



# Headteacher's Blog

FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2014



## Foundation Nativity

I thoroughly enjoyed the Foundation Nativity performance this week – there is something so special about children performing their first school nativity. Thank you to all the children for working so hard to learn their words - I wouldn't have missed it for the world!



## Winners - 'Name the Gritter' competition

Last week, we announced the winners of the 'Name the Gritter' competition:

- ★ Nia in Year 2, with her gritter name 'Goodwin'
- ★ Kane in Year 4, with his gritter name 'Rocky'

On Monday, both Nia and Kane went along to the Ringway Depot and saw their signwritten gritter lorries. They also had a tour of the Depot, and were presented with their special prizes by Father Christmas! What an exciting afternoon! Be sure to look out for their lorries gritting our roads in the coming week and months!



## Carol Concert/Enterprise Fair – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Carol Concert and Enterprise Fair on Tuesday evening - great singing and your smiles lit up the playground! And..... indoors was like the first day of the Harrods' sale! I hope the children raised lots of money for their classes with all their efforts.



## Christingle Assemblies – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December



It was wonderful to welcome so many parents/carers along to our Christingle assemblies on Thursday. It's always a lovely assembly. Our special thanks to the Revd Mike Morris for coming in again this year.



## FOOPA School Christmas Fayre – Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December



FOOPA had a super day at the Christmas Fayre last Saturday. Children enjoyed crafts, making sand art, and there was a special visit from Santa. The atmosphere put me in just the right frame of mind for Christmas shopping! I managed to buy loads of lovely things.

Thank you to all who supported the event - children, families and teachers - and also to the lovely people who made cakes for FOOPA to sell on to make money for the school, and also to the amazing FOOPA volunteers.

## British Values

As promised on my blog last week, a new section has now been added to the school website which details how British Values are reflected in our OPA curriculum. Please do take a look at the page entitled 'About the School' then select 'British Values.'

## Curriculum Enrichment – Spring term

Details of Curriculum Enrichment activities for the spring term are now available under 'Latest News' on the school website. Please remember to book your child's chosen activity by Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

## Year 4 DT project

Mr Oldfield has been working with Year 4 recently for DT and collectively they have planned, designed and created this amazing wooden Christmas tree! It is now proudly on display in reception for all to see, with a special gold 'Year 4' star on the top!



## MK Dons Group Ticket Rewards – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec

**MK DONS**  
**GROUP TICKET**  
**REWARDS**

**MK Dons v Oldham Athletic**  
**Sat 20th Dec, KO 3.00pm**

Discounted ticket prices for Oxley Park Academy students, staff, family, friends & wider community

**ADULTS £7**  
**UNDER 18 £1**

Tickets available to parents via Parentpay or school office.  
All other enquiries welcome at the school office.

Tickets must be purchased by 9am on Fri 19th Dec

PLEASE HELP US EARN GTR POINTS BY BUYING YOUR TICKETS THROUGH OXLEY PARK ACADEMY,  
SEE YOU THERE! COME ON YOU DONS!

Our next GTR match is on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December**, when MK Dons take on Oldham Athletic at stadium:mk, kick off at 3pm. This fixture is the 'Group Ticket Reward Big Day', and we can offer the following discounted ticket prices:

- ❖ **£7 for adults**
- ❖ **£1 for Under 18s.**

Tickets are available via Parentpay or the school office, and must be purchased by 9am on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Our last GTR match resulted in a thrilling 6-0 victory for the Dons over Colcehster – let's see if the Oxley Park magic can work again! Come on you Dons!!

## Board Games

If any parents have any board games (complete) at home which their children no longer need, we would be hugely grateful if they could be donated to school for use during wet play, or by Ziggy/Holiday Club. Please bring any donations in to reception

## Celebrations

We have shared celebrations with the following children in school this week:

- ★ Skye in Year 2 took part in a gymnastics 'Snowflake Challenge' competition last weekend and was presented with this lovely Christmas tree medal.



- ★ George in Year 3 came to show me some magnets this week which he had made at home. Kiera and Keira also took part in the 'Snowflake Challenge' competition at Arabian Gymnastics last week and received several medals between them for all their hard work!



- ★ Niamh from Year 3 came to visit me this week, and brought down a fantastic piece of writing, which she read beautifully to me.



- ★ Oliver and Mason from Year 4 have been busy with their sporting achievements. Oliver was recently 'Man of the Match' for his football team, and Mason was 'Man of the Match' for his rugby team! Congratulations, boys, and well done for displaying such hard work and dedication.



★ I had a visit from three children in Foundation this week, all with different celebrations to share. Joshua recently took part in two football tournaments and has received two medals, Ava has recently passed Steps 3 and 4 in her swimming lessons, and has now moved on to Step 5, and Aneesah recently took part in 'The Snowflake Challenge' at Arabian Gymnastics and won two medals.



★ Mason from Year 6 came to show me his project pack on Charles Darwin, which he has been working on, linked to his topic work in class - I was thoroughly impressed! Well done, Mason, I can see that you have spent a lot of time and effort producing such great project work.



★ Zach in Year 5 came to show his amazing maths work this week, and to celebrate learning his 10 times table – Zach, I am so proud of you!



❖ Brandon in Year 6 has been working really hard at home to produce this fabulous model of the Galapagos Islands! It really is magnificent, Brandon.



## Coming up over the next few weeks...

Date		
<b>Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Hot Christmas lunches for Foundation, Years 1, 3 & 6  Class party day for Years 2, 4 & 5	
<b>Weds 17<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Governors Awards Foundation, Years 1/2/3 Years 4/5/6  THRASS parent info evening	9:00am 10:00am  6:30pm
<b>Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Hot Christmas lunches for Years 2, 3 & 5  Class party day for Foundation, Years 1, 3 & 6	
<b>Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	'Christmas Jumper Day'  <b>END OF AUTUMN TERM</b>	
<b>Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>	
<b>Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>SCHOOL RE-OPENS</b>	

## Forthcoming dates

The school calendar of events can be accessed via the home page of the school website in one of two ways:

- ❖ either by clicking the 'Dates and Events' tab and selecting 'School Calendar' from the menu
- ❖ or by clicking on the 'calendar pages - School' link below 'Upcoming Events' on our home page

The screenshot shows the Oxley Park Academy website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with the following items: Home, About The School, Dates & Events, Home Learning, Timeline, Awards, Documents, Community, Extra Curricular. Below the menu, there are three main content areas: 'Principal's Blog', 'Upcoming Events', and 'Latest News'. The 'Upcoming Events' section lists several events for December 16th and 17th, including 'Class party day Years 2/4 and 5', 'Hot Christmas Lunch for Foundation/Year 5/3 and 6', 'Governors Awards', and 'Year 4 Super Learning afternoon'. A red arrow points from the 'Dates & Events' menu item to the 'Upcoming Events' section. Another red arrow points from the 'calendar pages - School' link in the 'Upcoming Events' section to the 'Upcoming Events' section.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our Junior Just Dancers the very best of luck for their competition on Sunday. I will be there to cheer them on and hope to see many of you there too.

**Cathy**

