

NEWSLETTER



**ARK Blacklands
Primary Academy**

TERM 2 WEEK 7

18TH DECEMBER 2015



Christmas Greetings!

Everyone has worked incredibly hard to make 2015 another fantastic year for the school. I would like to thank you, our parents and carers, for all your support and wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Lorraine Clark



Things that make me smile...



Seeing our children enjoying the Christmas Panto and looking very festive in their Christmas jumpers!

It's good to be green

This term, each class adopted a tree on the school grounds. Mr Barton led the way, making 5DB's tree an Aspiration Tree,



where the children could share their dreams and goals for the future. Councillor Batsford came to share the occasion. He was very impressed and had the following to say: "The project that the teachers and pupils have come up with is amazing and I know it will reassure many local residents that the school is very aware of the impact they make on their local community."

St Michael's Hospice

A representative from St Michael's Hospice visited us yesterday to collect the generous donation we have been able to make following our recent Christmas Events. She spoke to the Pupil Council about the work the hospice does and passed on her sincere thanks for the enormous £1,400 collected. Thank you to everyone who made this wonderful Christmas gift possible.



School Uniforms

There has been a gradual increase in the number of children arriving at school without a tie or other items of uniform, particularly footwear. We would ask all our parents and carers to ensure the children arrive back to school with the correct uniform, a list of which can be found in the Parents' Handbook. Our uniforms are available from Super Stitch 86.

School Assembly & Concerts



On Monday the Rev. Charles Hill came to the school to lead our special Christmas Assembly. This was followed by our pupils from years 3 and 4 sharing their Christmas songs and poems to parents and carers, which they did again on Tuesday. The children clearly enjoyed themselves and gave lovely performances. Their teachers and TAs wish to say a very big thank you to all the parents and carers who attended and helped make the events so special.



On Wednesday it was the turn of our children from **years 5 and 6**, who performed their carol concert to parents and family at Blacklands Church. The children worked hard to learn carols, both old and new. Each class sang a song, interspersed with all 150 children singing more carols beautifully in the traditional setting of the church. The years 5 & 6 recorder group also played two pieces of music to showcase their talents. It was a truly wonderful way to end the term.



Don't forget!

January 4th and 5th are INSET days. Therefore, we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Wednesday, 6th January.**

Parent Workshop

On Monday, 11th January, 'Drive for Literacy' are offering a workshop for parents on how to support their children with their literacy. Parents will also receive advice on dyslexia. 'Drive for Literacy' is an organisation that assists Ark Schools with improving children's literacy skills and provides teachers with strategies and assessment information to help them support children with dyslexia. The workshop will run from 2.15 – 3.15pm. For further details, please see Mrs Bolton, our Parent Information and Communication Contact.

Infectious Diseases

Please be aware that if your child contracts chicken pox, measles or any other childhood disease, you must inform the school as soon as possible as we may have pupils or staff that are particularly susceptible to infectious diseases.

Thank you