

Stockport Grammar Junior School News



2nd December 2016

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter. Christmas is definitely rushing towards us – or perhaps we are rushing towards it! The first Nativities are done and our youngest children once again got the ‘beginning of the end of term’ off to a great start. Their confident, joyful performances thrilled and delighted two large audiences of parents and grandparents. We are all looking forward to see what the Infants have in store for us next week. There is much more for our children to look forward to in the final two weeks of term. There are three pantomimes in store, with one for Infants, one for Y3 and 4 and one for Y5 and 6. We have also organised ‘end of term’ discos for the Juniors whilst the Infants have their own party. On a slightly more ‘serious’ note, we are very much looking forward to our annual carol service. All of the children in Y3-6 take part and we hope that you can all join us for the occasion. Just before the end of term, the whole Junior School will also be joining together for a Christmas lunch. At this time of gift giving and celebration, we also want to encourage the children to think of those less fortunate and we are asking them to bring in presents to place under the tree, as we have done in recent years. You will find further details below and we look forward to handing over a large number of gifts to Key 103 and to the Salvation Army. We also have the marvellous Christmas Fair to get us all into the festive spirit tomorrow. Our wonderful SPA team have been busy getting everything ready for another fabulous day and I look forward to seeing you there.

The Weeks Ahead

Monday 5 th December	Nativity Rehearsal Football v MHSG	KS1 U11	9.30-11.00am 2.30-3.45pm
Tuesday 6 th December	Nativity Performance	KS1	9.15-10.00am
Wednesday 7 th December	Hockey v Terra Nova (A) Nativity Performance	U11 A+B KS1	2.15-5.00pm 6.00-7.00pm
Friday 9 th December	Infant Pantomime Infant Party Football v Birkenhead (H) Netball v Birkenhead (H)	Infants Infants U11 A+B U11 A+B	9.00am-1.00pm 1.00-3.00pm 2.30-3.45pm 2.30-3.45pm
Saturday 10 th December	Stockport Harriers Cross Country	Year 3-6	10.30am-12noon
Monday 12 th December	Pantomime Christmas Disco	Year 5-6 Year 3-4	1.30-3.30pm 4.00-5.00pm
Tuesday 13 th December	‘Elf School’ Carol Service Rehearsal Art Afternoon Pantomime Carol Service , St George’s Church	Reception KS2 Nursery Year 3-4 KS2	9.00am-12noon 1.00-3.00pm 2.00-3.30pm 7.00-8.00pm
Wednesday 14 th December	Singing in the Community Rugby v St Ambrose (A) Christmas Disco	U11 Year 5-6	1.30-3.00pm 1.40-4.30pm 4.00-5.00pm
Thursday 15 th December	Christmas Lunch Art Afternoon	Nursery	12noon-1.00pm 1.00-3.00pm
Friday 16th December	End of Autumn Term		3.35pm

EYFS Nativity

The Reception and Nursery children have amazed their parents and grandparents this week with their delightful Nativity play. The children told the story of *Whoops A Daisy Angel* who was feeling sad as she was never given an important job to do. With the help of her angel friends, she was given the very special job of flying to Bethlehem to tell everyone that the baby Jesus was born. Shepherds, kings and princes visited the baby whilst the stars shone brightly and the innkeepers looked after Mary and Joseph and the animals. The special night saw the snowflakes fall and, with enthusiastic singing from all, the baby was welcomed and Christmas celebrations began.



Primary Maths Challenge

The annual Maths Challenge proved just that for our Y5 and 6 children last week, with some fantastic results awarded in the following categories:

Gold

Josh Kitchen
Harsha Thalava
Nathan Atkinson
George Brown
William McCluggage
Euan McIlwraith

Silver

Alexandra Bloor
Darcy Breen
Juan-Pablo Ramirez
Toby Harper-Jones
Katy Rafter
Ramsey Challah
Alexandra Hartemink
Claudia Fell
Alice Finnie
James Carr

Bronze

Philippa Othen
Joshua Roberts
Emily Lawson
Raees Latif
Kaitlin Dignan
Zayna Khan
Antonia Mills
Jessica Jones
Noah Ng Man Kwong

Are You Smarter Than a 10 Year Old?

Can YOU do the Maths? Come and have a go if you think you're good enough!

Q15 of the challenge was:

In a test, correct answers score 3 points each, but for each wrong answer 1 point is taken away. Sofia answers all the questions in the test, but scores no points.

How many questions could there have been in the test?

A) 18 B) 22 C) 24 D) 25 E) 30

And Q23 was:

Grandpa is getting slightly faster at knitting socks. In the 13 days from 1st November to 13th November he knitted 1001 socks in total, and on each day after the first day he knitted one more than the previous day. How many socks did he knit on the 11th November?

Answers on a postcard to Mr Taylor please.

Charity at Christmas

This year we will be supporting 3 very worthwhile charities.

