



Barrowby Church of England Primary School



Newsletter

Christmas 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

Well, here we are with only a few more days left before we can all enjoy a well deserved rest. The children and staff have all been extremely busy, here at school and are all looking forward to our Christmas holidays.

This term has been very busy and we have continued to be supported well by our parents and school community, through the many events we have all enjoyed. A very special thank you goes to our Friend's Of Barrowby School who continue to support all our fundraising efforts, as well as the school staff who continue to support and enable all our pupils to benefit from the vast range of opportunities which are available to them, here at our school.

Next term promises to be equally as busy and rewarding. Moving forward, we hope to develop even further opportunities, for our pupils and our school, as we all continue to strive for excellence. This includes the introduction of Tapestry, an online Learning Journal, so that our Reception parents can be actively engaged within their children's learning, as discussed at the Reception Curriculum Workshop in November as well as the introduction of the Spelling Journal, supporting pupils in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 with word related investigations, at home.

You may also be aware that I announced the successful 'Awards for All' bid for the installation of our 'Tree House,' as an outdoor learning base, at our Key Stage 2 Carol Concerts. This funding will cover 100% of the installation costs and should hopefully ensure our 'Tree House' will be erected within the school grounds, before the end of this academic year.

This project reinforces the aim to include our pupils within the strategic development of this school, as the 'Tree House' was conceived by our School Council and should be a wonderful addition to our school grounds and enhance even further outdoor learning opportunities for all our pupils. This week we also revealed our new school banner, at our Christmas Service, which was designed by Mia Shrouder, one of Year 6 pupils from last year and beautifully created by Mrs Clark. This new school banner, symbolises the growth of our school. As part of last year's Year 6 Legacy Gift, it will be displayed in school and used at a variety of events, for many years to come. My thanks go to Mia for designing it, Mrs Clark for creating it and last year's Year 6 for providing the funds, through their fundraising efforts. Thank you.

In addition to this, we are also working with our school Librarians, Year 6 pupils, to further develop our school library. Next term, the aim is to completely refurbish and re-purpose this facility for use by our school community, including: refurbishing/redecorating the room, remodelling the library furniture and re-organising the library so that it can be used by both pupils and our school families at different times across the year.

After Christmas, we hope to establish a small 'working party' comprised of school staff, pupils, governors and parents to work with Miss Sugden and our Y6 Librarians in supporting this development. This project has been made possible through our parental support; last year's fundraising efforts by the Friend's of Barrowby School as well as our school governors who have agreed to provide the additional funds necessary to enhance further our School Library.

As always, my thanks go to all our school community who continue to support our school so that it can continue to grow and thrive. I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to working with you all next term. I hope you enjoy reading this week's news.

Mr L Batey Headteacher

Key Stage 1 Nativity 'Sparkle'



Our Key Stage 1 children shared their wonderful nativity performance with parents, and Grantham Mayor Mrs Smith. The show featured dancing, and lighting effects, as well as some lovely singing. A huge well done to everyone involved. A special thank you to all FOBs members who have given their time freely to organise refreshments and a series of raffles for all our productions.



Key Stage 2 Choir



Our choir have had a very busy time this Christmas Season, which started on Friday 4 December at Walton Girl's High School. As always, they were a great credit to the school.

They performed 'When Christmas Comes to town' and the poem 'Twas the night before Christmas.' Last week, children from our Key Stage 2 choir also sang at The George Centre in Grantham and at Priory Ruskin Academy. They were brilliant!

"I just wanted to drop you a quick email to congratulate your pupils on their outstanding performance in the George Centre yesterday....we really enjoy this time of year, getting to hear the local pupils sing, it definitely puts us in the festive spirit!" A local resident.



On Wednesday 9th December, our Key Stage 2 Choir also journeyed to Lincoln Cathedral to participate in the Cathedral's Carol Service. The children enjoyed the experience and were joined by other Primary Schools from Lincolnshire. The children were an absolute joy. Thank you to all who have supported the Choir this Christmas.



Key Stage 2 Carol Concert

On Thursday 10 December, our Key Stage 2 children shared their Carol Concert with their parents, with two performances in Barrowby Church. As always, the church was full to capacity, and everyone enjoyed the singing, and instrumental items, as we celebrated Christmas together.



