

Our News

What's been happening in school?

Class 1 and 2 children had an amazing day being transported back to 1900 during their visit to Blists Hill Victorian Town last week. Whilst there were other school groups there, what stood out for the staff and adults was how confident our children were and, as usual, asking so many questions. The flexibility we had to go around in small groups visiting the old shops and helping children to buy various items made it a really special visit. The children were an absolute credit to our school. They tried everything, from doing the laundry to tasting chips made the way they used to. Class 1 realised just how authentic Deb's old shop is too, as they noticed some of the food items they had been learning about in the grocers shop.



Here's what the children said about their day:

"My favourite part of the trip was 'all of it!' I learnt how to wash clothes in the year 1900. I also enjoyed looking around the Victorian shops. I also had a fruit bun which was tasty." Sophia

"I loved the chemist. We smelt the first ever perfume. We saw a shire horse and it was like we had been transported over to the proper olden times." Mia

"All of the shops were set up as if they were in Victorian times. My favourite part of the day was buying an ink pen from the post office with old pennies." Leo



Children in Need and Pantomime Activities



It was quite an eventful week the week before last. Everyone was astounded by how quickly the flood came and it was something that hadn't happened in living memory before. Thank you to all of the parents for keeping in communication and coming as promptly as they could. It didn't prevent us from making the most of our few days focusing on pantomime and Children in Need – at the same time!



We will continue with our costume and prop making and hope to integrate some of our work into our Christmas performance.

We had a great time on Children in Need day taking part in their duck race. Well done to Mia, Abbie E. and Fay for choosing the top 3 ducks.

German Café: of course, after creating fake menus and even 'drive throughs' to support their role plays in German, class 2 were keen to try to real thing. So 2 weeks ago they set up a café for each other to try German specialities and nursery had the treat of joining us.



Nursery: children have been learning about Shichi-go-san, a Japanese celebration. A big thank you to Thor's mum who came in to teach them some Japanese words.

They have also been looking at Aladdin this term and learning about different parts of Asia.

Reminders and requests

- We have one of our 5 INSET days next Friday (29th November)
- All children in classes 1 and 2 need pumps on Wednesdays please so that they can safely take part in PE.

Christmas Activities

There are a range of Christmas activities planned for this year on different days of the week so that we can be as inclusive as we can.

Please don't forget to put **Thursday 5th December** after school into your diary and join us for our very first village Christmas market. 4pm till 7pm. Enjoy refreshments including mulled wine, visit a few stalls, and

soak up the atmosphere. There will be music, singing, lights and Santa too. We will be practicing a couple of Christmas songs to sing (for all to join in!) so if you could arrange for them to be here, we would really appreciate it. Obviously, this event aims to support our fundraising.

The Christmas raffle will be drawn on 10th Dec at the Christmas dinner, so please support in selling your tickets and returning the stubs ASAP. We are still in need of raffle prizes – Christmas foods and other hamper items.

Our Christmas lunch will be on Tuesday 10th December at the village hall (12.30pm). Please send your orders in by Tuesday 3rd December. We manage with a very small team of volunteers to help make this, so are restricted regarding any variations or dietary needs, but if you have anything specific, talk to us about possibly bringing something which fits what you need.

We will be holding our **Christmas performance on Thursday 19th December**. As we're having the market as well, this will be a relatively short event with various sketches and songs. We need to vacate the village hall by 6pm, so the plan is to offer refreshments from 3.30pm and start the performance at 4pm, with the aim of this lasting an hour ie. Have refreshments at the beginning and no interval. All children, no matter which day they attend, will be welcome to take part in the performance. We will put a sheet in the library marked 'Christmas Performance' and it would be helpful if you could indicate whether or not your family will be coming to the Christmas performance, so that we can work our practices accordingly. We would like all children taking part in school by 3pm on that afternoon (for those who don't usually attend on Thursdays.) We will provide some afternoon tea for them mid-afternoon, so that they can keep going till 5pm!

Ice Skating: Wed 18th Dec. Only very limited spaces left, so please see Bria if you need a place. For this family event parents need to transport their children and be responsible for them at all times, including skating with them on the ice unless they are confident skaters. (obviously Bria can't go on the ice and our staff are not champion ice skaters!)

Our last day of term.

As we break up fairly late in December, on the same day as most other schools, we are also closing a little early on that Friday, in line with most other schools. This will be at 2pm. Should this create a problem with child-care, please let us know.

Dates for the term

Friday 29th November : INSET day (school closed to children)

Tuesday 3rd December: class 2 visit to Gladstone pottery

Thursday 5th December : Christmas Market

Tuesday 10th December 12.30pm : Christmas meal (village hall)

Friday 13th December : Christmas jumper day.

Wednesday 18th December : Ice skating 4.45pm – 5.30pm. Bretby Garden Centre

Thursday 19th December 4pm – 5pm : Christmas performance (refreshments from 3.30pm)

Friday 20th December : last day of term. School finishes at 2pm