Key 103 Mission Christmas

This year, Key 103 are hoping to help 60,000 children in Manchester have a happier Christmas and they really couldn't do it without your help. With this in mind, we ask for donations of **unwrapped** gifts, suitable for a boy or girl of primary school age, to be brought into school from next week and placed under our Christmas tree. Thank you in advance for giving more children the Christmas they deserve.

Salvation Army

Any of your donations brought into school after 13th December will be donated to the local Salvation Army and distributed within the local community.

Francis House

Next Thursday and Friday morning, Mrs Turner will be selling 'Christmas Beanies' for Francis House, a hospice supporting very sick children. Each Beanie this year costs £2.00. It would be amazing if we could sell all two hundred!

Fighting Talk from Y4

Dressing up as Celts was the order of the day for Y4C on Thursday. They pretended to be Boudicca and made a speech rousing the troops into battle against the Romans!



An 'Elf' Day of Learning

Our Infants were treated to a visit from children's author and illustrator Steve Antony. With Christmas just around the corner, Steve showed the children several of his books, including his delightful brand new picture book, *The Queen's Present*. He read the story aloud and talked to the children about where he gets his ideas from and how he creates his books. All the children then had the opportunity to do some drawing with Steve as he showed them how to draw an elf! Our Y2 children will now be creating artwork based on the work they produced in order to decorate the Christmas window at *Simply Books* in Bramhall. Do pop in to see their marvellous creations!



SPA News

It's the Christmas Fair on Saturday and we hope that you will all join us for what promises to be the best fair ever. We have a wonderful selection of stalls selling gifts for all the family, some fantastic games for the children and even a rodeo reindeer in the quad... How long will you be able to ride her? Our Christmas cafe will be serving lunch and afternoon tea and music will be provided by our very own 'Big Band'. We look forward to seeing you all join us to set off the Christmas festivities in style.

Junior School Joy at Jodrell Bank

Our Y5 pupils got up close to the world-famous Lovell Telescope as they learnt all about space and planets on a visit to the Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre. The boys and girls had an action packed schedule with lots of activities to inspire and educate them in equal measure.

An interactive workshop allowed pupils to find out about the skills needed to be an astronaut, scientist or engineer and they learnt about British astronaut Tim Peake. Mission training and rocket demonstrations preceded the chance for pupils to control a robot arm and witness an explosion of rocket fuel! The Inflatable Planetarium interactive workshop allowed pupils to explore the night sky and visible planets, view the seasonal constellations and observe the moon.

“My favourite part of the trip was the Inflatable Planetarium because we saw the stars and what happens during the day in the sky. We saw the constellations and learned the ancient names given to them. It was an amazing experience.”

Imogen Barker



Charli-May is in the Running

Congratulations to Charli-May Barnett who won the Stockport Harriers girls' Y5&6 Cross Country race on Saturday, improving on her previous best of 3rd.

The Laws of Gravity

Our Junior School physicists visited the Senior School during lunchtime earlier this week as Sixth Form pupils taught them about forces.



With the use of toy cars, ramps and textbooks, pupils found out about the effect of gravity as they recorded the speed of cars travelling from different heights down the ramps.

Important Reminder

Please note that there will be no Clubs running after school during the last week of term. Lunch time Clubs are unaffected and After School Care will be available as normal.

Pitch Perfect Performances

Our second Junior School Performing Arts concert took place recently in a packed Main Hall. Over 200 parents and relatives witnessed pupils from a range of year groups perform musical and spoken pieces. The concert allowed established groups like the Choir and Orchestra to showcase their talents as well as providing a great opportunity for a number of new groups such as Ukulele and Guitar, Percussion and 'Super Strings' to perform for the first time. These new groups have been set up as part of the continuing expansion of music provision within the school and the audience were thrilled to see the pupils perform. The growing number of children taking LAMDA lessons is also the result of extra provision over the past year. The standard of performance was very high and all of the children had clearly worked hard with their teachers.



'Booking' Our Ideas Up

9 members of our Y3 and 4 accompanied Mrs Jones and Mr Wheeler on an exciting trip to *Simply Books*. The children had an important task to do: choosing brand new 'Free Reader' books for our reading library. The SPA have been very generous in granting money to cover the cost of these books. Sue Steele at *Simply Books* was a super host and helped the children choose. To round off an exciting morning, everyone shared hot chocolate and cake, whilst the children chatted to Sue about the book shop and all the authors and illustrators who have visited.



A Happy Birthday to...

William Lloyd, Sophia Sparrow, Jack Porter, Robert Arrowsmith, Finlay Raynes, Amelia Le Fondre, Benji Miller, Oscar Miller, Robert Morrison, Mia Bentley, Armaan Sawhney, Annabel Huxley, Jackson Oakes, Jameson Chatha, Libby Goodman, Jeeya Patel, Nathan Atkinson and Amaya North.

Children In Need

Our Spotacular Children in Need Day raised an incredible £532.80 this year, including £192.81 from the SGJS Has Got Talent Contest. That's a result that's 'spot on'!

Gala Success Continues

Another fantastic win in the pool for our swimmers last week, beating King's Macclesfield, 273-227. Well done to all our super swimmers.

