

# MOORSIDE INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Issue: 14

17<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well.... some of you must feel like you live at school at the moment. It was great to see so many of you at the Key Stage 1 Nativity last week. The children did so well and even soldiered on through Friday afternoon, when we had some poorly children and some off school too! Super entertainment and it made us feel very festive. We look forward to the children in the Early Years and Key Stage 2 putting on their own plays this week!

A group of 10 children from Years 3 and 6 serenaded a huge audience in Ripon Cathedral on Saturday evening, alongside pupils from the other Primary schools in Ripon. I was very proud of them all, not just for braving the extreme weather conditions but for singing so beautifully and behaving so well.

I sent a letter out on Friday about our reported data. I hope that you had the chance to read it - I really appreciate the time taken by parents to email me with comments and questions and always welcome your feedback as it does inform our decision- making. Comments on Facebook pages can damage the reputation of a school, our children's school, and does not help us to find solutions and make positive changes to continue to improve. Please share them with me.

The staff work tirelessly at Moorside to provide the best education through an exciting curriculum, designed to meet the needs of the community that we serve. I would like to personally thank them for their unwavering efforts during a busy half term, when the Infant school had the Special Measures judgement removed, and steps towards securing consistency and further improving teaching and learning across the Infant and Junior schools have been made.

I would also like to say a special thank you to our Friends of Moorside Schools volunteers who have worked incredibly hard this term raising much needed funds for our children. They have also supported all of our performances, by making refreshments and making everyone feel welcome – thank you very much!

Our children in Nursery and Reception are well settled in their routines and are using their learning environments to develop their early number and communication skills through play. The children in KS1 have learnt all about countries and capital cities in the United Kingdom, and castles and dragons through a range of stories, songs and hands-on learning experiences. In KS2, the children have been immersed in their learning about the war, relating to their place knowledge of different countries in Europe. All our children have practiced their skills in calculations and place value understanding in Maths and more and more children are beginning to apply their skills in problem solving contexts. Reading Plus has been introduced in KS2 and we have had two successful reading cafes this term to improve our reading outcomes. Our Nurture provision is now well established and we are continuing to find ways to evidence the learning and links to the curriculum that take place outside the classroom in Forest schools, which the children love. What a busy term!

**This Thursday is Christmas party day.... the children can wear their own clothes and we have a party lunch planned!** The old fella in red will be returning to hand out a Christmas present from school, and I am sure the teachers have some fun games up their sleeves!

If I don't see you at one of the performances or Carols Round the Tree this Friday at 2.00pm, I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope you have a restful holiday and that the children don't wake you up too early on 25th December.

Thank you again for supporting the school in all the events leading up to the end of term. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 8th January!

Best wishes,

Mrs Rowett

## **Class Updates**

**Nursery** – Nursery are going to be exhausted by the end of the week! We have two nativity plays, a Christmas party, and a visit from our new starters. In between all of these activities, we will be finishing off our Christmas decorations, calendars and cards. We will end the week with the snowman and some popcorn!

**Reception** – We are busy in Reception this week performing 'I Spy Christmas'. We hope you enjoy watching it as much as we do performing it! We are also making lots of Christmas crafts and have our Christmas party to look forward to on Thursday.

**Year 1** – This week in Year 1 the children will be coming home covered in glitter as we make our cards, calendars and Christmas crafts! On Thursday, we will have our Christmas party so the children can come to school in their party clothes that day. We will also be completing our descriptive writing of Winston, the mouse who saved Christmas, using all of the adjectives that we gathered this week. Tuesday will be our final PE session of the term so PE kits will be sent home afterwards.

**Year 2** – In Maths we are feeling very Christmassy! We are busy sorting elves and presents into different charts, graphs and pictograms. In Literacy we are exploring settings and feelings. To help us we are watching some John Lewis and Aldi Christmas adverts. We will use these adverts to create our own settings and character descriptions.

**Year 3 & 4** – In Year 3 and 4 this week we are looking forward to performing for an audience and showing off all our singing and acting. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do. We are creating calendars for 2019 and Christmas cards as well as having Christmas parties, Christmas quizzes, Christmas singing and all other things Christmassy!

**Year 5** – This week in Year 5 will be filled with lots of festive activities. As well as our Christmas play performances, we will be getting crafty as we will be designing and creating our own calendars, using our Maths skills to solve Christmas puzzles and preparing for our party and Carols Round the Tree.

**Year 6** – What a busy term it has been! Year 6 have worked extremely hard this term and will be enjoying some well-deserved exciting Christmas activities this week, before the holidays begin! This afternoon was our first performance of 'Christmas 1914' and this will be followed by our final performance tomorrow afternoon. On Wednesday, we will be baking Christmas cakes and making calendars, and Thursday is our Christmas party! On Friday, we will be decorating our cakes, ready to be judged, before Carols Round the Tree at 2.00pm. Amongst all the exciting festive activities, we will also be squeezing in some Christmas Maths and Writing! The children will be certainly ready for their Christmas break! 😊

## Attendance

To date:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
93.80	93.31	95.35	97.73	95.71	96.43	96.77

Last week:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
91.25	92.50	94.00	96.67	96.25	92.12	97.60

## Diary Dates

Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS Nativity 9.30am – Tea/Coffee in the hall from 9.00am
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Performance – 1.30pm
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Carols Round the Tree – 2.00pm
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Holidays – School ends at <b>3.00pm</b>
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Back to School