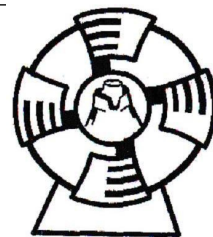




'Gateway to Lifelong Learning'
'Porth dhe lyenn'



Mr A Terry
Head of School

Wednesday 29th November 2017



In the immortal words that Noddy Holder (those of you not old enough to know what I am talking about; Google it, ha) always shouts at this time of the year: “It’s Christmas!” Well not quite yet but come Friday 1st December our decorations day will kick start the festivities and you are invited to join us as well (see decorations day information below). There are so many things going on over the next few weeks that we have sent home a Christmas letter that gives you all the details of what is happening and when.

Remembrance Day: This is always a very special occasion and is something that we commemorate each and every year. I was so proud of all the pupils in the school in the respectful way they marked the occasion and the two minutes silence observed with a complete silence. The reception area is covered with a wonderful display of work from Year 6 so please pop in and have a look. Thank you to all pupils and staff.

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. There will be one more newsletter before the end of term so I will not wish you a and a..... just yet.

Our Visible learning sails: Brave, connect, question, self-aware, resilience, tenacity, curiosity, reflect.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS POST



From Monday 4th December to Wednesday 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!

DECORATIONS DAY

Friday 1st 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 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



**Christmas Fair
In the Hall
Friday 8th December 2017
3.30 till 5.00
Everyone Welcome!**



Thursday 7th 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.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Friday 15th December. A separate letter has been 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 4th December, at the very latest. Please pay on Gateway or send the money (£2.30) for Christmas dinner into school on Monday 11th December in a sealed, named envelope.



KS1 Nativity

Magical Christmas Journey

Dates have been set, auditions have taken place, parts have been allocated and the children are busy practising ready for their Christmas Nativity called 'Magical Christmas journey'. Just to remind you that there will be three performances this year: performance 1 is on **Monday 11th December, starting at 9:30am**, performance 2 is on **Tuesday 12th, starting at 2:15pm** and performance 3 is on **Thursday 14th, starting at 9.30am**. Please send your ticket requests back by as soon as possible as we are working on a first come, first served basis. Tickets have been handed out. Costumes need to be sent into school in a named bag on Thursday 30th November.



KS2 Performance

The Wizard of Oz

This year's Key Stage 2 performance will be held at the Town Hall in Launceston.

There will be two performances this year this year:

Wednesday 13th 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



Tuesday 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.



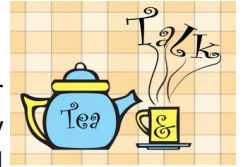
Swimming

Swimming will start on Monday 8th 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 Emma Gilbert (Chair of local governing board) This meeting will be in the Sparkle Room on 15th December There will be plenty of tea, coffee and biscuits available and maybe a mince pie as well!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4th - 20th Dec | Post Box in hall |
| 1st Dec | Decorations Day |
| 8th Dec | Christmas Fair |
| 7th Dec | Wrap a Gift Day |
| 11th, 12th and 14th Dec | KS1 Nativity |
| 14th Dec | Magical Christmas Journey |
| 13th Dec | KS2 Wizard of Oz |
| 15th Dec | Christmas Dinner |
| 19th Dec | Whole school Party Day |
| 20th Dec | Last day of term |
| 8th Jan 2018 | First day of new term |

Attendance Figures for Nov 2016

| Year | 30th Oct | 6th Nov | 13th Nov | 20th Nov |
|------|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| YF | 91.4% | 91.5% | 91.7% | 95.5% |
| Y1 | 98.6% | 96.4% | 94.3% | 97.1% |
| Y2 | 97.9% | 97.6% | 94.1% | 90.7% |
| Y3 | 96.4% | 95.5% | 95.3% | 93.3% |
| Y4 | 97.6% | 95.3% | 96.7% | 95% |
| Y5 | 88.3% | 90% | 92.9% | 92.9% |
| Y6 | 95.5% | 96% | 98% | 97% |

