



# MARTINS WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

!5th December 2023



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Learning - In the classroom
- Festive events around the school
- Term Ends: Wednesday 20th December 2:00pm

Although we have a great deal of 'Magic' that goes on in the school every day and it is always wonderful to share the hard work with the wider school community, it is this time of year in particular that gives us the opportunity to share the pupils efforts with you in person. We hope you have enjoyed some amazing events and we know you will join in with thanking not only the children but also all the staff for their hard work and efforts. With all that said we still have some fantastic learning being completed throughout the school.

## Year 1 and 2 Performances - Prickly Hay



There have been 3 wonderful performances of 'Prickly Hay - a Nativity Hoedown' that have been put on this week. The main characters were from each of the Year 2 classes, with a Year 1 class assisting with the singing. It has been fantastic to see the the children perform the festive show.



## Year 6 - English

The learning still goes on around the school and the Year 6 children have been busily creating non-chronological reports about Mount Everest! They have researched, written and presented a wide range of interesting facts. Now, the children are in the process of writing up their finished pieces.



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## Reception - Expressive Arts

In Reception the children have been learning about the Christian Nativity story linked to the very first Christmas. The children have been telling us whether they celebrate Christmas and have learnt that we all have different beliefs and celebrations.

We have been thinking about Christmas traditions and they children have been telling us that they are looking forward to a special visitor on Christmas Eve! They have painted their own pictures of what he looks like.



## Year 2 - DT and Art

This week, Year 2 have been learning how to make a vegetable casserole as a great example of a healthy meal. They prepared all the ingredients and were peeling, chopping, mixing and mashing. They then added different assorted spices to add flavour. They have also been using fruit and their observational and modelling skills to produce clay still life sculptures.

## Key Stage 2 - Festive Concert

The children of Key stage 2 have been practicing really hard and performed 4 amazing festive concerts. There were some old and some new songs with 'We wish you a Merry Christmas' being accompanied by children using sign language. Most songs were sung beautifully by the whole group. Each of the year groups sang a song on their own and a smaller choir, with wonderful soloist, performed a song as well.

In between the carols, we were treated to heartfelt messages from some of the children reading their own thoughts of what this festive time is about and what it means to them. Huge congratulations to all who took part; it was a truly wonderful festive treat. Some of the children's readings have been included below for you all to enjoy!



## End of Term

Please remember that term finishes at 2pm next Wednesday the 14th December.

Please enjoy a safe festive period and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday the 8th of January



## Diary Dates

### EYFS stay and play

Mon 18th December  
Reception 9:10- 10:10  
Nursery 10:30-11:30  
Saplings 10:30 -11:30  
or 2:00 to 3:00

### End of term -2pm

Wed 20th December

### New Term Begins

Mon 8th January 2024

### EYFS tour

9:30 AM Tuesday 9th January

### Parents Consultation Evenings

Tuesday 13th and Thursday  
15th February

### February Half Term

Mon 19th February - Fri 23rd  
February 2024

### Book Fair

Begins Thursday 29th  
February

# What Christmas means to our pupils

This is just a selection of some of the Readings that were read out in the festive concert

Nisha Year 6

Some people think Christmas is all about presents and the food, but for me, Christmas is a time to reflect. It hasn't always been like this though. I remember when I was 7, we had the best Christmas ever. I went to my Auntie's house and had a delicious

Zimbabwean meal – we call it saza. Soup and vegetables to start, followed by ... After that, I sang a Christmas song in front of all of my family – my cousins, my mum and my aunty. They loved it. Not all of my family live in England, my Grandma and Grandad live in Zimbabwe but we always make the effort to call them on Christmas day to say Merry Christmas.

Now that I am older, Christmas means so much more to me. Last year, my Grandad was poorly and sadly passed away a few days after the new year. Although I know that Christmas will still be fun, this year it will be different and we will make sure we celebrate his life when we are all together round the table enjoying our festive meal. We will make sure we call Grandma, because it will be her first Christmas alone. Christmas is a time for believing, sharing and connecting with others – it doesn't have to be about the presents. The greatest gift you can ever give someone at Christmas is the gift of love. That's what Christmas means to me.

James Year 3

This year is a BIG Christmas! We have got 9 people coming to our house to share Christmas with us. Nanny and Grandad will be coming down from Coventry and the rest of our guests live locally. The thing I am looking forward to most is seeing everyone that I have not seen for a while. I am also looking forward to the presents. I have sent my list to Santa – top of my list is a guitar! I have been super good this year, helping out with jobs at home and so I've got all of my fingers and toes crossed that I am lucky enough to get my dream present. I am so excited and can't wait for the day to arrive. Merry Christmas everyone!

Victoria Year 3

My family are Bulgarian so we celebrate Christmas a bit differently. We spend the day with mama, daddy Чичо and баба. This is my mum, dad, uncles and grandma. We decorate the presents and write special messages to each other on them. We play games like pass the parcel and we go out to the park and spend time together. When we get back we eat Bulgarian food instead of a roast dinner, baba always cooks because she loves cooking! My favourite part of Christmas is opening the presents! Happy Christmas, or as we say in Bulgarian, Весела Коледа.

Astala Year 5

What is Christmas all about? As we gather here today, let's remember the true Christmas magic. Of course, we all like the presents, but it is not all about the gifts under the tree, but the love in our hearts and the joy of being together. I have to admit, I do wake up extra early and sneak downstairs to get a quick peek of the presents, BUT, I don't open them! I go back to my room thinking about what they could be, not before I've taken a nibble of the cookies! One year, I nearly got caught and so now I make sure I creep extra quietly. Christmas reminds us the importance of giving, not just material things, but our time, kindness and gratitude. It's the time to be grateful for all the very special people who fill our lives with warmth and laughter.

In the midst of the holiday rush, let's pause to reflect on the spirit of compassion and goodwill that defines this magical holiday. Let us be inspired to spread love and hope to those who are less fortunate.

Isn't that what Christmas is all about?