



An Daras
Multi Academy Trust

Windmill Hill Academy Christmas Newsletter

'Gateway to Lifelong Learning'
'Porth dhe lyenn'



Mr A Terry
Head of School

Issue 19– Monday 30th November

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS POST

From Tuesday 1st December to Thursday 17th 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!

DECORATIONS DAY

Friday 4th December will be spent designing, making and displaying Christmas decorations in the classrooms. Why not come in and help us to make our school look really festive this year? If you would like to help please come just come into school and sign in from 9.15



Coffee and mince pies will be provided for those helpers who are in school during the morning. Old clothes for children and parents!

Christmas Fair



In the Hall
Friday 4th December 2015
3.30 till 5.30
Everyone Welcome!

Monday 14th December: Wrap-a-Gift Day

During the day 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?! This event has gone really well in the past, except for a lack of donations suitable for Dads – please get your thinking caps on this year! 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.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Tuesday 15th December. A separate letter will be sent home with each child about this. To avoid the confusion and uncertainty we sometimes get regarding this, would ALL parents please complete the reply slip at the bottom of the Christmas dinner letter and indicate clearly whether their child wants or does not want a school Christmas lunch and return by Monday 30th November, at the very latest. Please send the money (£2.20) for Christmas dinner into school on Monday 14th December, in a sealed named envelope



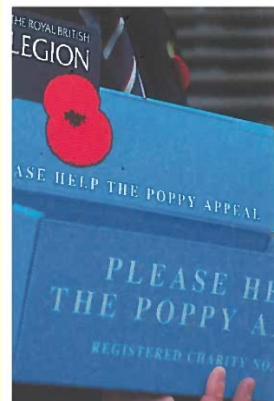
Key Stage 2 Snow Queen

Tuesday 16th December KS2 will be performing The Snow Queen, at the Town Hall. There will be 2 performances, one at 2.00p.m, and one at 6.00p.m. Further details will follow.

Our Library



The Library Service were in for two days last week and have re-organised and re-stocked our Library with new and exciting reads, as well as old favourites. The library is now ready for the children to use. Mrs Mason, our School Librarian, and the Year 6 Librarians will ensure that the library runs smoothly.



— POPPY APPEAL —

Thank you very much for helping with our Appeal.

£ 203-45

was collected by you. Without your help, we would be unable to continue our vital welfare and benevolent work.

Yours sincerely

Ameyum
Local Honorary Organiser

District Total (if available) £ 20,942-90
Registered Charity No. 219279

A huge thank you to all who contributed!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1st - 17th Dec	Post Box in hall
4th Dec	Decorations Day
4th Dec	Christmas Fair
11th Dec	KS1 Nativity
12th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
14th Dec	Wrap a Gift Day
15th Dec	Christmas Dinner
16th Dec	KS2 Snow Queen
17th Dec	Whole school Party Day
21st Dec—1st Jan	Christmas Holidays

Attendance figures for November 2015

Year	2nd Nov	9th Nov	16th Nov	23rd Nov
F	95.95%	95.7%	82.1%	90.3%
1	93.35%	90.7%	99%	94.7%
2	94.65%	100%	95.7%	98.6%
3	98.3%	99.7%	98.3%	97.7%
4	95.2%	97.8%	98.5%	96.7%
5	94.3%	96.4%	98.6%	87.6%
6	94.7%	95.7%	96.7%	96.7%

FilmClub

Monday

December 13th 2015

In the hall

3.30 - 5.30

£1.50 for the drink and film
Sweets and ice creams are available

Arthur Christmas



Please can I ask you to send in a note if you want your child to walk home from Filmclub

Key Stage 1/2 and F Party Day



17th 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.

Children do not need to wear school uniform. (please, no high heeled shoes for their personal safety). U DVDs are welcome



Swimming



Swimming will start on Monday 11th 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.

Tea, Biscuits and Chat



Parents/Carers are invited to another informal get together with Mr Terry and Mrs Ali Parsons (Chair of local governing board) This meeting will be in the Sparkle Room on 17th December There will be plenty of tea, coffee and biscuits available and maybe a mince pie as well!

