



# Newsletter

8th December 2017

## Dates for your diary

Tuesday 12th December: School Christmas Lunch—Children are welcome to wear a festive hat if they wish to. **If you have yet to do so then please let the school office know if your child will be having packed lunch instead of dinner.**

Wednesday 13th December: Christmas concert in the Church at 1.45pm for Grandparents or families with young children who will not be able to make the evening performance at 6.30pm. Please note that all children will need to be at both performances.

**Teachers will be accepting children in the Crosstree centre at 6.15pm. Could we please remind you that if you are arriving before this time then your child must remain safely with you and be respectful of the Church grounds.**

Friday 15th December: Year 1 & 2 are invited to come to school dressed as a superhero (Superhero PJ's are acceptable) as part of their Super hero topic.

Monday 18th December: Class Christmas Parties. Children are invited to dress like an elf or wear a Christmas jumper on this day. (Bring £1 to school for Above & Beyond)

Tuesday 19th December: School trip to Pantomime. Last day of term.

**Please do not send children to school with book bags on the last day of term.**

**Your child is welcome to bring one small packet of sweets and a disposable carton of drink to the pantomime. This, along with their coat, is all they will take with them.**

**Reception and Year 1 & 2 will not be back in school until approximately 1.00pm and will therefore need a packed lunch.**

**For Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 the coach will return to school at approximately 5.00pm and children will gather in the school hall before being dismissed on sight of their parent/carer.**

**REMEMBER! The Christmas Fayre tomorrow is at Long Ashton Community Centre tomorrow!**

You can still buy raffle tickets in advance at <https://fwsa.weebly.com/> up until midnight tonight.

We would also still be grateful for more cakes, which people can bring with them on Saturday.

## PARKING ACROSS THE ROAD

We are still receiving complaints from our neighbours about people parking in front of the drive/Wraxall court entrance across the road. This has become a significant issue for us so please do not park there.

Thank you.



Saturday 16th December 18:00  
- Carols by Candlelight, St Bartholomew's Church, Failand

Sunday 17th December 16:30 -  
Family Carol Service, All Saints' Church, Wraxall

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

Monday 25th December 10:00 - All Together In Church (ATIC) with Communion, All Saints' Church, Wraxall

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is official. Despite my best efforts, Christmas has come to Wraxall and in a major way. Was it the subtle decorations in Year 3/4 that gave it away, or perhaps the increase in festive songs that filled the corridors? Perchance the transformation of the Reception playhouse into a post office and delivery service? No, I am more inclined to point the finger at the mammoth, 20ft Christmas tree that has taken over the hall. After school last Friday, Mrs H, members of the FWSA and conscripted partners somehow, I certainly have no idea how they did it, erected this monster. I believe Mr Wood repelling down from the roof, having secured the final section of the tree to the wall, was a sight to be beheld (not least when he ended up in the tree for half an hour and had to be rescued by Jess). When the children came in for Collective Worship on Monday morning, they were absolutely amazed; Harrison's eyebrows were so raised they touched his hairline! Thank you to all that helped give Wraxall a festive makeover.

We had an absolute treat on Wednesday, with our school choir performing the songs they have been learning for the Christmas Fete. We have not had a choir for several years but thanks to Sophie and Ruby's mum, this has been resurrected, bringing a much needed dimension to our repertoire of extra-curricular activities. For the last 10 weeks, they have been giving up their lunchtimes to practise the songs and wanted a quick dummy run before their first official performance. I know it sounds condescending but I was not expecting them to be as good as they were. Not only was the singing first rate but there were actions and narration as well. You know when a performance is good when the audience do not make a sound and the applause is warm and generous – which is precisely what happened.

It has been a busy little week for Year 5/6 (when is it not?). On Tuesday, just over half the class represented the school at the North Somerset Extravaganza at the Colston Hall. If you have not been, this has to be seen to be believed. 300 primary school children on stage, singing a variety of Christmas songs, interspersed with youth orchestras, dancing and rock bands. Not only does it sound amazing (when was the last time you listened to a 60 piece orchestra?) but visually, with them all in their white shirts and Santa hats, it looks stunning too. They have been learning a dozen songs over the last couple of months and were magnificent on the night. It was such an enriching experience; something they will be able to tell their children about in years to come: I stood in the Colston Hall and sang in front of 2000 people. We were so proud of you. A big, 'Thank you' to all the parents and family members who came to support us and especially to Mr Khanna and Hayley (Lilly's mum) who gave up so much time to ensure the children were at their best.

We also had the Christmas cake making Part II: Revenge of the Icing. There is this old, yet beautiful, adage that teachers around the world are fond of. Not '*Manners maketh the man,*' '*If first you don't succeed, try, try and try again,*' or even '*Practice makes perfect,*' although they are all wonderful. No, the one we are looking for is: '*Less is more*'. This is particularly poignant when Reception are sprinkling glitter or Beth eyes a selection box. It is even more poignant when Year 6 are decorating Christmas cakes; they firmly ascribe to the: *let's see just how many novelty sugar figures can be crammed onto one cake before it collapses in on itself*. By the time they had finished, some of them weighed enough to be technically classed as offensive weapons and a couple have been purloined to prop up our lopsided Wendy House. A conservative estimate puts the icing alone at approx. 2 ½ stone. I am not sure how many Hollywood handshakes would have been given out and you may wish to warn Gran not to take too thick a slice: a little goes a long way. Joking aside, I was actually rather impressed with what they have created. Marzipan, white icing and winter decorations came together beautifully to create a Christmas treat that Waitrose would have been proud of.

This time our Stars of the Week are Michael in Reception, Isabella & Eloise in year 1/2, Hannah & Ethan S in Year 3/4 and Felix & Lilly in Year 5/6. Good work guys. The winners of our 'roll over' week are Griffin with the most conduct marks and also with the highest number of work marks. Next week we shall total up the scores and see who gets to wear their own clothes for earning the most conduct marks in a term. (This time, we cannot squeeze this in before the holidays so the winning house will be in mufti on the first day back after the Christmas break). Phoebe T & Eve Harris were awarded their bronze badge whilst Poppy P, Ben W, Ivan & Scarlet Smart received their silver badges.

Have a lovely weekend. Play safely and take care. With a bit of luck I shall see you and your money, er, smiling faces at the Christmas Fayre tomorrow. Just to keep us on our toes, it is being held at the Village Hall in Long Ashton this time and kicks off at 11:00am. It would be great to have you there.

Mr Tucker