent to you – please contact Mr Dougan as outlined in the letter.

Please remember to respect the wishes of other parents and protect children by not sharing the recordings or any images of other children on social media. Many thanks.

Our sincere thanks go to Mr Dougan for using his brilliant skills to record the children.



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Class 1 Nativity - Jesus' Christmas Party

Well done to all the children in Class 1 for leading such a lovely nativity. David was impressive as the innkeeper who coped with many interruptions as he tried to rest but had his heart melted by the birth of the special baby. The singing was wonderful and the children looked splendid in their costumes too. Well done to all the narrators who read their lines really clearly as well.

Thank you parents for encouraging the children so warmly by laughing in the right places and clapping – it was a special time to share together.

Class 5 Egyptian Art

The children in Class 5 have enjoyed making clay art linked to their history learning on The Ancients. Can you spot: the Ancient Egyptian scarab – symbol of the sun god Re: the jackal god Anubis: a boat to help the deceased with the journey to the underworld? The children loved creating and it was wonderful to see and hear them cooperating and showing kindness to each other through-out the session. Great job Class 5!





Class 4 – Merry Quizmas!

Thank you parents for participating so actively in Class 4's Christmas Quiz this week. The questions were in several rounds and covered general knowledge of the Christmas story, Christmas music, Christmas films and Christmas geography! Everyone did really well. Overall Amelie's family and Jack's family tied for first place. A tie breaker question was needed and Jack's family won – congratulations! Class 4 sang a range of traditional and modern Christmas songs wonderfully too. It was lovely to enjoy some gentle fun together in this way – a great idea. Well done to everyone in Class 4.

Christmas Craft – Class 2

The children in Class 2 have been learning about materials in science – specifically exploring materials that melt and solidify. Miss Smith thought she would give the children an extra opportunity to secure their understanding by creating Christmas chocolate decorations this year for their Christmas craft! Enjoy the photos of the children in action!

All classes will make a small Christmas craft item. These will be sent home in the last week of school. Donations of £1 will be gratefully received for school funds.



Class 3 - The First Silent Night

Class 3 led a super performance explaining the story of the Silent Night carol. The children dramatised the story of how the carol came to be written. The narrating was loud and clear – especially without using the microphone, the costumes and acting were great and the singing was wonderful. The children playing the glockenspiels added some extra Christmas magic too. Thank you children for sharing with us – we loved it!



Christmas Designs

The children have created Christmas designs which could be turned into cards and gifts. There were an array of designs within and over classes. Anyone would love to receive a card, set of coasters, present tag or mug with these brilliant designs on . Enjoy seeing some of Class 4 products below... they look wonderful! Well done children.



Class 2 – A Miracle in Town

Class 2 led a wonderful warm nativity this week. The children clearly enjoyed performing despite a few nerves before they started. The children sang particularly well as they retold the story of Jesus' birth. I know my toes were tapping in time to the 'Ba Ba' song! Thank you Class 2 children for making us all smile and remember why Christians celebrate Christmas.

Christmas Colour Raffle



The raffle tickets for the **colour** hampers have been collected, mixed and pulled by Ms Avastu and Mrs Birch. The bountiful hampers of purple, blue, green, orange and red treats look fantastic – Fortnum & Mason have nothing on Eastington hampers!

Congratulations to winners of the prizes and hampers – we hope you enjoy your colourful treats!

The winners were:

Purple hamper: Jessica Washbrooke Class 5

Blue hamper: Sue Evans

Green hamper: Keira Morris-Buckle Class 1

Orange hamper: Emma – Class 5

Red hamper: Adam Cordrey

£20 voucher for Orange Frog, Stonehouse: Oscar Endruweit – Class 1

£20 voucher for Kings Head House, Eastington: Sophie McBride – Class 4

£20 Highfields Garden Centre Voucher: Sandra Harmer

Eastington Farm bag of goodies: Laila Farrugia – Class 5

£40 voucher for The Badger, Eastington: Thea Messenger – Class 3

Champagne bottle (donated by the Badger): The Husseys – Class 2 & 4

Please call in to the school office to collect your prize before we break for the holiday on Friday 17th December.