Attendance

After taking advice from our Educational Welfare Officer we are revising our attendance procedures and there are a few changes we would like to make you aware of;

Your child will now be marked as "late" if arriving after 9am and before 9.15am. Any children arriving after this time will be marked as "unauthorised".

We would also like to remind you that if your child is absent from school you are to inform the school office by 9.30am on the first day of absence. If the school is not informed your child's absence will be marked as "unauthorised".

We will contact parents where a child's attendance falls below 95% to offer support if needed. Please be aware that the level for persistent absence is now 90% i.e. 10% unauthorised absence and we as a school have to refer these students to the EWO.

The law states that a planned absence from school should only be authorised for students in "exceptional circumstances". If you decide to take your child out of school, without permission, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. A penalty notice may be issued and this carries a fine of £60 if paid within 21 days or £120 if paid after this but within 28 days.



Football

We have had a successful opening to the season in the Arena football league, which is played at Callington. Played three, won three.

Windmill 1 - 0 St Martins;
Menheniot 1 - 2 Windmill;
Dobwalls 0 - 1 Windmill



Netball

Netball has also seen success with a win at Lewannick:
Windmill 2 - 0 Lewannick

Inter House Netball

Our inter-school competition has begun with Y5/6 Greens and Reds both having wins. Y3/4 have also begun their league with the Green team currently top of the league.

Twelfth Night Shakespeare Performance

On Friday 20th November, Year 5/6 went to the Barbican Theatre to perform Twelfth Night on stage. First we had technical rehearsals for lighting and sound; it was great to see the stage lit up. After that it was time to get into costumes ready for the dress rehearsals where we had to perform in front of St Stephens. By this time we were excited but SCARED!!!

Finally it was time for the parents to arrive and the show to begin! We were last to perform (they saved the best till last)! Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves as they were all laughing along! The funniest part was Lilly's yellow stockings and Libby and Lucy's drunkenness!!!!

It was a great experience that we all thoroughly enjoyed.



'Superheroes' day

The children in Key Stage One and Class F enjoyed dressing up as superheroes on Tuesday 17th November, as part of their project work. Here are some photos taken of the day



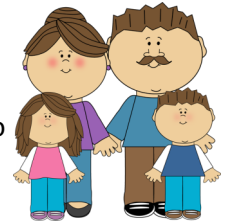
A change of dates

Class 1 and 2's 'Superheroes' homework will need to be handed in on Monday 14th December and the project showcase, where you are invited to see your child's work, is now on Tuesday 15th December.



Parents

It has been a busy few weeks for our Key Stage One and Class F parents. Many attended the PJ night, Maths workshop and 'Come and Read with your child' workshop. We hope you found them beneficial. We will be running them again in the Spring term (dates to follow).



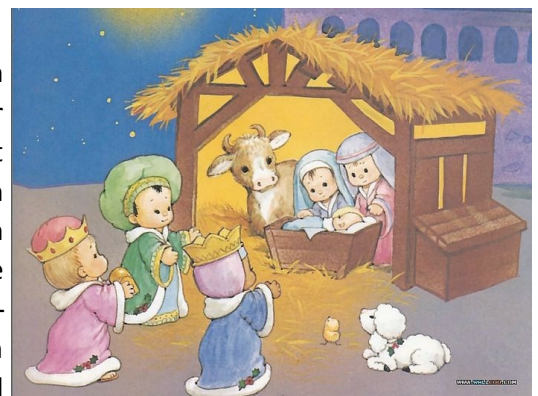
Cake Sale

We had a cake sale for Key Stage One and Class F on Thursday 5th November and we managed to raise £48. Many thanks to parents for supplying the cakes and to children, parents and staff for buying them. The money raised will go towards buying resources for the children to benefit from during Friday Club. They have already enjoyed decorating cakes and biscuits, making a range of art and craft activities and planting plants and seeds in the school grounds. We will have another cake sale in the Spring term (date to follow).



