

Newsletter
Friday 9th December 2016

Christmas Fair

Our fantastic Christmas Fair kicked off our festivities this year. There was a great turn out and everyone enjoyed the games, activities and stalls. The café was as popular as always and the choir sang a whole raft of Christmas songs to get us all truly in the mood.

Thank you to everyone who turned out on the night to support school as this earned the FOHJS fund more than £1000 which is an amazing amount. Thank you to all the FOHJS, school staff and especially to Rachel Cartwright for putting on such a great event for our community.



Football Champions

Our Year 5 boys' football team won the final of the Floodlit Cup at Colne Valley High School last Tuesday night. They saw off some strong opposition winning two of their games and drawing in the other. They played extremely well. We are very proud of them!

Also, on Wednesday night, our Year 6 boys' team played really well coming 2nd in the championship overall. A superb achievement!

As always our teams were great ambassadors for our school showing great sportsmanship and demonstrating all our Golden Values. Well done to them all.

School Improvement Plan Update

Mathematics - Our teachers have had lots of training around mathematical reasoning and problem solving and this has been immediately implemented into lessons. The children in turn are working hard to explain their mathematical thinking to show their developing reasoning skills. We would appreciate it if you could encourage your child to explain their mathematical strategies and thinking to you too when they are working at home.

Good questions to ask are:

- How do you know that...?
- So if you know (e.g. 10×6 is 60) what else do you know?
- Tell me about your thinking when you came to this answer.

Handwriting - As part of the new Age Related Expectation for pupils it is expected that they use a joined script and that all letters are proportionally correct so that it shows a child's understanding of capital letters. Last year, and again this year, pupils cannot achieve the standard of Greater Depth in writing if their handwriting doesn't join. We anticipate that this will become an expectation in order to simply meet the Age Related Expectation required in future years. We are, therefore, preparing our children as best we can so that their handwriting doesn't limit their attainment. Our new handwriting scheme is already having a positive impact on pupils' presentation of their work and they tell us they are proud of their handwriting skills.

Funky Pharaoh Friday

Today, our Year 3 parents, family and friends were invited to come and celebrate the children's Ancient Egypt topic work. Thank you to everyone who came along to join them.

Wolf Brother Tea Party

Our Year 5 classes have had a wonderful morning as they arrived to find their classrooms fully transformed into tearooms with cake stands and china teacups and saucers. This was all part of their Wolf Brother shared book work as they were discussing the text, developing their comprehension, speaking and listening skills and having a great time in the process.



Local Christmas Events

Holmfirth film Festival introduces its Autumn schedule with newly re-released classics and cult films, the best film of the year, crowd-pleasers, wonderful films for children during the holiday period and a blast into Christmas with '70s pop magic.

Check out their full schedule at - <http://www.holmfirthfilmfestival.com/>

Parents' and Community Prayer group

Some of our parents and community members have joined together to create a prayer group for the Infant and Junior School. They will meet each month to pray for us all. If you would like to join them they are meeting in St Mary's Parish Rooms at 12:30pm on the 12th December. We thank them in advance for their kind prayers.

Festive Thanks



Thank you to 6S, Bailey, Evie, Ben, Alice, Mr Spooner and Mrs Hampshire for creating our lovely tree display as part of last weekend's festival at Trinity Church. The children used cross sections of a branch that Mr Spooner had prepared for them to create their own unique wooden baubles which looked great on the tree. Everyone commented on how original they were.

Thanks also to Evie D's grandma who knitted our wonderful nativity set which is on display in the main hall. It looks beautiful.



Holme Valley Foodbank

If any family needs emergency food there is help available via the Holme Valley Foodbank. Vouchers can be obtained from our school or the doctor's surgery. This is a confidential service which provides help before proper arrangements can be made. If you need help on a more regular basis please contact the Local Welfare Provision team on 01484 414782. Confidentiality will be respected at all times.

Diary Dates

Date	Event / Activity
Tuesday 13 th December	Year 5 Christmas Party (morning)
Tuesday 13 th December	Christmas Service in Church 1:30pm
Wednesday 14 th December	School Christmas dinner
Wednesday 14 th December	Year 3 Christmas Party (morning)
Wednesday 14 th December	Pride Time whole school reward for demonstrating our Golden Values and earning 30 000 dojos! Pantomime performance of Aladdin
Thursday 15 th December	Choir performing at the Trinity Centre for our senior citizens
Thursday 15 th December	Year 4 Christmas Party (morning) Year 6 Christmas Party (afternoon)
Thursday 15 th December	Christmas Film night 3:30-6:00pm
Friday 16 th December	School closes for Christmas
Wednesday 4 th January	School opens (Tuesday 3 rd INSET day)
Friday 17 th February	School closes for half term break
Monday 27 th February	School opens
Friday 7 th April	School closes for Easter break
Monday 24 th April	School opens for the summer term
Week commencing Monday 8 th May	SATs week for year 6 pupils