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'Educating For Life In All Its Fullness'

8th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we said a very well done to the following children for making the extra effort to impress with their work or their behaviour and attitude.

<u>Class 1</u>
Excellent Early Learners Alex E Arthur W
<u>Class 2</u>
Wonderful Work: Joshua D and Florence H Brilliant Behaviour: Jason B
<u>Class 3</u>
Wonderful Work: Harry V and Pippa S Brilliant Behaviour: Joseph A

It has been a very busy week in school. Monday saw the whole school get together to decorate our Christmas tree. Every child in school has made a decoration and added it to the tree. We then had a ceremonial switch on of the tree lights. It looks great. We would like to thank the East Keswick Plant Centre for giving us the tree this year. It is very kind of them to do this for us and really appreciated.

At the side of the photo you may just be able to see our School Elf. Our elf is a 'Kindness Elf' and is moving about school spotting people doing acts of kindness and rewarding them with certificates and a dip in a treats box. Quite a few certificates have been awarded already and we are looking forward to many more before Christmas.



Class 2 shared their performance of Beauty and the Beast with the rest of school on Tuesday and then their families on Wednesday. They were brilliant. A really big thank you to all the children, families and staff who worked to put this amazing production together. If you would like to see photographs there are a good number on the gallery page of the school website.

<https://harewood.leeds.sch.uk/gallery/>

Classes 1 and 3 have been down to Harewood House to see their Christmas exhibition and enjoy the festivities and Class 4 have been to Murton Park today to learn about the lives of evacuees in World War 2 as part of their History topic.



The Harewood Advent Collection

The season of Advent is a time of waiting and preparation. In school our collective worships for the second part of this term are focussing on the Christmas story and Jesus as a gift to the world.

Each year our school makes an Advent collection for a worthy cause, and this year we have been asked by the St George's Crypt homeless charity if we could support their campaign to give gifts to the homeless of Leeds this Christmas.

The charity are going to supply back packs which contain a number of both useful and gift-like things to the people they support. They have asked if it would be possible for school to collect any of the following items.

- Thermal cups,
- Hats,
- Gloves,
- Chocolate,
- Lynx type gift sets,



Our families are always very generous with collections like this and I am hoping that we will be able to make a fabulous collection to support the charity this Christmas. Any donations you are able to send are going to be collected by Thursday 21st December. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Harewood Nativity

Our Nativity performances are being held on Wednesday 20th December. Letters came our about this earlier in the week with the deadline for returning slips being yesterday. By Monday we will be allocating the tickets, so if you have not yet returned your request, please do so by Monday at the latest. From a quick count today, the morning performance looks full. We will only have spaces available in the afternoon at 2pm. **(A copy of the letter and reply slip is attached with this newsletter).**

PTA Bun Sale

Next week is the final PTA bun sale for this term. Class 1 are providing the buns this time, but please remember to send 50p with your child if you would like them to make a purchase.



Tree Planting

School has been working with John Gillian, the Harewood Outdoor Education Officer on a number of projects recently. These included our Eco-Committee spending time on the estate looking at habitats and sustainability (Our classes are all booked in for similar activities during the spring and summer).

John has made me aware of some tree planting volunteer days which families might be interested in accessing during the spring. **I have attached a poster with some information and the link below takes you to the sign-up pages.**

<https://harewood-estate.co.uk/make-a-day-of-it/>

Job Vacancy

School is currently advertising for a 1:1 SEND Support Assistant to cover a maternity leave. The position is to cover for Miss Longthorne who is not going to be with us after the February half term break. If you are interested in further information, or know anyone who might be, please pass on this information. The advert and full details are available on the Leeds Vacancies website. [1:1 SEND Learning Support Assistant \(E2203\) - Harewood CE Primary School | Leeds Jobs](#)

Drama Den

Drama Den on both Tuesdays and Fridays has now finished for this term but will start again after the Christmas Break. Please can any outstanding fees be paid so any payments are cleared and we start fresh in the spring.

Thank you. Mrs Reynolds.

Extra Curricular Clubs

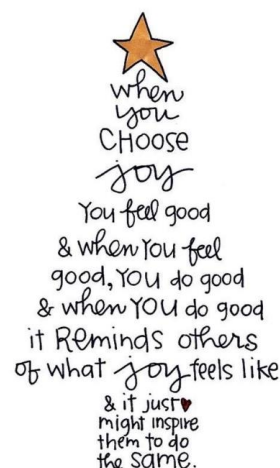
As noted above, Drama Den has now finished for this term. The last Chess Club is this coming Monday so there will not be a club in the final week. Multi-sports does carry on until the last week so there are 2 more sessions for each group.

We will send out information about clubs in the spring term in the coming weeks. Please look out for these.

'Wellbeing Statement of the Month'

December 2023

This month our wellbeing statement has a Christmas theme but equally fits any point in the year.



when
you
Choose
joy

You feel good
& when you feel
good, YOU do good
& when YOU do good
it Reminds others
of what joy feels like
& it just
might inspire
them to do
the same.

Collective Worship Music - Brand New Life – Steven Curtis Chapman and We The Kingdom

This week's song 'Brand New Life' was written by Steven Curtis Chapman as part of the new film *Journey to Bethlehem* and features the group We The Kingdom.

'Journey to Bethlehem' is a new musical Christmas family film that retells one of the greatest stories ever told – the story of Mary and Joseph and the birth of Jesus. It is a joyous musical based on the hope that Jesus brings to the world and makes us think about the true meaning of Christmas. It is very easy as we get caught up in all our Christmas celebrations to forget why we celebrate Christmas in the first place! This song reminds us of the miracle of Christmas and how the birth of Jesus changed the world forever.

YouTube link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHiwpSFNQ3o>

Events and Upcoming Dates

Date	Event
Thursday 14 th Dec	PTA Bun Sale (Class 1)
Thursday 14 th Dec	Class 2 to visit Harewood House Christmas Displays
Friday 15 th Dec	Class 4 to visit Harewood House Christmas Displays
Saturday 16 th Dec	Harewood Village Carol Service
Wednesday 20 th Dec	Nativity performance
Thursday 21 st Dec	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 22 nd Dec	School finishes today for the Christmas break.
Friday 22 nd Dec	No Sunset Club (After School Club) available.

Have a good weekend.

Mr A. Ratcliffe