Nativity

Dates have been set, auditions have taken place, parts have been allocated and the children are busy practising ready for their Christmas Nativity called 'Born in a Barn'. Just to remind you that there will be three performances this year: one performance on **Wednesday 9th December 2015**, which will be in the morning (9.30am – 10.15am) and two on **Thursday 10th December 2015**: one in the morning (9.30am – 10.15am) and one in the afternoon (2.30pm – 3.15pm). Admittance to the morning performances will be 9.15am and for the afternoon performance it will be 2.15pm. Please send your ticket requests back by as soon as possible as we are working on a first come, first served basis. Tickets will be handed out nearer the time. Costumes need to be sent into school in a named bag on Wednesday 2nd December.



Our New Mini Bus Has Arrived!

We are all very excited because our brand new mini bus has arrived! This is the first of two mini buses that will be in use across the ADMAT (one to be stationed at Windmill and one at St Stephens). We have already had good use of it with trips to sporting fixtures, Plymouth for the Year 6 Shakespeare performance and for ADMAT Trust events. Both minibuses combined will enable us to take whole classes out. This will give us greater freedom and more opportunities to explore.



Lantern Making



On Friday 20th November, three children from each Key Stage 2 class were chosen to take part in making lanterns for the forthcoming late night shopping and parade in the town on Friday 4th December.

Each lantern was made out of willow, which was manipulated into a 3D five pointed star. All the children used their tenacity and resilience to conquer this task! The structure was then covered in glue and lightweight paper and then left to dry.

The children will take part in the event holding their own lantern, which will be lit up during the parade.

Remembrance Day

On Wednesday 11th November at 11.00 we commemorated Remembrance Day by having a minutes silence in the playground. At the end of the silence Mary played the last post on her cornet and Year 6 read poems, including In Flanders Field by John McCrae. Several of the children wore their club uniforms to mark the event.



Cross Country Kit

Windmill now has its own Cross Country kit, bought by the Friends! The kit is Blue and yellow, in line with the new football kit and the children were very excited to pose for the photo in it. They were hoping to show it off at the second meeting of the



Duchy College cross country league but unfortunately it was postponed due to the bad weather. They will now have to wait until the next meeting on the 29th January.

Have you seen our new clock?

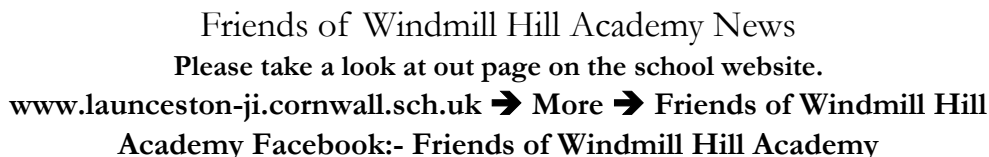
At the request of the school council, the Friends have bought a new 23 inch clock for the playground. The clock is radio controlled and automatically checks into a central point in the UK. It then automatically amends the time accordingly so no more need for altering clocks! The clock also has Traditional **numerical clock face** makes this easy to read and is good for learning how to tell the time!



Huff 'n' Puff Equipment

After the success of the Wine and Wisdom, the Friends have been able to purchase several new pieces of Huff 'n' Puff equipment. The children have enjoyed playing with the new games at playtime and lunchtime and some of the pupils from Year 5 have taken on the roll of 'Play leaders' to supervise the use of the games and the care of the equipment when stored.





Craft Afternoon



Thank you to everyone who supported our Craft fair on 6th November, and to all the stall who made the fair very interesting. The event for £200 which has been outdoor games for A special thank you goes Bridgeman who spent her her eyes in 'poop' (you there)! The stall looked various poops, Elf kisses er food.

Thank you for your continued support



The school disco was a great success and the children all seemed to thoroughly enjoy it. Thank you very much to Chris Brown (Disco Man) for making the disco far more entertaining for the children. They really loved the music and the bubbles! We have booked Chris to come back on February 5th for a Valentines Disco!

