



Dear Parents and Carers

The end of term has certainly been one of festive cheer and excitement through the realms of music, song and sharing! We had the excitement of snow falling on Sunday which of course impacted on our ability to put on the Christmas Fayre. However, the Friends and staff rallied around and the Fayre went ahead on Tuesday afternoon and was a great success. The children had something of a novel morning by literally working around the stalls that had been set up previously but they and the teachers managed very well and we soon all got into the spirit of Christmas in the afternoon. Many, many thanks to everyone who supported the event in so many ways and particular thanks to the class reps who went above and beyond to make the event such a success. Also huge thanks to everyone who donated gifts as prizes, we had an impressive display on offer. I

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday we were treated to the Infants' wonderful musical rendition of the Nativity story. Many thanks to everyone who helped with costumes and special thanks to the staff in Willow and Chestnut classes who put so much work into making the performances so successful. The children's singing was really wonderful and many thanks to our Year 2 children for carrying out the main parts so well. I hadn't realised until after the first performance I saw that a number of children had stood in for others who were absent and so special thanks to them for stepping up to the plate so magnificently.

Today has certainly carried on the musical theme of the last couple of days! We had a lovely music concert first thing when not only did we hear our wonderful orchestra play a number of popular tunes but also soloists on the clarinet, cello, piano and recorder. The choir sang two Christmas catchy tunes with actions as well as a moving rendition of 'Silent Night'. After the concert they walked to Barnet hospital where they sang for visitors, patients and staff. And as I write, the children are dancing away at the Friends' Monken Hadley disco.

This time last year you might remember the whole school went off to the pantomime at the Bull Theatre. Well this year we're doing things a little differently and the staff are donning theatrical garb to put on a production of *Cinderella* next Wednesday. I am aware that the Fayre wasn't what had been planned and so we thought it might be nice for the children to really get into the party spirit of the pantomime by coming to school in their own clothes on that day in exchange for a gold coin donation. There is absolutely no pressure to hand in a donation, we just thought it might be a nice way of making a little bit extra for the school in light of the effect the postponement of the Christmas Fayre had on takings (our acting talents aren't so good that we thought we should be paid for it!).

We're looking forward to Monday evening when we hope to see many families at the Junior Christingle Service at St Mary the Virgin Church (7.00pm). Beech class children, choir and orchestra will all be partaking and we'll be led through the Christmas story by our readers to remind ourselves of the meaning of this special time of year.

There are lots of other lovely activities to look forward to next week including Christmas lunch on Tuesday and House activities beforehand. Please note, however, the church service scheduled for Thursday will now take place at the school and will only be for staff and pupils.

This will be the last newsletter of the term and so I'd like to wish you and your families a very a very Happy Christmas and hope that 2018 will be fulfilling and healthy for you.

Miss Froud

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## Key Dates

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- \* Carol service – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm
- \* Christmas lunch - Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>
- \* Pantomime and non-uniform day – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>
- \* Break up - 3.00pm Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>
- \* Children return to school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January.



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## Star Pupils

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Willow - Emilia  
Chestnut - Ollie  
Beech - Ali  
Cedar - Max  
Oak - Marlena