

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Christmas holiday has finally arrived. 'Tis the season to be both joyous and merry, to eat good food and drink good wine (!), as well as spending happy days with friends and family. Calendars have been made, cards have been written, performances completed, chocolates eaten and presents given out – the last day is upon us! I have lost count of how many days I have returned home only to be told that I have glitter on my face and in my hair, as well as on the 'seat' of my trousers – the perils of festive fun.

This is a hectic time for all of us with most of our energy directed towards getting everything ready for the big day. Our Christmas assembly yesterday was led by Revd. Tim Carter who shared the Christian story with a captivated audience. My message to the children was very simple: be kind to one another. I am a firm believer in the saying, 'What goes around comes around' and will spend until eternity believing in generosity of spirit and kindness in others.

Children and staff alike have been ready for this day for a couple of weeks and all are eager to take time to relax and rest. Have a wonderful Christmas break.

Kind regards,

Wendy Moore

Closing the Autumn Term

Frost Fair 2014

On Sunday 30th November, children from our school choir (Year 3-6) performed at the opening of the final day of the annual Frost Fair at Attingham Park, singing to people as they entered the site. It was a beautiful and crisp, sunny winter's morning and the carols really complemented the atmosphere.



The children sang songs such as Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, We Wish you a Merry Christmas, and the 12 Days of Christmas. Despite some technical difficulties with backing tracks, the children did a fantastic job and did Priorslee proud! Many thanks to all children who represented Priorslee Primary Academy and to all the parents who attended.

Reception and Base 9

Angel Express

The children in Reception and Base 9 presented their Nativity to parents on the afternoon of Wednesday 3rd December. Children chose a character from the story that they would like to be and dressed up in special clothes kindly provided by parents. This ranged from the usual characters of Mary and Joseph to the stable cat. Our four and five years olds sang their hearts out for their mummies, daddies and grandparents. Back in class we have been learning more about the Nativity Story and made salt dough characters from the story for our Christmas Tree.

Next term we are looking at 'pets'. Please could you let either Miss Richens or Mrs Monteith know if you have an 'unusual' pet that you would like to show the children.



Year 1

Year One performed the Nativity with a twist. We hear about Mary and Joseph with the help of paper boys, angels, narrators, some very sleepy shepherds, 3 wise kings/queens, a camel and of course, a donkey! The children used actions throughout their performance and showed how beautifully loud they could speak and sing.



Year 2

On Monday 8th December Base 1 and 2 performed their Christmas production for all of the parents, and what a performance it was! The children sang beautifully well throughout and all of the readers knew when to come out to the front. The children also did particularly well remembering to read their parts loud and clear for the parents at the back of the hall – a big well done to you all! Mrs Lakes and I were very proud of the way you performed.

Many thanks to all parents who provided the children with their lovely costumes – they all looked fabulous and thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. We hope you did too.

Year 5

The Year 5 performance of *The Christmas Dove and the Woodcutter* transported the audience to the year 70AD. On a hillside outside Jerusalem two children, Hannah and Simon are guiding their sheep when their grandfather arrives to watch over them during the night. The starlit sky reminds the grandfather of 'the most famous star the world has ever known', and the events leading up to the Holy Nativity are told through his eyes. The performance mixed fantasy with tradition, music and dance and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Year 3

On Wednesday 10th December Year 3 performed 'A Christmas Carol' to link with their topic this term. The children really sang their hearts out and thoroughly enjoyed themselves performing for all those who came to support them. A huge thank you to all of the parents and grandparents who have once again come up trumps with costumes and props. The children did a fantastic job of delivering a huge performance. Well done Year 3.



Year 4

Year Four parents were taken 'around the world' to discover how Christmas is celebrated in different countries. The guiding angels took the audience to Poland, Australia, Malawi, China and the USA where they were shown the customs, cultures and songs of these contrasting locations.

The singing was delightful with a stunning solo performance by Seanne Jordan-West and a wonderful Chinese melody was performed by Natalia Toms on her flute. The actors performed with confidence and enthusiasm and they entertained their families throughout. Simply fantastic!



Christmas Calendar Competition

This year Mrs Moore has held a Christmas Calendar Competition for all classes. A winner was chosen from each base. The winners were:

- Reception - Laila Ball
- Base 1 - Eden Hooper
- Base 2 - Yasmine Liu
- Base 3 - Isobel Griggs
- Base 4 - Hannah Thorpe
- Base 5 - Esha Sachania
- Base 6 - Kirsty Kennedy
- Base 7 - Caleb Zhou
- Base 8 - Lewis Enever-Jones
- Base 9 - Bella Jones
- Base 10 - Chloe Nock
- Base 11 - Fatima Ejaz
- Base 12 - Zachary Morris
- Base 13 - Alex Brazier



Tree Planting

We had a fabulous morning of more than 100 parents, carers and grandparents planting trees with pupils. We were successful in a bid to win 105 trees from the Woodland Trust. These trees will promote wildlife and will be a pleasure to watch them as they grow.



Year 6

Bah humbug!

Year Six performed 'A Muppet Christmas Carol' (a comical version of the traditional Charles Dickens story) to a packed house on Thursday 15th December. After visits from three different ghosts, the main character, Ebenezer Scrooge, (played by Ethan Harley) was transformed from a 'covetous old sinner' to a caring and generous family man with an understanding of the true meaning of Christmas. Oak and Willow classes acted superbly, sang their hearts out and entertained their families throughout the performance.



Pantomime Visit

He's behind you!

Children from Year 1 all the way up to Year 6 made their traditional journey to the Pantomime this year in Shrewsbury to enjoy the story of Peter Pan. Once again there was no escaping of taunts for staff member, Mr Cowdrill, who was caught on stage with the children. The panto was full of its usual jokes as well as telling the story of Peter Pan in true Panto style. The children once again were a pleasure to take and all enjoyed the visit immensely.



Christmas performance feedback

There were 8 parents who referenced that they preferred the University to either the hall or church.

BASE	IN FAVOUR OF THE CHURCH	IN FAVOUR OF THE HALL
RECEPTION/ BASE 9	10	39
BASE 8/BASE 7	19	50
BASE 1/BASE 2	7	44
BASE 3/BASE 4	8	24
BASE 5/BASE 6	4	19
BASE 10/ BASE 11	5	29
BASE 12/ BASE 13	0	7
TOTAL	53 = 20%	212 = 80%

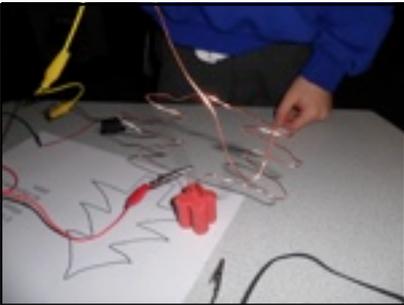
School Roles

Science Ambassadors

The Science Ambassadors are a group of children from Year 2 to Year 6 who are aiming to promote an enjoyment of science and engineering in school.

We hope to share the science that different year groups have been learning about in class and also to encourage and support other children when carrying out science activities.

The Ambassadors met with Mrs Lakes after school on 9th December to make their own 'Steady Hand Christmas Tree' buzzer game. We had good fun putting together our circuits and trying out each other's games.



Visitors to School

Circus Workshop

Reception and Base 9 enjoyed a 'circus workshop' in December whilst the rest of the school made their way over to Shrewsbury for the panto. We tried plate spinning, scarf throwing, puppets and many more fun circus activities.



Fire Brigade visit to Year 3



This half term the children in Year 3 have been visited by the local Fire Brigade. They were taught how to spot hazards in the home and what to do in the event of a fire. The Fire Brigade can provide smoke detectors free of charge and will even fit them for you.

Artwork of the term



Christmas Fayre

The school held their annual Christmas Fayre this year. The momentous event would not be able to go ahead without the support of the Friends of Priorslee. The event raised over £2000 which will help to purchase resources for the school.

Parking

Could all who are parking cars to drop children off at school please remember to be considerate to the residents of Priorslee.

Christmas raffle winners

The winners of the £100 christmas raffle went to the Parkin family.