



THE ACORN NEWSLETTER

Issue 180
24/11/23



Mighty oaks from little acorns grow

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been lovely to hear the children practising their lines and songs for the Christmas productions. Please ensure that you request tickets for the performances by next Friday – 1st December. Full details about the production times can be found on the email that went out yesterday.

I would like to thank parents and carers for their kindness and generosity in donating gifts to support the Salvation Army. We really appreciate all donations as we understand that this is a particularly expensive time of year for all.

We are looking forward to all our special Christmas events that are coming up in the next few weeks. Please check our Christmas reminders below for further details of all the exciting things we have planned. If you are in Beccles this weekend, please visit the Hungate Christmas Tree Festival at Hungate Church to see all the local entries. Special thanks to Kate Garwood and the Friends of School for once again funding and organising our school entry and coming in to work with the children on this.

Kind regards
Holly Marchand, Headteacher

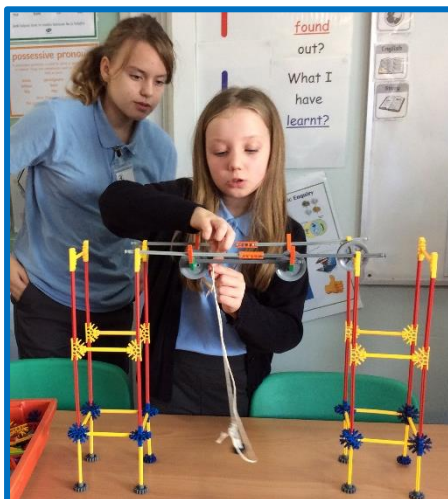
Year 6 Visit to Crucial Crew

On Thursday 16th November, our Year 6 pupils visited Lowestoft Community Church for the annual Crucial Crew event. They heard talks from the police, ambulance service and lifeguards, with the focus on keeping themselves safe.

Year 6 STEM Project

On Monday 13th November, the Blackbirds, Eagles and Owls worked with some engineers in conjunction with Sizewell, on a STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology and Maths) project. The children worked in pairs to create a crane that would lift a power rod in a power station. The children really enjoyed their task activities and problem solving.

The engineers chose two winning teams from each class, who will take part in a “finals” challenge against other local schools at East Coast College, Lowestoft, on Monday 27th November.



Christmas Reminders



Christmas Foodbank

We are all aware that recent months have been a really tough time for all of us, and some more so than others. We will be holding a Christmas Foodbank Collection on Monday 4th December.

The Foodbank are asking for donations of:

Tinned vegetables, tinned meats (e.g. corned beef, tinned ham), tinned tomatoes, microwave puddings, bags of sweets for the children or any other long life products.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



The Children's Society

On Tuesday 19th December, we will be holding our own Christingle service in school for pupils.

The children will be making collection boxes in school and bringing them home to fill with pennies and donations where possible. We will forward any money collected on to the Children's Society, who have kindly provided some of the resources for us.

Christmas Performances

We have sent out letters this week inviting you to reserve seats for the following performances. Please submit your seating request by Friday 1st December.

Friday 8th December – Y3/4 Performance 9.30am
Monday 11th December – Y3/4 Performance 2.00pm
Monday 11th December – Y3/4 Performance 5.30pm
Tuesday 12th December – Y1/2 Performance 2.00pm
Tuesday 12th December – Y1/2 Performance 5.30pm
Wednesday 13th December – EYFS Performance 10.00am
Wednesday 13th December – EYFS Performance 2.00pm
Thursday 14th December – Y5/6 Performance 2.00pm
Thursday 14th December – Y5/6 Performance 5.30pm



PANTOMIME

We are delighted to be taking the whole school to the Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime at Beccles Public Hall, on Monday 18th December. There will be a lower school and then an upper school visit.

The Friends of School have generously agreed to subsidise this visit by paying £10 out of the total £13 cost for each pupil.

Further details can be found in the letter sent home on Wednesday 22nd November.

