

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 23RD NOVEMBER

Coming up next week:

Sat 24th Nov - 10:30 Christmas Fair, All Saints' Church, Wraxall

Tues 27th Nov - Steam Museum Trip Y5/6

Wed 28th Nov - Gemini Gym Y3/4

Wed 28th Nov - Deadline for Christmas card order

Thur 29th Nov - Grandparents Day

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

We are pleased to report that the School raised £121.29. Thank you to all who bought poppies and accessories for this worthy cause.

Children in Need

We are pleased to report that as a school we raised £145.31. Thank you again to all who supported this great charity.

Final Day for Christmas Card order - Wednesday 28th Nov

We will be placing a final order for cards/tags/mugs/bags/towels as before. If you missed the deadline before, or have realised that you'd like to order more your child's design, please give your order and payment into the school office by the end of Wednesday 28th Nov 2018.

The delivery of items should happen soon after, and will include and other orders already handed into the school office after the original deadline. Any questions, please speak to Jessica Vallentine (Aa, Yr 2 & Arthur, reception). Thanks!

Christmas Meal Deal

The kitchen staff need to know how many children want to share in our Christmas lunch. Please let us know if your child IS NOT having a Christmas lunch (i.e packed lunch) otherwise we will assume your child is having a Christmas lunch.

Church News

Saturday 24th November 10:30 to 14:30 - Christmas Fair, All Saints' Church, Wraxall. Various Stalls. Gift Ideas. KIDS Zone - Santa's Grotto AND Refreshments served in the Cross Tree Centre. Come along and enjoy the Christmas fun!

Sunday 25th November 16:30 - Food@4:30, Cross Tree Centre

We will be "Preparing for Christmas - Advent". Hot food will be served suitable for all diets. Please contact Jules Harris jules.curate@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

Sunday 2nd December 10:00 - All Together In Church (ATIC) Toy Service, All Saints' Church, Wraxall

We will be collecting new unwrapped toys for all ages to give to children in need in Bristol area over the Christmas period. It would be lovely to see you and every toy will find a good home.

Message from Mr Tucker

Dear Parents Carers,

Cold enough for you? It is impossible to tell you how delighted I was when the boiler decided to pack up on Tuesday. Whilst the children have been enjoying the benefits of their air conditioning units and Year 3/4 have had a warm air blower, the only people who were really affected were us, in the office. It was so cold on Wednesday morning that Beth was sat motionless for over an hour. At

first we feared she may have frozen solid but then we realised that she was working at her usual pace and all was well.

While last week Reception learnt about the Hindu festival of Diwali, this week they found out about the American tradition of Thanksgiving. Coming from America, Arthur's mum and Grandad were able to talk to the children first-hand about how this is traditionally a time to celebrate the harvest and bring families together. The talk was so interesting and the children learnt lots; the pumpkin muffins, which were hoovered up within seconds, were also very warmly received. Seriously yummy. Following on from the talk, the children all made the most wonderful Thanksgiving Turkeys you have ever seen. With leaves for tail feathers, googly eyes and flappy red bits around the beaks (the name for them escapes me at the moment), they looked magnificent. The fact that you can pop your fingers through two holes at the bottom for feet: well, what could be better. Many thanks to Arthur's mum and grandad for coming in; taking the time to speak to Reception about this special time in the American calendar.

Year 1/2 have been working hard on learning the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. So far, they have managed to plough through approx. twenty variations of the text; some with the traditional retelling, while others have explored a slightly more modern slant. They have included Jack beating up a giant, particularly hostile beanstalks, the giant marrying the mother (not sure about that one) and even baked bean tins instead of a beanstalk! By exposing them to such a variety of texts, they are, hopefully, broadening their understanding of how the story can be manipulated so that they can put in original twists when writing their own versions. So far they have been looking at sequencing, producing picture plans and are now starting to retell the story. Here are a few examples to ease you into the weekend.

'Jack was very excited about beans. Some were as yellow as the sun. Some were as blue as the ocean. Some were as purple as purple and some were as orange as a fox.' Eloise

'When he got to the top he saw an enormous castle. He went inside. When Jack got inside he heard three massive thumps.' Jamie

'Once there was a small boy called Jack and his mum. They lived in a tumbledown cottij.' Ellie (That is exactly how I would have spelt it too, Ellie.

'There most valuable possession was a silk cow.' Wilf

Years 3-6 experienced a real treat yesterday when The Young Shakespeare Company came in to perform Twelfth Night for them. It was simply stunning. As Rosie put it, 'that was the best thing I have ever seen.' That's my girl. Their mission is to make Shakespeare accessible to children. The way they go about this is many fold, from summarising Acts, to questioning the children about important scenes so they can dissect what they are observing and interpret the motivations of the characters. Some of their answers were incredibly insightful and showed a real understanding of the motivations and schemes being hatched. (I know, I was surprised too). Best of all, was watching the professional actors up close, at work. Now, I like to pride myself on being able to raise my voice with the best of them but this was a whole new level. The way they could project and convey the emotion of the scene, was amazing. (Hmm, this is sounding dangerously like me approving of the arts – better reign that back). The children enjoyed the experience hugely and can explain the story of the play, with an understanding of many of its subtleties. Not bad for a Thursday morning.

This time our Stars of the Week are Max & Sonny in Reception, Wilf & Eloise in Year 1/2, Will, Rose, Zac & Isabella in Year 3/4 and Eve & Lucy in Year 5/6. After our roll over week, Griffin had the most conduct marks and Dragons the highest number of work marks. Bronze badges were awarded to Abigail, Fergus, Marlowe, Evie, Lilly, Elsie, Thomas M, Tom, Max, Phoebe T, Leila, Henry, William, Lawson, Wilf, Ben F, Rosie, Tilly, Maisie, Phoebe S & Jo.

A couple of quick announcements, if I may? The Church Christmas Fayre is taking place this Saturday between 10:30 and 2:30; all are very welcome (and don't forget our own Fayre on the 8th in Long Ashton). Year 3/4 parents: the class will be performing their Raise the Roof songs on Thursday 6th December at 2:30, if you would like to come and hear them.

Finally, as you will be aware, our lovely Beth has been on a secondment to the LSP these last few weeks. It appears that she has been somewhat of a hit and they have asked her to work for them permanently. All this means that December 21st will be her last day with us in Wraxall. It goes without saying that we wish her all the best in her new role but that we will miss her very, very much.

Have a lovely weekend. Play safely and take care. I am off to buy some thermal pyjamas and defrost Beth.

Mr Tucker