

COMING UP NEXT WEEK:

DECEMBER

Saturday 8th: Xmas Fayre at Long Ashton Village Hall 11am-2pm

Tuesday 11th : Year 6 Icing their Xmas cakes

Guitar lessons (this is a makeup session for a lesson cancelled on October 5th)

Wednesday 12th: School Christmas Lunch- optional wear a Xmas Jumper or hat (please do tell us before if your child will NOT be having Xmas lunch)

Thursday 13th : Christmas Performance Costumes to be brought in to school in a named bag.

Tuesday 18th : 1.45pm Matinee Performance of the Christmas Production

6.30pm Evening Performance of the Christmas Production

Wednesday 19th: Reception Class at Tobacco Factory

Years 1,2,3,4,5,6 at The Playhouse in WSM

Thursday 20th: Farewell Service at All Saint's Church 1.45pm

Friday 21st - Last day of Term

JANUARY

Monday 7th January - First day of Term

FWSA

Please remember that if you buy your Christmas tree from Tony Miles trees this weekend, then £10 is donated to the FWSA if you present your signed voucher from Mr Tucker. More vouchers will be available at the fayre.

Is anyone able to help with the Christmas parties on the morning of the 21st? Please let your class rep know if you can, they run from 10-11.

Church News

Saturday 15th December 18:00 - Carols by Candlelight, St Bartholomew's Church, Failand

Sunday 16th December 16:30 - Family Carol Service, All Saints' Church, Wraxall

Monday 24th December 15:00 - Crib Service, All Saints' Church, Wraxall

Monday 24th December 21:00 - Christmas Eve Communion, St Bartholomew's Church, Failand

Monday 24th December 23:00 - Christmas Eve Communion, All Saints' Church, Wraxall

Tuesday 25th December 10.00 - Christmas Day Family Communion, All Saints' Church, Wraxall

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wet playtimes + Nativity Practices + Christmas excitement = pleasure, joy and harmony. What is not to love about this time of year?

As the four of you who read the newsletter last week will remember, Reception have been investigating owls and writing some lovely stuff on the back of it. Well, Mrs H has decided to change it up a bit by combining our nocturnal friends with Christmas. Er, right... that well known combination, then. Awesome. It turns out my fears were misplaced; what I *should* have been concerned about was arming the little ones with needles as they were making felt owl baubles. Credit where credit is due: they have sat down, 1:1 and stitched the front and backs together like they were apprentices in Saville Row. Eyes, wings and beaks have all been stuck on with glue (let's not run before we can walk) with just the stuffing remaining. Uber cute. If anyone one would like a nice little three piece whipped up before Christmas, Reception have a few fitting appointments left but last orders must be placed by Friday week. You cannot rush perfection.

As part of our Christmas production, Year 1/2 have been spending a considerable amount of time finely tuning their dance, aided and abetted by our resident dance teacher, Sophie Eloise. Do not get me wrong: Mrs Brierley and Mrs Harris can cut a rug with the best of them but another pair of specialist hands is always very welcome. Angels twinkled as they delivered the news of the Saviour's birth, while shepherds looked slightly bemused by the Annunciation (we were going for shock and awe but we have a week or so left). The trick now, of course, is transferring this lovely dance which takes up the whole hall, onto the stage in church: a slightly snigger space. This is going to be interesting.

A couple of weeks ago, Year 3/4 took part in the Raise the Roof concert at Nailsea School, with many of the other local primaries. Yesterday, they performed these pieces to their parents. Bearing in mind they have only had two practices, they were exceptional. Not only was their singing loud, clear and, dare I say it, tuneful but the actions they had choreographed to accompany the songs were first rate. Some of the playground chants, which they performed while playing pattercakes, didn't half take me back to my own childhood lunchtimes. The children should be very proud of the way they sung and I hope Miss Madge and Mrs Baker (who helped them perfect their songs) also feel like a job well done. There was a reason why they were so good. Many thanks to everyone who came to listen to the children: it is always so much more meaningful when there is an audience involved.

In all honesty, this part of the newsletter was written on Tuesday afternoon, when Year 6 rolled up their sleeves, donned their aprons and set to, creating their Christmas cakes. I say 'creating' yet I fear this may be a slightly generous term. 'Throwing together, closing their eyes and hoping for the best' may be a slightly more accurate description of events. Bearing in mind that they all had identical ingredients and quantities (theoretically), quite how they managed to look so incredibly different is totally beyond me. We had sloppy ones, little ones, pale ones and one that even looked identical in colour and texture to French mustard – that was a little surprising, I can tell you. Favourite quotes: 'P-L-E-A-S-E try and keep it in the bowl,' (said in a pleading voice by Mrs Brown) and 'I'm off to get the bin,' Lisa (admitting defeat). To be fair, by the end, they had all produced suitably impressive mixtures that stood more than a fighting chance of being baked into a Christmas cake. Edit: wombling back into the hall, I have just witnessed them washing up. Gosh. Just, 'gosh'.

This time our Stars of the Week are Bow & Thomas in Reception, Isla & Sienna in Year 1/2, Hannah & Joe in Year 3/4 and Harrison & Aaron in Year 5/6. Great start to the weekend guys. Due to Nativity practices, we are rolling over our work marks and conduct marks until next week.

Please don't forget that it is our Christmas Fayre tomorrow at Long Ashton Village Hall, 10:00 – 2:00. This is that traditional event where you come with pockets of cash, it magically disappears and you wonder how all you have got to show for it is one twig of mistletoe.

Have a lovely weekend. Play safely and take care. This Saturday, I am off to have my treat of a lifetime: watching Bath Vs Leinster at the Rec. I cannot tell you how touched I was to receive this gift; it completely blew me away and left me, literally, speechless. Thank you. Genuinely, thank you.

Mr Tucker