If you haven't already done so, please return the permission form and payment.

Christmas Post Box

From Friday 1st December, the children will be able to post cards in our Christmas post box.

The last day of posting will be Friday 15th December. After that the post box will be closed. Please make sure envelopes are clearly marked with the recipient's full name and class!



Christmas Dinner Menu



On Wednesday 6th December, the children are invited to enjoy a Christmas dinner, comprising:

*Roast Turkey with Stuffing
Chipolata Sausage, Yorkshire
Pudding & Gravy
Or Roasted Veggie Balls & Gravy
Served with Roast Potatoes,
Carrots, Sprouts and Peas*

Chocolate Fudge Cake

Please note on this day there will be no jacket potato/ picnic option - there will be Christmas dinner or packed lunch from home only.

Christmas Party Day and Party Menu

The children are invited to come to school in non-uniform for their party day on Tuesday 19th December.

At lunchtime the kitchen will serve:

*Selection of Sandwiches
Cocktail Sausages
Chicken Nuggets
Carrot/Cucumber Sticks
Shortbread Biscuit*



**Save the Children
CHRISTMAS
JUMPER DAY**

We are holding a Christmas jumper day on Wednesday 6th December in exchange for a suggested donation of £1.00 per child. All the money raised will go to the Save the Children charity.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



HUNGATE CHURCH
BECCLES

NOV. 24th – 26th

FRIDAY 10.00 am – 12 noon

4.00 pm – 9.00 pm

SATURDAY 9.30 am – 4.30 pm

SUNDAY 12.30 pm – 4.30 pm

ENTRANCE £2

Free for accompanied children

Refreshments in The Stable Cafe

We would love you to visit the Hungate Christmas Tree festival between 24th and 26th November, and vote for our amazing tree.

The decorations have been made by our Y5 and Y6 pupils. Thank you to Kate Garwood for her inspiration and assistance.



The Squirrels after school club will be holding a Christmas fete on Friday 15th December. They would be very grateful for any raffle prize donations, especially those suitable for children.

Squirrels After School Club

Please note that on the last day of term, Wednesday 20th December, the Squirrels after school club will close at 4.00pm.



Walk to Church

We will be walking to the church for our Christmas Open the Book service on Wednesday 20th December. Please ensure your child has a warm coat.



Thank you for your donations towards the Children in Need appeal. Our non-uniform donations and sale of merchandise raised a fantastic £372.

Diary Dates

Wed 6th Dec – Christmas dinner day
 Wed 6th Dec – Christmas jumper day
 Fri 8th Dec – Y3/4 performance 9.30am
 Mon 11th Dec – Y3/4 performance 2.00pm and 5.30pm
 Tues 12th Dec – Y1/2 performance 2.00pm and 5.30pm
 Wed 13th Dec – EYFS performance 10.00am and 2.00pm
 Thur 14th Dec – Y5/6 performance 2.00pm and 5.30pm
 Fri 15th Dec – Squirrels Christmas fete
 Mon 18th Dec – Whole school visit to the Pantomime
 Tue 19th Dec – Christingle service
 Tues 19th Dec – Christmas party day
 Wed 20th Dec – Last day of term/visit to church
 Wed 3rd Jan – PD day

Thur 4th Jan – First day of spring term
 Mon 19th Feb – Half term week
 Fri 8th Mar – World Book Day
 Mon 15th April – First day of summer term
 Mon 13th May – Y6 SATS week
 Mon 20th May – Science week
 Tues 21st May – Class and Leavers' photos
 Mon 27th May – Half term week
 Thur 27th June – Sports day
 Thur 4th July – Reserve sports day
 Tues 9th July – Y6 production
 Thur 11th July – Y6 production
 Tues 16th July – Y6 last day
 Wed 17th July – Y6 transition day at SJLHS
 Thur 18th July – Y6 transition day at SJLHS
 Fri 19th July – Y6 transition day at SJLHS/
 Last day of term