



December (2) 2011 Newsletter

Christmas Performances

Thank you to everyone who came to watch our Christmas performances of *The Donkey Seller* and *Busy Busy Bethlehem*. We were very proud of all of the children for their contributions to the performances. Many people commented on the high quality of the performances and I know that for many people it is not until they see the Christmas Performances that they really feel that the festive season has begun. A total of £404.60 was collected after the performances and will be donated to The People's Kitchen in Newcastle who provide meals for homeless people. They face real challenges with the low temperatures and have asked that I pass on their thanks for your generosity.

Cookery Club - Christmas Gifts

The Cookery Club delivered mini Christmas Cakes and Christmas Cards which they had made to all of the elderly residents living in the bungalows opposite the school. This was a really thoughtful gesture on their part and was really appreciated by our elderly neighbours. Thanks to Mrs Winskell and Mrs English for their hard work and dedication to expanding the range of events that the Cookery Club are involved in.

Christmas Choir

Well done to all of the children who have participated in our Christmas Choir. After many weeks of practicing they have been "gigging" in and around Ponteland this week. Their performances have been enjoyed by the elderly residents of Athol House and Ponteland Manor, shoppers in Sainsbury's and customers at Dobbies Garden Centre.

Special thanks go to Mrs Shell for taking the lead role with the choir and for ensuring that they have learnt a wide repertoire of songs to suit all audiences.

St Oswalds Christmas Beanies

Thank you to everyone who has bought a St Oswalds Christmas Santa or Snowman. £190 has been raised for this very worthy cause.

Christmas Service at St Mary's Church

Our annual Christmas Service will take place in St Mary's Church on Friday at 11am. We hope that many of you will be able to join us.

Keeping Up With The Kids Courses

Well done and thank you to all of the parents who completed the Keeping Up With The Kids Literacy Course this term. We received a fantastic story sack in school to support *The Gruffalo* which was made during the course.

Next term there will be an opportunity to complete a Keeping Up With The Kids Numeracy Course. The course will run on Thursday afternoons from Thursday 19 January for 8 weeks. An introductory session and an opportunity to sign up for the course will be held on Thursday 12 January at 2.15pm.

On behalf of all of the staff we would like to wish all of our children and their families a very merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous new year.

Dates for your diary in Spring Term 2012

Tuesday 3 January	Training Day - School closed to pupils
Wednesday 4 January	School opens for children
Thursday 5 January	Y3 swimming begins
Thursday 12 January	2.15pm Introductory session for Keeping Up With The Kids Numeracy Course
Thursday 19 January	1.15pm Numeracy Course begins
Wednesday 1 February	Y4 Robinwood residential visit
Friday 3 February	Y4 return from Robinwood

The above dates are those envisaged by the school and may be subject to change

L Blain
Head Teacher
15 December 2011