



## Woolgrove School – Newsletter No. 4

### 20th December 2023

Another term has flown by! We have had some wonderful events taking place over the last few weeks and the children have coped so well with everything that has been asked of them. I hope that you all manage to enjoy some relaxing family time over the Christmas period and we look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year.

#### **Father Christmas visit**

We had a very special visitor to school on Tuesday afternoon. Father Christmas visited all of our classes giving the children their presents. As you can imagine, there was much excitement as they spread their Christmas joy.



#### **Bazaar**

Last week saw the children showing us their business skills when we held our Christmas Bazaar. Lots of work went into the making of gifts, games and treats and there were some impressive sales

techniques on display to encourage parents and children to part with their pennies! So much so that the stalls made a combined sum in excess of £720! Well done to all the classes but a special mention to Blue and Pyramid classes who both raised over £100. Every pound will go directly back to the classes for the children to decide what they would like to spend it on. This is a really fun way for the children to see a project through from the initial idea to the buying of new resources. The class totals are below:

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Blue £106.30    | Sphere £27.00   |
| Red £45.30      | Cube £51.60     |
| Yellow £53.00   | Cone £65.00     |
| Green £28.50    | Hexagon £55.35  |
| Purple £35.70   | Star £23.27     |
| Triangle £80.00 | Pyramid £154.50 |

#### **Christmas performances**

Once again the children (and staff) worked so hard this year on their various Christmas performances. It is always lovely to see the children flourish and for so many parents / carers come in and join in the excitement and fun. These events do take a lot of hard work and preparation with the making of costumes, practising songs / lines and coordinating everyone. Thanks too, go to Andrew, our Swimming / Teaching assistant for his impressive lighting skills and of course to you for

coming in and making the events come to life!

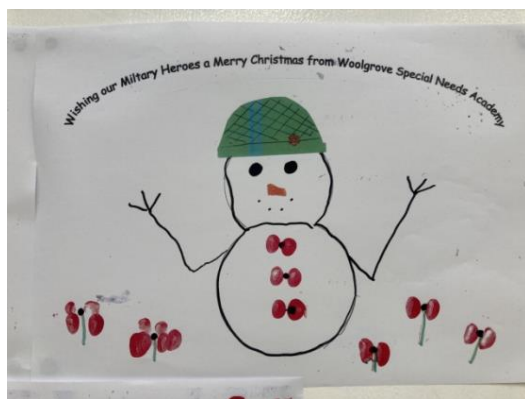
### **Art competition**

Our junior aged children entered the Hertfordshire Heroes Christmas Art Competition this year.

The entries received will be shared with military personnel to help bring "Christmas cheer" to those serving away from their families at Christmas.

We were delighted to hear that Ali, from Cone Class, won the Year 6 competition with his wonderful picture below. His prize is a "day of adventure" at Northwood Headquarters.

Over 670 entries were received and the school has been decorated with copies of all the children's entries. Huge congratulations to Ali and well done to all the children for their efforts towards this very worthy cause.



### **Royston Fire Station Christmas Grotto**

We are really grateful to the staff and management of Royston fire station for the invitation to our classes to visit their wonderful Christmas Grotto. So much

work goes in to the creation of the festive wonderland and the fire fighters and staff are so welcoming to all of our children. It is a really exciting experience for them and one that they all look forward to.

### **Goodbyes**



The end of term means that we are having to say goodbye to one of our staff members.

Emma Fernandes, currently Cube Class teacher on Monday and Tuesday, is leaving to pursue other interests. Emma has been involved with the school for a number of years and we would like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her well in her new venture.

### **Hamper Raffle**

Thank you to everyone who provided donations and / or bought tickets for our Christmas Hamper raffle. Winners have been notified and thanks to your generosity we raised the wonderful total of £584.00. Thank you!

### **Football and Tennis Clubs**

Thanks to the lunch time clubs that are run at school the children have been able to benefit from the expert coaching of members of Hitchin Football Club and Letchworth Tennis Club. These free to all sessions are aimed at introducing the children to a variety of healthy activities and at improving their mobility and skills. The children thoroughly enjoy these clubs and we are very grateful to the staff for their time and expertise.

### Absence

Should your child be absent from school please inform the office personally by phone / email or parent mail as we cannot take messages from transport staff as official notification.

### Singing Group performances

Liz Sterling, our music lead teacher, has organised for the school singing group to perform at various venues over the past few weeks. On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December they attended the St Pauls Church service in Letchworth. The children really did give an outstanding performance and did themselves and the school proud. The children also entertained the residents of the Garden Court Home for the elderly. The festive songs were well received by the residents and staff and it was a heart-warming event to celebrate Christmas with some members of our local community. Well done to everyone involved.

### Elfridges Christmas store



Having spent hours getting the merchandise suitably wrapped and presented, the Friends of Woolgrove volunteers opened Elfridges for business last Friday. Allowing the children to be involved in the 'gift of giving' the store enabled the children to choose their pre

paid for gifts to take home for friends and family. The shop did a roaring trade and all indications are that it will back again next year! Thank you to all of you that bought presents to make the event such a success, as well as the FoW for the wrapping of presents and running the store.

### Thank you

On behalf of all of the staff I would like to thank you for all the cards, gifts and kind words as we approach the Christmas break. They are all very much appreciated.

**A reminder that school finishes at 1.15 p.m. today. There is no INSET day at the start of term and the children are back in school on Thursday 4th January.**

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lisa Hall,

Head Teacher