Stars of The Week

| | Year F | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|----------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|----------|-------------|------------|
| 3rd Nov | Riley | Violet H | Sara P | Lola L | James P | Alfie | Theo S |
| | Sienna | Filipe K | Chelsea T | Dominika T | Sonny T | Florabela F | Issy S |
| 10th Nov | Lexi W | Finley T | Jamie S | Alicia T | Mollie D | Iris S | Eimija K |
| | Joshua J | Alyssa G | Lily W | Kaspian L | Gracie H | Logan H | Nikola D |
| 17th Nov | Tyler H | Poppy C | Keeley S | Maya M | Harry S | Rio A | Olivia S |
| | Violet H | Summer L | Leah L | Oscar D | Lola H | Leighton P | Nicholas B |
| 24th Nov | Jack H | Elias W | Sara P | Emma F | Liam M | Evie H | Kiara A |
| | Freya S | Wenna C | Niamh J | Poppy K | Theo B | Toby G | Connor S |

Consultation on the Extension of An Daras Multi Academy Trust

Please look on our website to see the Consultation on the Extension of An Daras Multi Academy Trust document

About us - An Daras Multi Academy Trust - Consultation on the Extension of An Daras Multi Academy Trust

Or follow the link

http://www.windmillhillacademy.org/web/consultation_on_the_extension_of_an_daras_multi_academy_trust/320808

Visit of Lord Rowan Williams to Launceston Library

Former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Rowan Williams, will be visiting Launceston in December to share his interest in Charles Causley's poetry. Lord Williams is an acknowledged poet, and cites Charles Causley as being a major influence on his own work.



Lord Williams will be taking part in an event at Launceston Library on Saturday 9th December between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm

He will be working with children to create Christmas cards based on the Christmas poems of Charles Causley including the poem '**Christmas Pudding**' which describes how four icons of Christmas – the Pudding, the Turkey, the Tree and the Cracker all fear their fate at Christmas and decide to run away together. This event is **free event**.



The school is hosting an online book party until Friday 8th December. Using the link below you can order lots of fantastic books at up to 70% off the RRP. This is a great opportunity for you to help the school earn free books. Once the party closes your order will be delivered free to school before we break up for Christmas, using group delivery. You can also have orders delivered direct to your home (£3.95 delivery on orders under £25)

