

Otley All Saints CE Primary School

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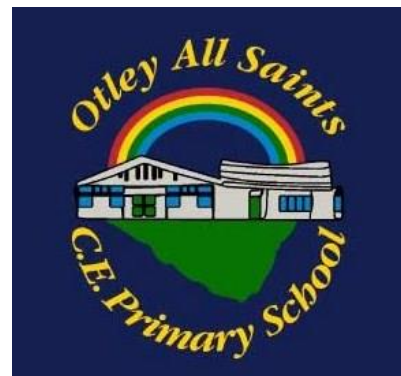


What a brilliant turn out we had for our Christmas Fair on Saturday. We had made an effort to spread stalls out a little, including using our Nursery classroom, but I know it may have felt a little crowded at times! Nonetheless there was a wonderful atmosphere throughout the afternoon, and we are extremely grateful to all who made it possible: our wonderful choir, led by Mrs Fortune, the kind volunteers from All Saints Church who ran the café, and all those who gave up their time to organise and run stalls. Particular thanks go to Hayley Craddock, who organised the brilliant raffle, Helen Forster, who ensured that key stalls were properly resourced, Miles Waring, who kept track of floats and finances, and especially our wonderful chair of PTA, Beth Allcock, who encouraged participants and organised the whole event. Initial estimates suggest we have raised almost £2,000 for PTA funds thanks to you all, and this will provide essential support for the work of the school in the coming year. Our next PTA meeting is on Tuesday 23rd January at 7pm, and it would be lovely to see new (and returning) faces in attendance. Thank you to everyone for the support you give the children and our school.

Thank you to our choir We have been very proud of our choir's contributions this Christmas. Following the Christmas Fair, they performed brilliantly at Otley Victorian Fayre, when the snow brought an appropriately festive feel to the occasion, and today they have delighted visitors to the Christmas Tree Festival at All Saints Church. Well done to all our fantastic singers, and thank you to Mrs Fortune and Mrs Bowman for coaching and encouraging so admirably.



Christmas Performances We will be performing our Christmas Nativity, 'Super Star', in All Saints Church on Tuesday 19th December, with two performances to accommodate all who would like to attend, one at 2pm and one at 6pm. **All** children from Reception to Year 6 will be involved in **both** performances. Our Nursery children will also be performing for their parents and families on Wednesday 20th December at 10.30am in the school hall, and our school orchestra will also be performing for parents in their normal rehearsal time at 3.25pm on Thursday 14th December – all welcome.



This half term our core Christian value is:



Diary Dates

Tuesday 12th December – Year 3 Gymnastics Festival, PHGS

Wednesday 13th December – Afsha Hussein, Muslim visitor, in Year 2

Thursday 14th December – Flu vaccinations; Year 3 Stone Age Day; school Christmas dinner; Orchestra Concert, 3.30pm

Tuesday 19th December – School Nativity, 2pm/6pm, All Saints Church

Wednesday 20th December – Nursery Performance, 10.30am; Y1 /Y2 Christmas Party, 1.15pm

Thursday 21st December – Nur/Rec/Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 Christmas Parties, 1.15pm

Friday 22nd December – Talent Show, 9.30am

Break up for Christmas

Monday 8th January – Staff training day

Tuesday 9th January – Spring term begins

Tuesday 23rd January – PTA meeting, 7pm





Christmas Parties Each class will have a party celebration in the last week of term, and children are welcome to wear (or change into) party clothes on that day: Wednesday 20th December – Year 1 and Year 2, Thursday 21st December – all other classes. We are also looking forward to our Talent Show on Friday 22nd December; we would ask that children who wish to perform tell their class teachers by Friday 15th December, as recent shows have suffered from a number of last minute entries and withdrawals!

Flu Vaccinations, Thursday 14th December You will have received a reminder that flu vaccinations via nasal spray are being administered to all children next week. It is important that you give your consent for this by visiting <https://www.leedsimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>, entering the school code EE133555. This link will close on 11th December. Please do your best to protect your child's health, and others in school.

50:50 Club Thank you to Beth Johnson for conducting our monthly draw, which allows participants to give regularly to our PTA funds and – possibly – win a share of the monthly proceeds. The winners of the November draw of the 50:50 Club were Adele Maher (£92) and Joanne Proctor (£23). If you would like to be included in the next draw please collect a form from the school office.

Poppy Appeal We are proud to have received a certificate from the volunteers at the Royal British Legion, thanking our school community for raising a tremendous £215.23. Thank you all once again for your amazing kindness and generosity.



Class Visits – Places of Worship As a church school we place great value on teaching our pupils about faith, and the important part that religion plays in many people's lives. Part of this teaching is meeting people of different faiths and, where possible, visiting different places of worship. Both our Year 1 and Year 6 classes were able to go on trips in recent weeks – Year 1 to the Madni Mosque in Bradford, and Year 6 to Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha in Leeds – and next week Afsha Hussein of Equilibria will be visiting our Year 2 class once again to talk about her Muslim faith. These are amazing – and important – opportunities for our children to learn first-hand about different faiths and traditions, a key part of learning to understand and respect the diverse cultures that are part of our country. We are grateful to parents for supporting these trips, and to the hosts at the mosque and gurdwara who made us so welcome.

Welcome Spaces Building on the success of last year's 'Warm Spaces', a number of venues across Otley are hosting regular opportunities to meet people and share a cup of tea or coffee over the winter months. Otley Library is open each day except Sunday, from 10am until 4pm (sometimes for longer), and churches and other centres are open at different times across the week. For details, please visit [Otley Town Council website](http://www.otleytowncouncil.gov.uk).



Global Champions Reverse Advent Appeal Our Global Champions decided, when they were first elected, that one of the UN's Global Goals for Sustainable Development that they would like the school to focus on was No.1, the goal to end poverty in all its forms. Under Mrs Steele's guidance, our Reception class have been marking each day of December by adding one essential non-perishable food or toiletry item to a box, so that by Christmas it will be filled with vital supplies for those in need. These will then be donated to Otley Foodbank. If any families (in any class) feel able to donate to this appeal, please send in items with your child to add to the collection in our Reception classroom. Thank you!

Job Opportunities This term we have been able to make staffing adjustments in order to ensure that we can continue to keep our lunchtimes happy and safe, but we are continuing to seek staff to work at lunchtimes. There are opportunities for daily hours, or for a smaller commitment, and it is an excellent introduction to schools for anyone considering work with children. Details can be found on our [website here](http://www.otleyprimary.co.uk), or contact school if you would like to discuss options.