Children's Winegum and Wisdom

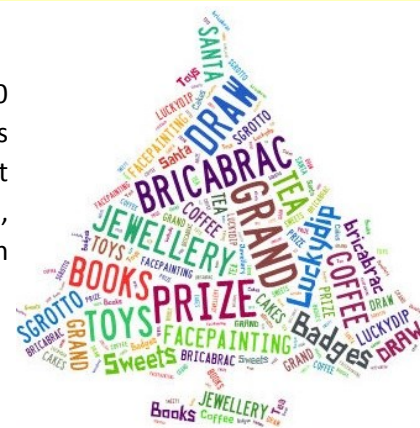
On Friday 29th January the Friends will be holding a Children's Winegum and Wisdom in the hall from 5.00—7.00. All children are invited but must be accompanied by an adult. Entry is £1 for children and adults come free. The quiz will be suitable for all ages 4-11 and every child will go home with a tube of Winegums at the end of the evening. Refreshment will be available including tea and coffee for the adults



Christmas Fair

The Christmas fair this year will be held on Friday 4th December from 3.30 and we are hoping it will be bigger and better than last year. Draw tickets have already been sent out and a list of prizes so far can be found on the next page. Please can we ask for donations of cakes, teddy, bottle and tin tombola, toys and books, bric-a-brac, and raffle prizes. Everything excluding cakes can be brought into school from now on.

Stalls so far include:



Grand draw	Santa's Grotto	Tins Tombola	Cake stall	Sweets	Face painting
Tattoos	Mars bar game	Bric-a-Brac	Toys/books	Badges	Teddy Tombola
Refreshments	Snowmen	Para cord items	Lucky dip	Craft stall	KS1 bits
Mulled wine	Jewellery	Bottle Tombola	Y6 Games	Poop/Kisses	Reindeer food



This year we will be giving out ticket numbers for Santa, to save you queuing. Just see the elf when you arrive! If you can help before the event, running a stall or afterwards to clear away please let the office know as we would be very grateful for your help. Please come and support your 'Friends' and remember, Santa

Grand Draw prizes so far:



Friends	Google Nexus 7" Tablet	Friends	BHS Christmas Hamper
Firebrand	Carvery for Two	Launceston Fryers	Wine
Homeleigh	Cream tea for 2	Avon	Gift set
Warrens	£5 Voucher	Tesco	Tin of chocolates
Mrs Terry (my mum)	Tins of Biscuits and chocolates	Lifton Farm Shop	£10 vegetable Hamper
Body Shop	Bag of products	Trethorne	Entry for 2 people
Tesco	Box of Biscuits	Mrs Williams	Box of Biscuits
Mini Selection	Thornton's Mint Crumble	Hazzards	£10 vouche
No Eight	£10 Voucher	Co-op	£5 Voucher
Harvey's	Bottle of red Wine	Jerichos	£20 voucher
Hockridge	CD rack	Jo Down Glass	Jewellery dish
Threads	Table cloth & napkins	Mrs Terry (my mum)	Christmas Crackers
David Parish	2 pairs funky sock	Tesco	Chocolate Santa
Lokaroma	£5 voucher	Undercover	£5 voucher
Country Chic	Christmas wood ornament	The Cod Father	Meal for two
Truscotts	Free MOT	Martins Cash & Carry	Sweets and snowman
Tesco	Cuddly toy	PIE Stop	Meal/breakfast for two
Parkers bakery	Mince pies	Flower Scene	Plant
Francine's	Cod & chips for two	Steam Railway	Family Ticket
Maunder's	Thermos flask	Launceston Cycles	£10 voucher
Robertson's Jewellery	£5 voucher	Pat's Greetings Cards	2 18th Birthday frames
Just Off The Square	2 baby cutlery	Craigs	Cut & Blowdry
Rugby Club	Rugby shirt	Boots	False nails/eyelashes
Pet Supplies	Dog photo frame Key ring	Costa	Ceramic mug
Diamond Cutz	£10 voucher	Miller & Son	Bottle of wine
Downton Cleaners	Dry cleaning voucher		

More still to be add!