Edenfield News

Issue 7: 13th December 2024

Head's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we celebrate advent, we have been thinking of the true meaning of Christmas. We have also been lighting the candles on our advent wreath. The candles symbolise the light of God coming into the world through the birth of His son, Jesus. The first candle represents hope, we shared that hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we looked at the light of the candle, we celebrated the hope we have in Jesus Christ. The second candle represents peace and we prayed for Jesus to give us the gift of forgiveness and fill our hearts with peace.

On Monday 2nd December, we reflected further on advent with our traditional Christingle Service. Miss Thomas brought Christingles for each classroom and representatives held these during the service as we listened to the special story of: ***The greatest gift of all.*** A huge thank you must go to Miss Thomas for preparing and providing all the Christingles for our children who were delighted to receive these for their classrooms.



Nativity

This year, yet again, we have been treated to two nativities – **The Twinkly Nativity** performed by the EYFS and ***The Fleece Force*** performed by Years 1 and 2. All of us were stunned at the ability of Class Reception to remember so many words, songs and actions and the acting was also superb! The children were such a credit to you, and their teachers, and there was hardly a dry eye in the house – it was a very special Christmas present for us all. KS1 also delivered an outstanding show including numerous song and dance numbers not to mention laughs a plenty – the acting and comic timing was outstanding; we really do have some comedians in the making! Again, this special performance reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas - that Jesus was the most special gift of all sent from God to save us. A huge thanks must go to the teachers, and support staff, for all their hard work in producing these shows and creating so many special memories for the children and their families. Please enjoy the photographs overleaf. This is what some of the children from both the EYFS and KS1 had to say:

- Charlotte - Angel Gabriel: ***I enjoyed saying my line about the good news that Mary was going to have a baby.***
- Alistair - Shine the Star: ***I enjoyed singing my special line at the end, I used the microphone to sing 'Follow the Star' and everyone pointed at the star.***

- Isabelle-Rose – Mary: ***My favourite part of our nativity was when I had to look after baby Jesus because I was pretending to be Jesus' mummy.***
- Hartley - Glitzy the Star: ***My favourite part of the Twinkly Nativity was singing 'Away in a Manger'. I liked it because it is about baby Jesus and Christmas is Jesus's birthday.***

- Lily: ***I enjoyed playing the part of Constable Jumper. My favourite line was "my wheels - vrumm" when I was pretending to drive a police car.***
- Ethan: ***My favourite line was telling the audience that they have the right to remain silent just like a police officer.***
- Eliza: ***I laughed when Elliot tried to arrest Mrs Garner.***
- Ivana: ***I loved it all, particularly playing one of the Fleece Force.***
- Emily: ***I played Angel Gabriel and my favourite song was the angel's song 'Good News Great News'.***
- Elliott N: ***I loved singing all of the songs and dancing along to them. My favourite one was 'Please Can You Squeeze Us In?'***
- Alex: ***I played a camel and I liked whispering my line 'Shhh don't move!' which made the audience laugh.***
- Winnie: **I enjoyed saying 'Be serious!' to Constable Jumper (Lily) as she was being such a silly police officer.**

Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

On Friday 6th December, we held a Christmas Jumper Day to raise funds for Save the Children. This was organised by Y5 as part of their Archbishop of York Young Leaders' award. The children promoted the event and presented information about this worthy cause during Whole School Worship. Thank you for donating your £1 to ***Save the Children*** to make life better for those children in need of food and shelter at Christmas time. You raised £170 – thank you for your support.

Carols around the Tree

Today, the children enjoyed our annual festive tradition of singing carols around the beautiful Christmas tree. I am sure that you can see from the photograph below, that a lovely time was had by all!





Christmas festivities still to come next week:

- Christmas Parties with TAZ and a special visitor for KS1 (17th December)
- Whole school Christmas lunch (18th December)
- Cinderella at the Manchester Opera House (19th December)
- Christmas Carol Service at Edenfield Parish Church (20th December @1:30pm)

NB – Please be reminded that there are no after school activities next week. These will resume week commencing 13th January.

EPIC

This week Class 3 are EPIC because …

The children have been learning about *Advent* and counting down until the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus. They have acknowledged how it is sometimes difficult to wait for an exciting event, but that the build-up is often just as fun as the actual day! Alternative ways to celebrate advent included celebrating 24 days with daily acts of kindness such as: baking biscuits for a neighbour; donating items to the local foodbank; offering the postal delivery team a drink or a treat; calling a family member for a Christmas catch-up; and donating unwanted toys to charity. During this season of Advent the children have decided to make a conscious effort to do something nice for someone they love. This aligns perfectly with the school's core values and ensures we are following in God's footsteps just as our vision teaches us.