Christmas Celebrations

There have been a lot of Christmas celebration events in school, as well as our performances, and community events.



On Friday 11 December, we held our **Christmas Fair**, organised by our Year 6 Fundraising Committee. Many thanks to them, and to FOBS, and school staff who supported them. It was a very busy and successful evening, which raised the amazing total of £973 for the Year 6 Legacy Fund.



Thank you for your support. We still have a few unclaimed raffle prizes in school—please check your numbers and call in if you are a winner.



Monday 14 December was our **Christmas Potted Sports Day**, with all our children taking part in a range of sporting challenges. Thank you to Mrs Banfield and our Sports Committee for organising this event. Everyone had a lot of fun trying the various sporting challenges and activities.



On Tuesday 15 December, the whole school shared our **Christmas Service** together in Barrowby Church, as a time of reflection after the very busy weeks of Christmas performances. During the service, children from each class helped to arrange the church crib, ready for the Christmas services.

At the end of the service, our new school banner was shown to the school. The banner was designed by a Year 6 child last year, and created by Mrs Clark—our thanks to her for her skill and hard work. The banner will be displayed in school, and taken to Lincoln Cathedral for school events such as the Year 6 Church Schools' Festival in the summer.





Also on Tuesday, we revealed our [Village Advent Calendar window](#) 'The 12 Days of Christmas' for the first time.

Our window will also be illuminated, together with the other 23 windows, on Christmas Eve from 4.00pm – 8.00pm. There will be refreshments in church from 6.00pm–8.00pm. Thank you to staff and pupils for creating our window.

On Saturday 19 December, you can see another 'window' made by our Key Stage 1 Craft Club, assisted by Mrs Midgley and Mrs Clark. This will be displayed at Skinners, on Main Street.



Today was 'Party and Panto' Day, which included party games, a visit from Santa for our younger children, Christmas Dinner, with a cracker for every child, and a performance of 'Beauty and the Beast' by West Midlands Children's Theatre.

Our thanks to Santa for finding time in his very busy schedule to visit us, to his 'special helpers' for assisting him with the presents, and to FOBS for subsidising the cost of the panto and crackers, and their other contributions to this special day in school.





Christmas Decorations

All our children brought home snowflake Christmas Tree decorations yesterday—our thanks to the Woodland Trust for kindly donating these decorations.

Autumn Club

This term's Autumn club have been busy making bird feeders for their gardens. They enjoyed learning about why we need to feed the wildlife and how else we can help keep them safe during the forthcoming Winter months.

Lots of mess but lots of fun was had by all!



A gift from a former pupil.

Last week, Millie from Barrowby, presented a copy of a book entitled 'Strong and Mighty Max'. The book was written by Kristina Gray who became an author after her third child was born with achondroplasia, more commonly known as dwarfism.

Achondroplasia is a rare genetic condition affecting 1 in 25,000 births. Children born with the condition can have a range of physical differences, but all of them will have shorter limbs than their peers. Millie, 14, who has achondroplasia herself, attended Barrowby School, and wants the children to enjoy 'Strong and Mighty Max'.

The book encourages children to celebrate that every one of us is unique and different in some way. We thank Millie for her gift which will support us in helping all children at Barrowby School to celebrate their individual gifts and talents.

First Admission to Primary School—September 2016 **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

The process for applying for places in Reception for September 2016 ends on **15 January 2016**, at 12 noon: this is the closing date for parents to apply to Lincolnshire County Council. If you do not apply by this date, it may affect your offer of a place.

You must apply through Lincolnshire County Council, who co-ordinate all applications. Full information can be found on their [website](#), or you can collect an information pack from school.

All parents who have a child due to start school next September (date of birth 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012) must apply through Lincolnshire County Council. —even if an older sibling is already at school.



Important Dates

Thursday 17 December
School closes.

Tuesday 5 January
School-re-opens

Signposting

We are happy to signpost events and organisations which may be of interest to our school community. You can find information about activities for children [here](#), and support services for families [here](#). New opportunities are added frequently, so please check regularly. However, we cannot recommend or endorse any activity or organisation outside of school, and parents/carers must satisfy themselves of their suitability.