



An Daras
Multi Academy Trust

Windmill Hill Academy Christmas Newsletter

'Gateway to Lifelong Learning'
'Porth dhe lyenn'



Mr A Terry
Head of School

Thursday 6th December 2018



December has arrived again and the festive season is nearly upon us. As usual, it is a very busy time with so many things happening over the next few weeks. I hope you have seen our Christmas letter that details what is happening and when. If not then please do not hesitate to ask for one at the office.

Remembrance Day: This is always a very special occasion and is something that we commemorate each and every year. I was, once again, very proud of all the pupils in the respectful way they marked the occasion and the two minutes silence observed with a complete silence (please see the articles in the newsletter).

We are all working very hard at the moment with our key stage performances and I hope you will thoroughly enjoy them when they finally hit the stage. Please note the key stage 1 performance details for this year as we have had to move out of our hall and into the Town Hall. It will be just the one performance but you **DO NOT NEED TICKETS** this year. Just come along and enjoy.

Finally, can I just ask that any drivers who drive in and out of the school to be careful of our pupils and parents who are entering or leaving the premises. We know it is not the easiest of places to negotiate so we are just asking all users to be careful and observant. Thank you.

There will be one more newsletter before the end of term.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS POST



From Monday 3rd December to Thursday 20th December, children and staff will be able to send and receive Christmas cards through our Christmas post box. The box will be sited in the school foyer. The KS2 children will empty the box, sort the mail and deliver to the classrooms each day until the end of term. Please ensure the recipient's full name (surnames are really important) and class names are clearly written on each envelope, to avoid confusion!

Remembrance Parade

I have, for a long time now, wanted our school to be able to take part in the Remembrance Parade but unfortunately this has not yet happened. As I do not live in Launceston myself, I always go to the parade in my town and then I think that I should make sure that WHA are represented. I sincerely apologise that this has not happened yet but I have already asked the Launceston Royal British Legion if we can take part in 2019.

Christmas Fair
Friday 14th December 2018
3.30 till 5.00
Everyone Welcome!



e-mail: windmill@andaras.org

Tel: 01566 772143 Fax: 01566 776783

Monday 17th December: Wrap-a-Gift Day

During the morning the children will have the opportunity to purchase and wrap (with help) secret Christmas gifts for their parents/carers. Children may purchase a maximum of two gifts, at 50p each (please do not send money for more than two gifts and please do not send the money in until the day).



To make the day a success, we will need plenty of gifts to wrap! **If you could make donations of suitable items for Mums and Dads we would be extremely grateful – soap, talc, pens, notelets, chocolates, unwanted items from last year perhaps?** There is a box in the entrance lobby and contributions towards wrap-a-gift may be placed in this. Once wrapped and labelled, the presents will be kept underneath our Christmas tree until the last day of term.

ADMAT news.

The Board of Directors of the An Daras Multi Academy Trust (ADMAT) are consulting on a decision to apply to the Department for Education to extend the number of local schools within the Trust. This would see the MAT expand from its current seven schools to eight schools.

If you would like to read more information about this then please look under the latest news section of our website.

KS1 Nativity

Babushka

Dates have been set, auditions have taken place, parts have been allocated and the children are busy practising ready for their Christmas Nativity called 'Babushka'. Just to remind you that because of the unavailability of our school hall, there will be just one performance this year. It will be at the Town Hall on Tuesday 11th December, at 2:15 (doors open at 2:00). There will be no need to purchase tickets this year as everyone is welcome to attend.



KS2 Christmas Carol Concert

This year's Key Stage 2 performance will be held at St Mary's Church, Launceston.

There will be two performances this year.

Tuesday 18th December at 2.00pm and 6.00pm.

This is not a ticketed event and all parent and families are welcome to attend on either or both performances.



Christmas Party Day



Wednesday 19th December whole school Christmas party. Invitations will be sent out for contributions towards the party and there will be no school lunches on that day. Children entitled to free school meals are not obliged to make a contribution as the canteen will be providing some food towards the party for these children.



Swimming

Swimming will start on Monday 14th January for Years 1, 4 and 6. Year 2, 3 and 5 will swim again during the 2nd half of spring term. Year F will start swimming in the summer term.



Parent Questionnaire

Thank you to everyone who sent back our questionnaire. There were some very positive responses overall, as well as ideas and thoughts for us to further develop and improve on the things we do.

It is very important that we have your feedback so we fully appreciate you taking the time to do this.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3rd - 20th Dec	Post Box in hall
3rd Dec	Decorations Day
11th Dec	KS1 Nativity Babushka
12th Dec	Christmas Dinner
14th Dec	Christmas Fair
17th Dec	Wrap a Gift Day
18th Dec	Carol service
19th Dec	Whole school Party Day
20th Dec	Last day of term
8th Jan 2019	First day of new term

Attendance Figures for Nov 2018

Year	2nd Nov	9th Nov	26th Nov	23th Nov
YF	98.3%	96%	89.3%	85.7%
Y1	99.3%	96.7%	98.6%	92.1%
Y2	98.6%	92.2%	95%	91.3%
Y3	93.5%	95.2%	95.5%	89.6%
Y4	95.3%	92.7%	96%	93.6%
Y5	96.4%	97.9%	99.1%	96.4%
Y6	97.1%	96.1%	99.1%	92%

