

Dronfield Junior School Newsletter 14 5 December 2016

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As I hear the Y3s and Y6s singing and practising their lines, I do marvel at how fortunate we are to have children wanting to showcase their best in a range of situations. If your child is performing over the next fortnight, please do come and support them – may I suggest that it could be the highlight of your Christmas festivities? I know I am looking forward to seeing all our children performing, starting on Tuesday with Miss Rogers and her class playing the clarinet.

Our hall and entrance are now beautifully decorated thanks to Miss Spencer, Mrs Myers, Mrs Cooper and our teaching assistants. Kids Club were in our hall on Friday afternoon. It was very atmospheric with the Christmas decorations, the Christmas songs and the sense of awe and wonder children bring to this time of year.

Table Tennis – huge congratulations to our boys' and girls' table tennis teams who both scooped the first place trophy, declaring them County winners. A special well done to **Daniel Wing, Matthew Stewart, Jack Aiken, Josh Vandrill, Freya Hammett, Isobel Ryder, Jai Kang** and **Mayia Gandy**. All will go on to represent Derbyshire in the Regional Finals held in Bradford in January.

Natascha Engel's Christmas Card – Congratulations to **Amy Wolsterholme** who was one of three runners in Natascha Engel's Christmas card competition. Her design is featured on Natascha Engel's Christmas card and will be sent to the Prime Minister. Well done Amy, there's not many people who can say that Prime Minister will have the opportunity to enjoy their artwork! Natascha also sent certificates to **Ellie Lester, Sophie De'Ath, Kaitlyn Holmes, Isabella Tomlinson** and **Sharanya Surgu** – well done to you all too.

Clarinets – **Y4CR** will be showcasing their talents on the clarinet on **Tuesday 6 December** 2016 at 9.15am. They will have spent 10 weeks learning how to play the clarinet as part of the Wider Opportunities programme which is funded by the school.

Bags 2 School – Our next Bags 2 School collection is **Tuesday 6th December**. If your child hasn't already, he/she will be bringing home a bags2school sack. We would really appreciate it if you could fill the bag with clothes you no longer. This is a great opportunity to de-clutter the wardrobes before Christmas! School directly benefits from donations, so any clothes donations are valuable to us, please do not feel you have to fill the bag. The bags for the collection should be dropped off on Tuesday morning (6 December), just inside the main school gate. Unfortunately we cannot accept bags before 6th December. **Thank you in advance.**

Gymnastics - Congratulations to **Libby Wilson** in Y3 who took part in the Yorkshire Women's Artistic Gymnastics Team Competition, Level 6 in Catterick at the weekend. Her gymnastic team won gold. Well done Libby!

Head Lice - There has been an outbreak of head lice in your child's year group. Will you please check your child's hair now and continue to do this on a regular basis. Advice and leaflets can be obtained free from the Health Centre. If your child has got head lice, please see your G.P. or chemist to obtain the recommended lotions.

Well done to Cosmo and Maxim Johnson who have had a great weekend at the second South Yorkshire Indoor Open Athletics Series. They both achieved a number of new personal best times in their events.

Reindeer food – A bag of reindeer food will cost £1 and will be sold at afternoon breaks. The profits from this fund-raising will be shared between St Bernard's Animal Sanctuary and the Rotary Club Fishtail fund as we have sponsored a student in Nepal.

Fun Christmas Quiz – So how well do you think you know the DJS staff? We're a talented bunch, in more ways than one!! Do you know, for example, which of us plays lead guitar in a rock band? Or which of us has cycled from John O'Groats to Land's End? Try answering these and many more questions by taking part in our multiple choice Christmas quiz – and be in with a chance of winning a prize! Quiz sheets will cost £1 and will be on sale in the hall at afternoon breaks again this week. All those with correct answers will go into a draw on the last day of term and the prizes will be awarded.

Walking Home Incident – We have been informed today of an incident that occurred on Friday afternoon, at the end of the school day, where one of our children was reportedly approached and offered a lift home by an unknown gentleman in a red car near Green Lane. Since finding out this information, we have contacted 101 and notified Derbyshire Police of the incident and would ask that all pupils and parents remain vigilant on their journeys to and from school at all times. We have also spoken to all children today and reminded them of stranger danger. If you do witness any suspicious activity please report it to 101.

Christmas Post box – the school Christmas post box will be operating from today, Monday 5th December. Please ensure that cards posted have the receiver's full name and class on the front of the envelope.

Christmas Party Days – our Christmas party days are taken in year groups. On Christmas party day, your child does not have to wear school uniform and can come in party clothes or any clothes they wish – please, however, be mindful of the cold weather and ensure that your child is dressed appropriately – thank you! Party days are as follows: Y3: Thursday 15th December; Y4: Tuesday 13th December; Y5: Monday 19th December and Y6: Friday 16th December.

Christmas Dinner – a reminder that Christmas dinner is **Wednesday 14th December** and **advance notice that we will be asking all our pupils to wear a Christmas jumper or Christmas colours on that day. If you have requested a dinner and your child does not already have a dinner on this day, please send £2 in a named envelope to school as soon as possible to cover the cost.**

Christmas Concerts

Year 3 will be performing a concert on Tuesday 13 December and Wednesday 14 December in the Infant Hall at 6.30pm. Tickets will be £1 each and will be available today, Monday 5 December 2016 (2 per family). Any remaining tickets will be available from Thursday 8 December on a first come, first served basis.

Year 6 will be performing a Christmas Carol Concert at St John's Church. The first performance will be on Friday 16 December 1.30pm and then on Monday 19 December at 6pm. 2 tickets per family will be available from Monday 12 December. Any remaining tickets will be available from Thursday 15 December, on a first come, first served basis.

Year 6 Trip to Llandudno June 2017 – the deadline for deposits for this trip is Friday 16 December. If you have not received a letter, a duplicate copy can be collected from the office.

All our newsletters are available to view and download from our website – www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk