

## Half-termly newsletter: 16th December 2022

### Dear parents,

What a wonderful end to the Autumn Term. We have enjoyed so much, including the Scarecrow Festival, Harvest Festival in the church, Christmas Fayre, Christmas plays and Nativities and finishing off with a lovely pyjama day and Christmas films. The children are ready for their Christmas holidays!

Individuality Excellence Adventures This terms focus is – Individuality

School Values

We are looking forward to Mrs Kennedy returning and Mrs Ismail joining us in January and we already have some fantastic activities planned for the children next term.

We all hope you have a really lovely, restful Christmas and a happy New Year.

Mrs Proudman

### A sad goodbye

We are sorry to say goodbye to Miss Boyle today but we would like to say a big thank you and to wish her well in her new role as an Education Health Care Plan case worker, where she will be helping children and families with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

We will miss you Miss Boyle. Good luck!

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

The children looked fantastic in their Christmas jumpers. A huge thank you to those of you that



could donate to 'Save the Children', we know your contribution will make a difference. We raised a grand total of £103. Well done everybody!



Christmas dinner!! Thank you to Caterlink who pulled out all the stops to serve 85 dinners despite only expecting the 50 that had been pre-ordered!

### **Upcoming dates**

Wednesday 4th January — Back to school!

Friday 13th January pm —Old John Forest School

w/c Monday 20th February — Half term





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### **House Winners**

### The house winners this half term are Fallow Deer, a huge well done everyone!

### **Linford Class**

The children have had a great term learning all about castles. They loved their mediaeval banquet and they have been absolutely amazing managing to put on 2 Christmas productions. They were fantastic in their play 'Snowman at Sunset' and then they performed a brilliant nativity story at the church. It was lovely to see so many parents come to watch them. We are so proud of all of them.



Mrs Hamm







### **Bradgate Class**

This term Bradgate class have enjoyed a lesson in Bhangra dance; listening with concentration, finding a beat and putting together a fantastic sequence. Our topic this term, Celebrations, has allowed children to reflect on how they celebrate different events as well as celebrations in other cultures and communities. Bradgate class have worked extremely hard to practise their Christmas performances too!

Bradgate class have worked hard as sciences; investigating how important it is to wash our hands, eat well and exercise. We have also looked closely at our five senses and parts of the body - in one experiment we looked to see whether people with bigger feet need bigger gloves.

Next term we are going to look at Explorers and our initial literacy focus will be writing to inform as we create fact files.





Miss Pearce and Mrs Burfoot



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### Tyburn Class



Tyburn have had a fantastic term learning all about the Americas. We have researched countries and landmarks in North and South America and compared them to the UK. We learned about Roy Liechtenstein and created our own art inspired by his work.

In Science, we have been learning about forces and magnets. The children have completed lots of investigations into what materials are magnetic and how magnets can attract and repel each other. They used their learning to write fantastic non-chronological reports about magnets which they have turned into beautiful double page spreads. Tyburn have also written instructions for packing for a trip to America and a narrative about Winnie the Witch. In maths, we have been practicing our times tables and are becoming more confident with them every day.



Tyburn have had a wonderful time practicing for our nativity and singing our Christmas carols. Keep up the good work Tyburn!

### Miss Boyle

### **Old John Class**

What a half term it's been for Old John!

We've written a suspenseful, tense narrative inspired by the short film Alma, written a persuasive text to convince parents to bring their children to our school, as well as an informative text about the discovery of a hidden Mayan temple. The children have worked incredibly hard on these.



In our Maths, we've been developing our understanding of fractions, multiplication, division and measurements. This is really tricky stuff, but the class have shown that they're up for a challenge and also able to work really well as a team to solve these problems.



In our Theme, we've been learning about the Mayan Civilisation in Central America. The children have got to grips with Mayan glyph writing, geographical work around the region, and have developed their understanding of the Mayan's mythology and religious beliefs.

Our art, of course, has been very Christmas-y: the children have created some fantastic art for their cards and our classroom. Our last piece of work for this year is going to be our Nativity performance.

Well done Old John – let's keep up the great mindset and progress.

Mr Brierley and Miss Hammond



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### Trips

We have organised some trips for the Spring and Summer terms. Old John and Tyburn are looking forward to visiting Think Tank Science museum in Birmingham; Bradgate and Linford will be going to the Curve Theatre to see a performance of 'Room on the Broom' and also to Twycross Zoo. Dates and details



were emailed to parents last week and further information about each trip will be available nearer the time.

### After school sports clubs



In addition to Mr Barley's clubs, we have organised some other activities for your children to take part in after school. There will be a martial arts club on Thursdays and Laser Tag on Fridays. The clubs will be run by a different sports coach and we hope to get these up and running during January. Parents will book and pay for places directly with the coaching company and further details about how to do this will follow in the new year when we have a start date confirmed.

### Breakfast club

We would like to offer the children opportunities to take part in different sports before school. However, because sometimes the children aren't arriving until close to school registration time this is making it difficult to organise. Mr Barley has requested that children are dropped off by 8.00am at the latest to allow time for a proper sports session to take place.

### Forest School

We are pleased that Bradgate Park now have their own



trained instructors and will be taking over the running of our Forest School sessions. We will be letting each class know when it's their turn and what the children will need to wear.

We are beginning with Old John Class and their first session will be on 13th January.

### **Y6 Apprentice Project**



Our Year 6 teams did an amazing job with their apprentice project. We had a chocolate tombola, cake stall and a guess the name competition. Overall they made £330.32 and get to keep half of this to spend on a treat of their choice.

### Music

The children are loving their piano and drumming lessons and our hand bell band is up and running. We are planning on more opportunities for the children to perform next term. There are children on the waiting list to take up piano lessons. We will get in touch with you if a slot becomes available



(this will be if a child decides to stop having lessons in school)

### ΡΤΑ

We've had such a busy term fundraising. Thanks to everyone who bought raffle tickets and congratulations to all our winners who were announced on Thursday 15th December. We will have contacted you if you were a winner. We will be in touch in the new year with details about the next events we are planning for you. Have a lovely Christmas.

The PTA.



# **Christmas Fun**