



In this issue...

Head's View
Upcoming Dates
Sport's Kit and equipment
Thrive
Upcoming Dates
Letters Sent

Special Awards

Special Award
Winners this Week

There are no Special
Awards this week,
due to our Carol
Service.

Friday 20th December 2019

Well Done!

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FROM MRS GASCOIGNE, HEADTEACHER

Term 2 Issue 7 2019

Dear Mums, Dad and Carers,
What an amazing week it has been yet again. Two nativity performances, visits to Peggy Dodd, Christmas Dinner and a Carol Service.

The Year 2 children were fantastic in their portrayal of the story of the Nativity. As I said after the performances, in all my 30 years in education, I have never seen the Haka performed as part of the nativity or had Del Boy and Rodney make an appearance! The way the staff had knitted together all the different aspects of the story was superb. The message was clear through the lovely words and tunes and the confident singing of the children. There were solos, small groups and whole chorus songs that filled Holy Trinity Church with joy and love. Thank you to the Oak team for supporting the children to shine so wonderfully. Thank you also to the volunteers, John & Pauline Moore and Dawn Blake, who provided refreshments at the end of the performances.

Christmas dinner was also a joyous occasion with cracker pulling, fun and festive food.

Our Carol Service has not taken place as I write this letter, however the preparations for the service allow me to say that it will be a super way to end our term together. The readings and carols, the choir singing and instrumentalists playing cello and trumpet, all add to the festive atmosphere and prepare us for next week so beautifully. Thank you to Mrs Paterson, in particular, for all the additional rehearsals and organisation.

As you pull your Christmas Crackers on Christmas day, I wonder if the different parts might make you think about the nativity story. A cracker contains a surprise - we all love a gift that we are not expecting! Mary definitely received a surprise! The loud bang in the cracker reminds me of the shepherds in the fields who were afraid at their encounter with the angels. The joke in the cracker- I heard some good ones at Christmas lunch in school- reminds me of the prophets foretelling of the birth of a Messiah. All did not understand their prophecies. A king or queen usually wears the hat in the cracker - a crown; the Bible refers to Jesus as king. The small gift represents the gifts the wise men brought and the gifts we share with each other each Christmas.

"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!" *Dr. Seuss, How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*

However you spend the holiday time this year, I hope it gives you time to reflect and be refreshed. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Contact the Governors via feedback@combedown.com
Contact the PTA via combedownpta@gmail.com
Contact the Prayer Group via prayergroup@combedown.com

Sport's Kit and equipment

A huge thank you to Tynings Independent Estate Agents for sponsoring our new Sport's Kit. As you can see, the children look amazing in this stunning sport's kit and they have all remarked how smart and comfortable it is. We look forward to seeing them wear it with pride in the coming terms. Thank you Tynings.

Thank you also to the PTA for funding our new pair of netball posts and nets to enable the netball team to practise shooting at regulation High 5's height!



Thrive

I am delighted to announce that from January 2020, Mrs Paula Creese will take on the role of Thrive practitioner for us. Paula will work alongside Hayley Ashton and Jo Bird ensuring quality nurture provision. I wish to thank Mrs Pooja Kumar for her nurture support in the last two terms, ensuring children continued to receive support whilst we were appointing a new practitioner.

Upcoming Dates (subject to change, please always check the website):

-  20 Dec 19 - Term 2 Ends, 3.15pm
-  20 Dec 19 14:00 to 15:00 - **KS2 Carol Service, HTCD 2pm**
-  6 Jan 20 - Term 3 Starts, 8.45/8.50am
-  7 Jan 20 09:30 to 11:15 - **Open Morning, 9.30-11.15am**
-  8 Feb 20 - **PAT ARTS Workshop**
-  10 Feb 20 - PAT Inset Day, School Closed to Pupils
-  11 Feb 20 15:30 to 17:30 - **Parent teacher meetings, 3.30pm-5.30pm**
-  13 Feb 20 17:00 to 20:00 - **Parent teacher meetings, 5pm-8pm**
-  14 Feb 20 - Term 3 Ends, 3.15pm
-  24 Feb 20 - Term 4 Starts, 8.45/8.50am
-  9 Mar 20 - PAT Inset Day, School Closed to Pupils
-  17 Mar 20 - **STEM Science Celebrations, Ralph Allen School**
-  18 Mar 20 - **STEM Science Celebrations, Ralph Allen School**
-  24 Mar 20 - **Dance Umbrella**
-  30 Mar 20 - **Year 3 Easter experience**
-  30 Mar 20 13:00 to 15:00 - **Year 3 Easter Experience, HTC**
-  31 Mar 20 - **Easter Service, HTCD**
-  2 Apr 20 - **Easter Service, HTCD**
-  3 Apr 20 - Term 4 Ends, 3.15pm
-  20 Apr 20 - Term 5 Starts, 8.45/8.50am
-  22 May 20 - Term 5 Ends, 3.15pm
-  1 Jun 20 - Term 6 Starts, 8.45/8.50am
-  19 Jun 20 - **Inset Day, School Closed to Pupils**
-  17 Jul 20 - Term 6 Ends, 3.15pm
-  20 Jul 20 - **Inset Day, School Closed to Pupils**

Letters home this week:

None

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