

16/12/22

Dear parents and carers

We have come to the end of a very busy term. It's been a real pleasure and privilege to be able to welcome you all back into school for all our usual events. I can barely believe that this time last year we were unable to let any visitors into school; parents evening was over the phone; our nativity production was filmed rather than a live performance and we couldn't even begin to think about holding a winter fair. Parents evenings were held in person again this term and we also held an open evening for parents thinking about new school places to reception. Thank you to all of you who completed our questionnaire – I will share the results with you in January.

This term we welcomed a new cohort into the Margaret McMillan Family – and all the children in our reception classes are now well and truly settled in.

The children have been on a number of educational visits such as Northern Ballet (Y5), Wyke Cycling Circuit (Y5) Cliffe Castle (Y4), Lister Park (Y1) and Year 6 have been on their week-long residential to the Lake District. We have welcomed visitors into school including Y1 weekly Yoga sessions and Y4 are continuing with the storytellers Project. KS2 enjoyed the Plummer Drummer performance as well as other guests to our assemblies.

This term we raised £1287 for good causes including the Islamic Relief Pakistan Flood Appeal, The Anti-bullying alliance and Children in Need. Our winter fair was a wonderful event – and although we raised £650 for school fund, the real purpose was to come together as a school community, which I think we did. Our School Council held a Christmas card competition, and the winners they chose from each class and overall winners are listed on the school newsletter. It was a hard decision for them. Well done to all of you for taking part.

Our Nativity performance from the Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 children was a big hit, the children sang so clearly and brilliantly – including three children who sang on their own (wonderful and very brave) and the actors and narrators were excellent. I know those that saw it would agree with me.

Our focus on reading continues; we have held Spooky Stories and our school Librarians chose and delivered books to every class for their Christmas Storytime in school. Our choir and orchestra joined the other Priestley Academy Trust schools at the end of each half term to play and sing together – this is something we will continue to do. Our Christmas parties were held yesterday – thank you if you were able to send some food in to share, the children had a lovely time.

Mrs Mulholland, our Phase 4 Leader is starting a secondment as a Deputy Headteacher in Westbourne Primary for the next 2 terms – we wish her all the best and we will see her again in September. For the Spring and Summer terms, Mrs Johnson (our Phase 3 Leader) will look after year 5 and Mr Walker will support Year 6.



Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful staff who without their hard work and dedication none of these events would be possible.

For those of you who are celebrating, I wish you a Merry Christmas and to everyone a peaceful break and a Happy New Year. See you in 2023.

Lorraine Martin
Headteacher