

Otley All Saints CE Primary School

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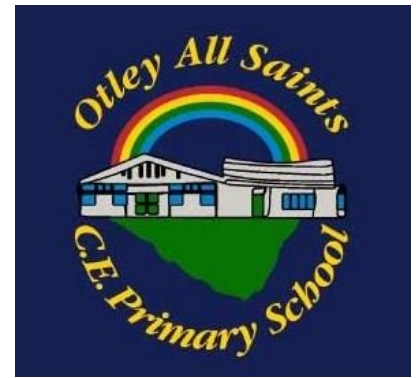
This year's response to the Children in Need appeal from our school community has been extraordinary. It was lovely to see the children's bright and spotty clothes, and the 'Name the Bear' organised by kitchen staff and the Nursery bun sale were once more very successful. However, it was the toy and book sale organised by the School Council, and the 'stand up bingo' during the PTA Quiz Night which really boosted the amounts raised, meaning that as a school we are donating a fantastic £682.20 to this important cause! This is a tremendous effort in these straightened times, and we are very grateful to you all for your generosity.

Staffing News We are pleased to say that we have appointed Mrs Allison Wardman as our new teaching assistant. Currently on the staff at Westgate School, she will be joining us in December. Unfortunately for us, though, Mrs Fawcett has just announced that she will be retiring at Christmas. She has been a vital member of our Nursery staff for 24 years, and the impact she has had on all the children she has supported during that time has been phenomenal. We are very grateful to her for her fantastic and conscientious service to the school, and wish her a very happy retirement.

Reading Ambassadors We are glad to announce the return of our elected library council posts. Newly rechristened, our Reading Ambassadors will encourage everyone across the school to develop their love of reading, and will aim to refresh the stock of books in our library and in classes, as well as planning events such as World Book Day. Mrs Lewis and Mrs Bennett are looking forward to leading the first meeting next week.



PTA Christmas Fair The School Christmas Fair is fast approaching – Saturday 2nd December from 1pm to 3pm – and we really need your help to make sure this is a success. As in previous years we will have games, a tombola, the drawing of our magnificent raffle, a café with tea, cakes and mulled wine, and an early appearance of Santa Claus. Our school choir will also be singing, their first chance to share their Christmas repertoire. If you can volunteer an hour of your time it would be very much appreciated, and would reassure us that the event



This half term our core Christian value is:



Diary Dates

- Monday 27th November** – Year 4 visit to Jorvik Viking Centre
- Thursday 30th November** – Year 6 visit to the Sikh Temple, Leeds (rearranged date)
- Friday 1st December** – Non-uniform day – bring a tombola prize
- Saturday 2nd December** – PTA Christmas Fair, 1-3pm
- Sunday 3rd December** – Otley Victorian Fayre; choir at 12.40
- Thursday 7th December** – Reception and Year 6 classes – height weight and vision checks
- Friday 8th December** – Choir singing at All Saints Church, 2pm
- Tuesday 12th December** – Year 3 Gymnastics Festival, PHGS
- Thursday 14th December** – Flu vaccinations; school Christmas dinner; Orchestra Concert, 3.30pm
- Tuesday 19th December** – School Nativity, 2pm/6pm, All Saints Church
- Wednesday 20th December** – Nursery Performance, 10.30am



is going to be well supported. Please click on the following web link volunteersignup.org/KE4M7 and follow the instructions on the page – it only takes a few seconds to do. We also need your buns, mince pies, cakes and biscuits for us to sell in the cafe. Please can you bring contributions on Friday 1st December, or on Saturday before the fair begins. Thank you in advance for your help.

PTA Christmas Raffle This week you will have received two books of raffle tickets for our wonderful Christmas Raffle. Once again there is a fantastic range of prizes on offer – over 30 at the last count – which means that there is a good chance of winning! Leading the way is a £75 voucher for Stockeld Park's Christmas Adventure, with many any other prizes and vouchers donated by local businesses. Please do your best to sell the raffle tickets to friends and family, and return the completed counterfoils and cash in a named envelope to school. Alternatively, payment can be made via BACS (cheques are not accepted).

Otley All Saints CE Primary PTA

Account number: 71022075

Sort Code: 40-35-33

Ref: SURNAME-RAFFLE

Extra books of tickets can be found in the school office. If any tickets remain unused, we ask that you return them to the school so that others may have the chance to purchase them.

Non-uniform Day As has been the tradition in previous years, we are declaring Friday 1st December a non-uniform day. In return for not wearing school uniform we would be grateful if children could bring to school a tombola prize – a small gift that other families might be pleased to win. In this way we hope to create a tremendous range of prizes to be won at our tombola stall at the Christmas Fair the following day. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Christmas Performances As we shared previously, our Christmas Nativity production in All Saints Church takes place on Tuesday 19th December, with two performances to accommodate all who would like to attend, one at 2pm and one at 6pm. This year's story is 'Superstar', and all children from Reception to Year 6 will be involved in both performances. Our Nursery children will also be performing for parents on Wednesday 20th December at 10.30am in the school hall. Our school choir will be performing for the first time this year at our Christmas Fair at 2pm. This is followed by performances at Otley Victorian Fayre on Sunday 3rd December (12.30 in the market square) and at Otley Parish Church Christmas Tree Festival on Friday 8th December at 2pm. Please support these events if you can. Our school orchestra will also be performing for parents in their normal rehearsal time at 3.25pm on Thursday 14th December – all welcome.



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 month. 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.

Mental Health – Resources for Families Our school pastoral and community leader, Mrs Fortune, has been working hard this term, with the help of Mrs Scott and Mrs Marston, to provide resources, policies and materials to support the wellbeing of children, families and staff. This important work has been recognised in the school's achievement of 'Mindmate Friendly' status, and the renewal of our 'Healthy Schools' award. She has provided a number of valuable links to websites, such as NSPCC and Parenting Smart, and other resources which can be crucial in helping and informing parents of ways to support their own mental health and wellbeing, as well as that of their children. As parents, we have all at one time or another found coping with pressures very difficult, and it is sometimes reassuring to know we are not alone, and to learn from others who understand. Please visit [our webpage here](#), where you will find the links at the bottom of the page.