Stars of The Week

	Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2nd Nov	Buddy Laura	Violet H Freya S	Lacey M F Kayla S	Ella C Alfie C	Dominika T Minie C	Harry S Tegan C	Alfie K Florabela F
9th Nov	Ella B Harry S	Lexi G Jakub D	Casey L W Poppy C	Oliwia T Brennan M	Oscar D Ewan B	Isabel P Angel B	Evie h Oscar H
16th Nov	Elif O Leo C	Curtis W Jacob L	Harry E Darcy S	Sara P Oliwia T	Scott W Marley L	Kelsie V Milo S	Viktor S Jaysia P
23rd Nov	Freya S Zach J	Siqi L Joshua J	Joseph B Chelsee G	Reece M Benjamin F	Oscar D Flora D	Liam M	Jess M

Positive Role Model award and the Respect and Kindness award:

We have introduced two new awards to the school this year: the Positive Role Model award and the Respect and Kindness award. The positive role model is given to a pupil who has demonstrated the qualities that a positive role model would possess. Politeness, respectful, helpful, listens to and follows instructions are just some of the qualities that we would be looking for. This award is given every two weeks and the pupils get to keep a lovely gold trophy in their classroom for the duration of their award period.

There are three trophies for the respect and kindness award: key stage 1/YF, lower key stage 2 and upper key stage 2. This is a weekly award and it is given to pupils who show excellent respect towards other pupils and adults, are very polite, kind and helpful.

Positive Role model award winners:

Erin A	Heidi Y	Emma F
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Polite and Kindness award winners:

YF/KS1	Harry P	Seth G	Tyler H	Joseph B
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Lower KS2	Aimee N	Minerva C	Eva H	Alicia T
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Upper KS2	Adam W	Daisy H	Gemma H	Ria H
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We Will Remember Them

At 11 o'clock on Friday 9th November the whole school gathered in the playground to join in a two minutes silence to show our respect to people in the armed forces who have died in wars and conflicts. They died to keep us safe and free. We have talked about it in assembly and in class and all agreed that:

WE MUST REMEMBER THEM. So at 11 o'clock on the 11th day of the 11th month has become special and important to us all. Year 6 designed and created very poignant pictures to display around the school and this time the whole school wrote poems of remembrance after reading the very famous poem—In Flanders Fields, which was written by John McCrae, during World War One. The poems were very thought provoking and brought tears to many eyes. Some of these were read out after the two minutes silence.

We also learned the words: 'At the going down of the sun, and in the morning we will remember them.'...words that are recited at ALL Remembrance Day parades.



Key Stage 1 News

When Year F Became Circus Performers

As a hook for their topic 'who will we see at the circus?' Year F took part in a circus skills day. They learnt a variety of different circus skills including: plate spinning, feather balancing, scarf dancing and walking the tightrope. In the afternoon the children performed their new found skills to their parents and carers. The children really enjoyed the experience and it led to increased enthusiasm about their new topic.



Bright Sparks Enrichment Day—Year 1 and 2



To finish off our 'Bright Sparks' topic, Year 1 and 2 participated in a Bright Sparks Enrichment day. The children enjoyed completing lots of different activities such as building and measuring lighthouses, investigating how to create an electrical circuit and creating firework paintings using different tools.



Key Stage 2 News

Christmas Film Club

KS2 are organising a film club on **FRIDAY 7th DECEMBER**. It will be for **BOTH** key stages in the hall. It will run from **3.30 to 5.15** and entry fee is **£1** please **per child**. There will be sweets for sale and ice cream. There will also be a drink provided—free of charge! The film we will be watching is Arthur Christmas and promises to be a good laugh and really put us in the mood for Christmas! We hope **MANY** of you will be able to come—even if you have seen the film before it is good to watch it with your mates and enjoy some goodies!



Year Six's Trip to Davidstow War Museum

On the 29th of October 2018, Year 6 went on a full-day trip to Davidstow War Museum. We left at approximately 9:00 am. We were taken to the museum via the school mini-buses. At the museum we were met by Steve (the owner) who was all dressed up in his military uniform. The children were then briefed about World War 2 and how it all started. Steve was very knowledgeable so we all came back with information literally *bursting* out of our heads! The museum was filled with different air raid shelters, bombs and weapons and even some war planes! There were just **so** many things to see! At the end of our visit we were even shown how to stand to attention, march and stand at ease! The children of Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Davidstow, and, without hesitation, would love to go again.

By Joe Gent



Y6 rugby tournament

On Tuesday 20th November, which was a very cold day for all of us, 9 students from Y6 were taken up to Launceston college playing fields to have a tournament of rugby! As this is the first game of tag rugby many of us had played we were a bit unsure of the rules. But we powered on and despite the cold we won our first game 6-0 on tries. We were buzzing! The next game was for sure the hardest and we went down by 1 try. Finally, at the end of the game (the last few seconds) a well thought pass went through to make a try for us! It was 1-1 at the end of that game. Our last game verses North Petherwin, was tight at the start but ended in a 7-1 victory. The try scorer of the tournament was Leighton Platt and he was also captain of our team. Well done Leighton! We will be moving on to the next round as a better team but there will be harder opponents! We **can** win Windmill..... Let's do it!!!

Written by Joe
Gent (Editor)



Year F Building Progress Report .

As of today, the brand new Year F building is coming along smoothly. The whole of the old building has now been officially demolished and the scaffolding for the new one is now in place! Everyone at Windmill Hill Academy is very excited for the new building, and we are sure that when the brand new Year F pupils catch sight of this new building, they will be overjoyed. As the final poles of scaffolding are put into place, Y6 are getting full view of what is happening. We will keep you updated as milestones are reached within the building.

Written by Abigail Fraser and Joe Gent.

(Editors)

If you can see it through the raindrops!



The building is changing daily now and we are all getting very excited.

Here is how it looks now:

