

Newsletter



It was lovely to see so many of you at the **tree decorating** at the start of the month – thanks to Mr Graham, as usual for his efforts in making the school look festive. School Council hosted the event and were delighted with the decorations brought in and made at the time, which made our main Christmas tree look so fabulous – the best yet?

Thanks to Sainsbury's for providing the mince pies and Conyers for their wonderful seasonal music.

AND please pop into Sainsbury's in Yarm to see the fabulous **colouring competition** entries from school – Well done everyone!



The **Family event** was well-attended – Thank you – and raised £456.44 for school fund.

The **Smarties initiative** raised £461.50 for some outdoor schemes, which School Council will lead on...

It is always a highlight of this season to see our wonderful children in their **Christmas performances** and this year despite a variety of illnesses, the shows 'went on' in brilliant fashion. Thank you for being such appreciative and generous audiences – your donations mean that the charity 'Autism parents together Tees Valley' and school fund both benefit from £392.00 each. Thanks to the staff who allowed the children to shine...

The **foodbank** was collected on Wednesday – again thank you for your generosity. We will be having a toiletries collection and starting a further initiative around period poverty (which Y6 strongly approved of in our recent sessions on puberty!) – We will let you know more in the New Year.



This week we have had out **Christmas lunch**, supported by Christmas crackers from Mellors – Thank you –the following was the best/worst joke - *What do lions sing at Christmas? Jungle bells!* Thanks to Dawn and her team in the kitchen for this seasonal highlight. Look out for a very special (magical?) lunch, which is planned for the New Year – some unusual treats and ‘one time only’ lunchtime supervisor team...

Christmas Parties continue this week, and **Christmas jumper day** tomorrow will round off our busy time perfectly. FOYPS will still be collecting pre-loved Christmas jumpers until the New Year. We will send out a parentmail tomorrow to inform you of how much we will be sending to ‘Save the Children’ from your donations.

We have a packed programme planned for next term; with a whole school focus on Maths during the first half term. This will include a week of challenges across the school, culminating in a ‘mega games’ session. We are hoping to be able to buy some maths resources to support this initiative and will provide lots of ideas for you on how to support mathematical thinking with your children... There will also be sessions to provide information for parents about the statutory assessments in the summer – for years 1, 2 & 6 –we hope that you will find them useful.

We will hold another ‘**open Friday**’ session on the 10th January – an opportunity for you to come into school and share with the children what they have been busy learning in their new topic. We will be sending **homework** grids home before the end of term – look out for them – in case you want to make a start on finding out about the new themes.

Another date for your diary is our ‘welcome to 2020’ disco on the evening of 16th January – we look forward to seeing you...

On behalf of staff I would like to thank you for your kind greetings, cards and gifts and look forward to seeing you back in school at 8.55am on **Tuesday 7th January 2020**.

**Wishing you and your families
a peaceful and merry Christmas
and
a healthy happy New Year.**

Jill Wood

