



Dear Parents,

What a week! The highlights have absolutely been our visit to Darlington Hippodrome to see ‘Snow White & the Seven Dwarves’ on Thursday, and the fantastic performances of our Reception and Key Stage 1 children in ‘Angel Express’ on Wednesday. Our nativity performances are always special, and if you weren’t feeling festive before, we bet you were afterwards! It takes lots of courage to step on stage when you are four, and the children all did incredibly well. My thanks to the staff who organised such a wonderful performance and continue to go above and beyond for the pupils at this very busy time of year.

Next week our Christmas celebrations continue – with our Christingle at St Patrick’s on Wednesday. All children will spend the morning in church rehearsing for the service. If you haven’t already returned the permission slip, please do so as soon as possible.

I hope you have a great weekend preparing for Christmas and getting those last-minute jobs completed!

Mr. Donaldson

Christmas Events

Our Christmas celebrations continue next week. A quick day-by-day reminder below:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Monday 18 th December | Non-Uniform Day – Bring a Bottle | All |
| Tuesday 19 th December | H&A Museum | All |
| Wednesday 20 th December | Christingle Service at St Patrick’s Church, 6pm | All |
| Thursday 21 st December | Christmas Party / Bag a Bottle Tombola | All |
| Friday 22 nd December | Close for Christmas Break | All |

Non-Uniform / Bring a Bottle

On Monday we will hold a non-uniform day in exchange for a bottle...of whatever you fancy! The bottles will then form part of our ‘Bottle Tombola’ which will take place on Thursday at 3.15pm with tickets available for £1. All funds raised will go back into provided exciting additional opportunities for pupils. We really do appreciate your support with all fundraising.

Christingle

We look forward to seeing everyone at our special Christingle service at St Patrick’s Church, Patrick Brompton at 6pm. Please park with consideration – we would suggest using the layby near the crossroads and walking to the church wherever possible!

Let’s Celebrate!

See who has been awarded in Celebration Assembly this week!

| | Mr Donaldson | Miss House | Mrs Hollocks | Mr Cope | Mrs Tunmore |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Above & Beyond <i>(Care – Aspire – Excel)</i> | Charlie R | Tai | Evie M | Anna | Tilly |
| | Woodpecker Class (Y5/6) | Partridge Class (Y3/4) | Kingfisher Class (Y2) | Robin Class (R/Y1) | |
| Curriculum Award | Grace W | Rollo | Ruby-Mai | Lucas | |
| Aims Award | Jay | Pippa | Tai | Isobel | |
| Team Points | Middleham | | | | |
| Tidy Classroom | TBC | | | | |
| Golden Spoon | TBC | | | | |

H&A Museum

The children have been working very hard preparing their exhibitions for the 'H&A Museum' on Monday – there will be exciting exhibitions on great explorers, history-makers, the Anglo Saxons and the Battle of Britain. We do hope you can join us from 2.30pm on Monday to share in your child's history learning from this term!

Diary Dates

| <u>When?</u> | <u>What?</u> | <u>Who?</u> | <u>How?</u> |
|---|--|-------------|-----------------------|
| Monday 18 th December | Non-Uniform Day: Bring a Bottle | All | Information sent |
| Tuesday 19 th December | H&A Museum | All | Information sent |
| Wednesday 20 th December | Christingle @ St Patrick's Church, 6pm | All | Information sent |
| Thursday 21 st December | Christmas Party | All | Information sent |
| Friday 22 nd December | Break up for Christmas Holiday | All | See newsletter |
| Monday 8 th January | School Closed – CPD Day | All | See newsletter |
| Tuesday 9 th January | Start of Spring Term | All | See newsletter |
| Monday 22 nd January | Y5/6 Residential Parents Information Session | Y5/6 | Information to follow |
| Thursday 1 st Feb + | Art Exhibition at Richmond Station | All | Information to follow |
| Tuesday 6 th February | Science Visit – Life Centre | R/KS1 | Information to follow |
| Wednesday 7 th February | Parliament Visit | Y3/4 | Information sent |
| 19 th Feb – 21 st Feb | Y5/6 Residential to Newby Wiske | Y5/6 | Information sent |
| Wednesday 28 th February | Y3/4 Visit to Jorvik Viking Centre | Y3/4 | Information to follow |

Around the Classes...

Robin Class (Reception): Wow what a week!! This week has been hugely focused on our production 'Angel Express'! The children have worked so hard and put on not one, but two fantastic shows! We've also enjoyed exploring 'The Gingerbread Man' animation and story in drawing club, making ginger scented playdoh, creating bridges for the gingerbread man to cross the river - to name a few! On Thursday we visited the pantomime in Darlington- which was fantastic! We ended our week with Christmas Jumper Day and our school Christmas dinner! We hope the children have a well-deserved rest over the weekend- well done Reception Robin class!

Robin Class (Year 1): The children were absolute superstars in their performances of 'Angel Express'. It was a pleasure to watch the children perform, showing how determined and driven they are. We are extremely delighted with them all and they have shared the festive spirit! We enjoyed lots of Christmas stories this week, a favourite has been 'Lucy and Tom at Christmas'. Subtraction has been introduced in maths, really trying hard to grasp this concept and explore subtraction using concrete resources to help us. We even turned into frogs to make our own subtraction sentence! We have been working extremely hard on phonic assessments this week, wonderful to see the progression and hear the children read with exquisite prosody. And, finally we loved the visit to the pantomime, showing off with our outstanding behaviour!

Kingfisher Class: I am sure everyone will agree that the Kingfishers have had a brilliant week, particularly their performance of 'Angel Express'. They were loud and clear and performed each of their roles wonderfully well so a big well done to all involved. This was followed up with a trip to the pantomime on Thursday which the children really enjoyed. As always, their behaviour was impeccable, and they were amazing ambassadors for the school. In class, we have continued our work in addition and subtraction, focussing more on written methods using column. The children have picked this up really well and it is something we will continue to develop in the new year. A big well done to everyone for this week as we look forward to more exciting things to come in our final week of term.

Partridge Class: This week in Partridge Class has been full of festive joy. We thoroughly enjoyed watching the Robins and Kingfishers' nativity. The children were amazing! Our Thursday afternoon at the pantomime at Darlington Hippodrome was filled with laughs and giggles. Also, we have been working extremely hard in perfecting our Christingle, and we can't wait to share our efforts with you next week. In our English sessions, we explored the world of animals through amazing Kenning poems. Can you guess which animals some of the children chose to write about? Here are some clues...carrot-muncher, sleigh-puller, snowflake-chaser... In science, we delved into the world of food chains, grasping key vocabulary like producer, prey, consumer and predator.

Woodpecker Class: Woodpeckers have time travelled back to the 1940's and written diary entries imagining they are a child during WW2. It has been a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their knowledge about WW2, a topic they have thoroughly enjoyed. We have also got into the Christmas spirit watching the KS1 Nativity and visiting Darlington Hippodrome to watch Snow White and the Seven Dwarves. We have had a fantastic week!

Safeguarding Reminders

Mr. Sam Donaldson is the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mr. Gavin Cope is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mrs. Louise Wyatt is the Safeguarding Link Governor.

If you have worries or concerns about a pupil, please don't hesitate to speak to one of the people named above, in confidence.