Thank you to everyone for taking part and giving the school community a little bit of fun at the end of term and helping to raise funds.

Thank you to the wonderful Mrs Walton and Mrs Birch for organising so brilliantly and for everyone in our community for donating prizes too.

Class 5 – Ye Ha!

Our wonderful Class 5 led a pun filled production of Ye Ha this week. It was a real Christmas treat that had everyone guffawing, chuckling and occasionally groaning. The acting was full of expression and the words were clear. Well done to everyone who sang – you were brave,

tuneful - really impressive. It was super to see the class work together and help each other out when needed too. You created a fantastic atmosphere – thank you Class 5.

Magic Mr Parsons!



The children were delighted on Wednesday as Mr Parsons, a professional magician, came and performed to each of the classes. The children were astonished at his skills and the staff were mesmerised too – see the faces of Class 1! The children had an opportunity to ask Mr Parsons questions about magic after as well.

Huge thanks to Mr Parsons for sharing his skills and giving our children a real treat.



Christmas Treat

The PA have kindly organised a little chocolate treat for each of the children at school for the end of term. They look absolutely delightful (secretly I'm hoping the PA miscounted and there will be one left over for me! I know the children will be thankful for them.

Thank you to Mrs Hayward for creating such lovely gifts and for Mrs V Taylor for her kind donation to the PA.

Advent Trail



Mrs Hussey and our wonderful PA team have organised a brilliant Advent Trail around the village.

Like a traditional advent calendar, a window in the village will be opened each night throughout December. The creators will illuminate their windows from 5-9pm and the windows will stay on display each night so by Christmas

Eve there will be 24 decorated windows around Eastington to explore.

You can begin the trail on the 1st of December if you choose or wait until a few more advent windows are 'opened'. You could wait for the end of advent and enjoy the whole trail!

Maps will be available to buy from the Old Badger Inn for £5 per family. Donations can also be made to Eastington School PA via this link <https://www.justgiving.com/eastington-spa> Come and enjoy the festive trail with your family!



Thank you!

Our Christmas tree is up and has been decorated by Rubie, Finley and Layla in Class 5. Though decorating it was a prickly job, the children have made the tree look splendid! It gives good cheer as the children pass it on the way in and out of the sports hall. Great job!

Our thanks go to the Eastington Farm shop for kindly donating the tree to us – we love it!

We also want to thank Trevor Davis and Jo Jackson for their kind donation to school Christmas festivities too. Their generous gift will go towards some of the Christmas craft activities that the children will do this year. Thank you.

At this time of the year we are using our school cameras a lot to record the special activities the children undertake as well as their learning. Earlier this year Mr Pickernell & Ecclesiastical Insurance donated money to the school and we purchased a quality new

camera for each class – they are working brilliantly and have made the lives of staff much easier! Thank you to Mr Pickernell for his donation and to Ecclesiastical Insurance for their ongoing generosity to our school.

Finally, a sincere thank you to the PA team for working together to raise funds and provide community activity over this term. We are incredibly grateful to Mrs Walton, Mrs Hayward, Mrs Hussey and all the team. Christmas is the time of giving and you have been wonderfully generous with your skills, time and thinking - you are amazing!

Bike/Scooter



Do these belong to your family? The bike is silver with the word 'extreme' written on it. The scooter is red. They have been left on the school site for some time now. Please let Mrs Birch know in the office if they belong to you. If they are not collected we will recycle them. Many thanks.

Dates

The last day of Autumn Term 2 is **Friday 17th December**. On the last day, we will have an end of term assembly together via Teams – if we're feeling brave we might attempt to sing our two special school Christmas songs together again!

The children return on **Wednesday 5th January 2021**.

We have an INSET day on Tuesday 4th January for staff where we plan to look at maths teaching and undertake further safeguard training.

We all hope to return to onsite learning in January – it is great that Government are prioritising face-to-face education for children. If an announcement is made in the Christmas holiday directing us to work remotely we will use our INSET day to prepare. If we need more preparation time, we **will have an additional INSET day on Wednesday 5th January**. If this is the case, we will let you know as soon as possible.

Ms Avastu
Headteacher