The class have also discussed how Christians prepare for Christmas and the celebration of Christ's birth such as: going to church for special services such as the Christingle, carol service and midnight mass; singing carols; making and writing cards; cleaning and decorating their houses; seeing friends and family to celebrate; buying gifts for the people they love; and making and enjoying nice meals together. Most importantly of all the children focused on the true meaning of Christmas - a time to remember the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It's a time to reflect on love, joy, family, and giving.

Here are some ideas the children suggested to experience the true meaning of Christmas:

- **Give thanks**: Express gratitude for the love, hope, and joy found in Jesus.
- **Exchange gifts**: Remember that the gift of Jesus is that we are loved, never alone, and can have hope for the future.
- **Be charitable**: Become more accepting, generous, and charitable with gifts and emotions.
- **Connect with others**: Be social and share with others.
- **Volunteer**: Visit the elderly, help the homeless, or visit family you haven't seen in a long time.
- **Focus on Jesus**: Discover the personal meaning of Christmas for you.

As this is the last newsletter of the term and 2024, all that remains is to wish you and your families a Christmas filled with joy, peace and cheer, and a wonderful, prosperous New Year!

Warm wishes,

C. L. Garner

Guided by God, following in his footsteps

Our vision is theologically centred on Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path

Nativities






NO ROOM
NO ROOM




BETHLEHEM TOWN
POLICE STATION




The End




Class 1 and 2 star in the nativity production of...
THE FLEECE FORCE


BETHLEHEM TOWN
POLICE STATION
KEEP THE PEACE
OBSERVATION
MAKING CONNECTIONS
CROWD CONTROL







A Week In Pictures



Class 5
Class 5 organised a 'Christmas Jumper Day' for 'Save the Children'.



Class 1
Class 1 enjoyed designing their fruit faces ahead of making these next week.



Class 4
Class 4 have been improving their basketball skills in PE.



Class 2
Class 2 shone like stars in their performance of ***The Fleece Force***!



Class Reception
Class Reception all enjoyed performing in ***The Twinkly Nativity***.



Class 3
Class 3 enjoyed learning about where and why Stonehenge was built before creating a visitors' guide.



Class 6
Class 6 enjoyed their trip to Jorvik Viking Museum in York where they explored a replica of a Viking village and took part in an archeological dig.

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Extra-Curricular Activities

Autumn Term 2024

All extra-curricular clubs have now ended. Details of the new after-school clubs on offer will be sent home, when we return in January.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tues 17th Dec	KS2 Christmas party AM, KS1/R Christmas party PM
Wed 18th Dec	Whole school awards, 9.15am
Wed 18th Dec	Whole school Christmas lunch
Thurs 19th Dec	Cinderella at the Manchester Opera House
Fri 20th Dec	Christmas Service at church, 1.30pm
Mon 6th Jan	School opens for spring term
Wed 15th Jan	Primary School application deadline
Fri 7th Feb	Young Voices, Singing Club

(Additional dates may be added throughout the term)

Royal British Legion

Thank you for your generosity supporting the ***Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal***. The school raised a wonderful £292.67.

School Calendars

The school calendars are still available to purchase on ParentPay, £8 for one or £14 for two. These are available from the school office.

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you for all your support given to our Young Leaders Christmas Jumper Day.

You raised an amazing £170. All proceeds will be donated to ***Save The Children***.

Thought of the Week

The greatest gift of all is free
Jesus is God's gift to
you and me!

Matthew 1:18

STARS OF THE WEEK

Friday 6th December

Reception Class: Macs Egan, Charlie Sanderson

Class 1: Aurora Skinner, Frazier Flanagan

Class 2: Emily Brooke-Steel, Winnie Worthington

Class 3: Alfie Smith, Stylianos Chelas

Class 4: Ailsa Schofield, Tabitha Preston

Class 5: Jack Firth, Connie Formby

Class 6: Isabella Martin, Catherine Riley

2025 Primary School Applications

If you have a child starting primary school in September 2025 you can apply for their place online at https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place

You must apply for a place, even if an older brother or sister already attends the school.

The closing date for primary school applications is:
15th January 2025

Toast

If you would like your child to receive toast for the next half term, the cost is £6.00.

Please make payment via ParentPay, by 9.00am on Monday 6th January. If you make payment after this deadline, please contact the school office to make us aware.

Christmas Parties

Children may come in their own clothes on Christmas party day. Please ensure they are wearing sensible footwear and a warm coat for outdoor play.

Christmas Service

School will finish early on 20th December after the Christmas Carol Service at Edenfield Parish Church. Please note, the children will return to school and be dismissed in line with normal procedure. School will remain open until 3:20pm for those children attending After School Club.

Rossendale Hospice Penny Pinching

A big thank you to everyone who returned their ***Rossendale Penny Pinching boxes***. You raised a fantastic £165.63. The hospice have asked us to pass on their heartfelt thanks and appreciation to you all.