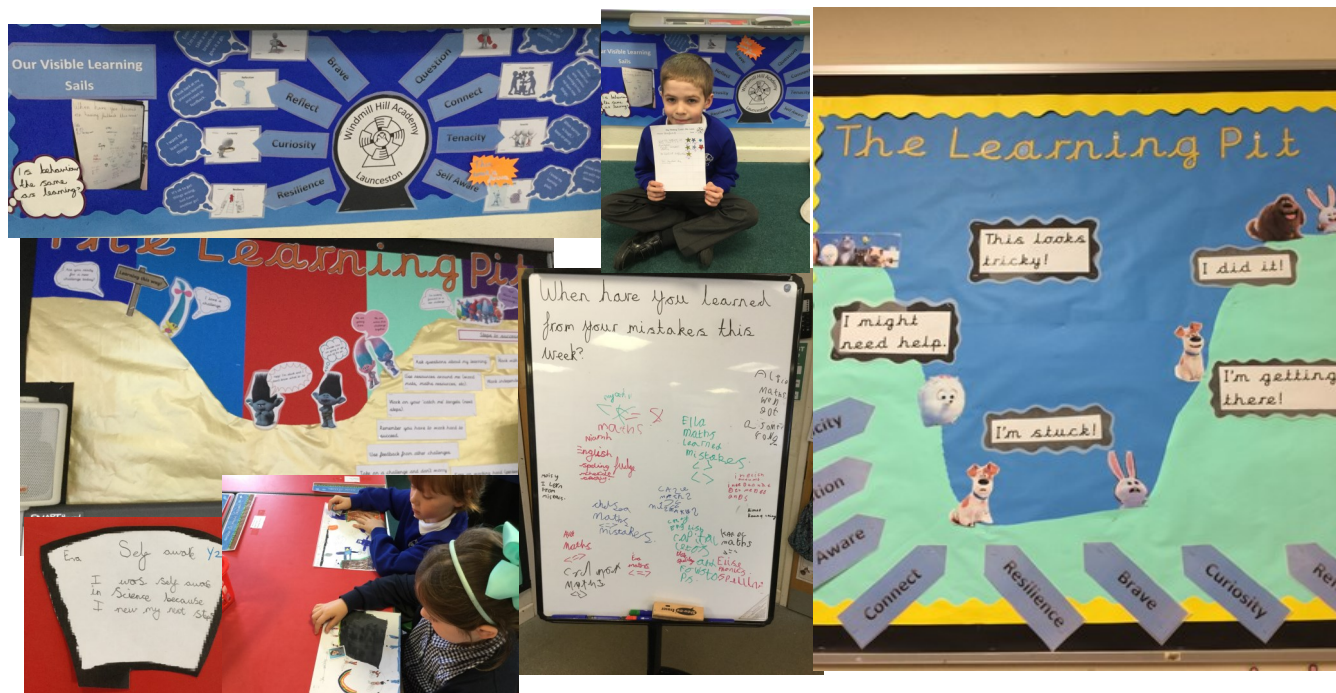


<https://book-parties.scholastic.co.uk/party/windmill-hill-academy>

Key Stage 1 News

Visible Learning in Action in KS1

Key Stage One have begun the 'Visible Learning' journey and have been learning about the different learning sails, created learning pits in their classes (and some have created individual ones) and they are already able to give examples of when they have been visible learners. Please take the time to ask your child about this and ask them about which learning sails they have used in their learning. We will keep you updated on this area. Take a look at some of our photos of 'Visible Learning in Action in KS1':



KS1's Superhero Enrichment Day

KS1 enjoyed our Superhero Enrichment day. We were very busy with all sorts of superhero activities. In year F we made superhero gadgets, saved small world people from water and quicksand and played with superhero bee-bots. In year one and two the children also had an excellent day full of superhero themed learning!



A few key dates for November/December

Please see the KS1 diary dates sheet for more information.

Thursday 30th November 2017 Year 1 and 2 Project Homework hand in

Friday 1st December 2017 Whole School Decorations day

Tuesday 5th December 2017 Year 1 and 2's 'Superheroes' Project Showcase and Year F's Showcase of work 2.45pm – 3.15pm

Thursday 7th December 2017 Whole school Wrap a gift day

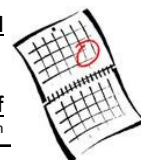
Friday 8th December Christmas Fair (after school)

Monday 11th (AM), Tuesday 12th (PM) and 14th (AM) December 2017: KS1 Nativity Performances

Friday 15th December 2017 Whole school Christmas Dinner

Tuesday 19th December 2017 Whole school Christmas Party

Wednesday 20th December 2017 Last day of term The spring term starts on Monday 8th



Key Stage 2 News



We Will Remember Them

At 11 o'clock on Friday 10th 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 they each wrote a poem 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 and all the poems are displayed around school. 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.

The Wizard of Oz



Key Stage Two are now in full throws of rehearsing and creating props for their grand performance of The Wizard of Oz. We

thank you in advance for helping the pupils with their costumes, learning their lines and rehearsing their songs. We are excited to invite you to come along to our performances at Launceston Town Hall on Wednesday 13th December at 2:00pm and 6:00pm.

Journalists

Year 4 are about to start writing newspaper reports for their non-fiction work this term.

On Monday 20th November they were fortunate enough to have Graham Smith, the owner of the online newspaper Cornwall Reports



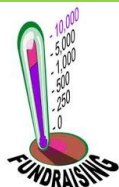
(www.cornwallreports.co.uk) and former News Director for ITN South West, visit the classroom to talk about what it takes to be a good journalist and about some of the stories he has been involved in.



Magnetism

Year 3 had a great time learning about magnetism. They learned that it is a force that works without contact and can work through objects such as card. We created games such as: mazes, object pick up and even a Subbuteo game to demonstrate our understanding and to show others what we have learned about the subject.





Friends of Windmill Hill Academy News

Please take a look at our page on the school website.

www.windmillhillacademy.org Facebook:- Friends of Windmill Hill Academy

Twitter [@FriendsofWHA](https://twitter.com/FriendsofWHA)



The school Monster Ball 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 so entertaining for the children. All the costumes looked great and obviously a lot of effort had been put into them.

The monster Ball raised £88



Christmas Fair

The Christmas fair this year will be held on Friday 8th December from 3.30 and we are hoping it will be bigger and better than last year. Draw tickets have already been sent out. 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 | Reindeer food | Cake stall | Sweets |
| Tattoos | Y6 Games | Bric-a-Brac | Toys/books | Badges |
| Refreshments | Snowmen | Para cord items | Lucky dip | Craft stall |
| KS1 bits | Tombola | Face painting | Poop/Kisses | |

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 will be waiting for you!

