An Daras
Multi Academy Trust

Windmill Hill Academy Christmas Newsletter

'Gateway to Lifelong Learning'
'Porth dhe lyenn'

Mr A Terry
Head of School

*Issue 26– **Wednesday 30th November***

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS POST

From Monday 5th December to Friday 16th 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 2nd 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 parents!

Christmas Fair

In the Hall
Friday 9th December 2016
3.30 till 5.30
Everyone Welcome!

Tuesday 13th 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

Wednesday 14th 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 Wednesday 30th November, at the very latest. Please send the money (£2.30) for Christmas dinner into school on Wednesday14th December, in a sealed, named envelope

e-mail: windmill@andaras.org
Tel: 01566 772143 Fax: 01566 776783

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 'Little Angel Gets Her Wings. Just to remind you that there will be three performances this year: one performance on **Tuesday 6th December 2016,** which will be in the morning (9.30am – 10.15am) and two on **Thursday 8th December 2016:** 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 have been be handed out . Costumes need to be sent into school in a named bag on Wednesday 30th December.

KS2 Carol Service 'Hosanna Rock'

This year's Key Stage 2 Carol service will be held at St Mary's Church in Launceston.
There will be two services this year: Wednesday 7th 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.

FilmClub

Wednesday
December 14th 2016
In the hall
3.30 - 5.30
£1.50 for the drink and film
Sweets and ice creams are available

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

Christmas Party Day

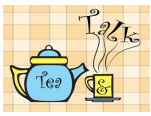
Thursday 15th December Whole school Christmas party. Invitations will be sent out for contributions towards the party and there will be no school lunches on that day. Children entitled to free school meals are not obliged to make a contribution as the canteen will be providing some food towards the party 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 9th 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 15th December There will be plenty of tea, coffee and biscuits available and maybe a mince pie as well!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1st - 15th Dec	Post Box in hall
2nd Dec	Decorations Day
7th Dec	KS2 Hosanna Rock
6th Dec	KS1 Nativity (AM)
8th Dec	KS1 Nativity (AM & PM)
9th Dec	Christmas Fair
13th Dec	Wrap a Gift Day
14th Dec	Christmas Dinner
7th Dec	KS2 Hosanna Rock (AM & PM)
15th Dec	Whole school Party Day
17th Dec—2nd Jan	Christmas Holidays

Attendance Figures for Nov 2016

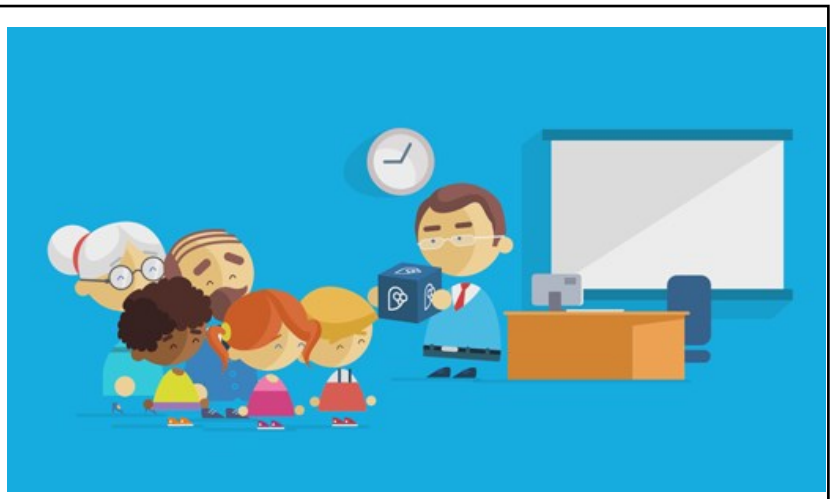
Year	31st Oct	7th Oct	14th Oct	21st Nov
YF	93.3%	92.8%	93%	93%
Y1	88.3%	90%	97.9%	93.3%
Y2	92.7%	92.9%	94.7%	89.3%
Y3	95%	90%	89%	93.4%
Y4	98.1%	97.4%	94.8%	95.9%
Y5	98.6%	90.7%	93.8%	96.9%
Y6	98.6%	97.6%	98.6%	95.2%

School Census

In January we have to submit the next school census and we have been informed that we need to record each child's country of birth and nationality.
A separate letter about this and about updating contact details will be coming home today please return this to school by Monday 12th December. Many thanks .

New website Platform

From January 2017 our school will have a learning platform to go with our website. We will give you your own personalised username and password to use the platform so that you can see information about your child and their class (more information will follow). To ensure that we are able to get information to you we need your e-mail address. If you e-mail **karin@andaras.org** I can put your address on the system. If you have already given your e-mail to the office you do not need to do it again.



Stars of The Week

	Year F	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
3rd Nov	Darcey S Harry E	Eva H Chelsee T	Jowan W Lola	Daniel M Tegan C	Oscar M Alfie	Thomas D Alfie R	Gamze M Alfie R
10th Nov	Sara U Louis G	Maisy H Elise N	Maellys P Poppy K		Florbella F James C	Olivia S Marshall M	Liam H Artur Z
17th Nov	Oliver G Kayla S	Alice P Manny C	Aime Page Ecrin U	Warren C Summer S	Evie H Toby G		Oliver M Bailey L

KS1 Multi Skills

On Thursday 24th November some children from Year 1 and Year 2 participated in the multi-skills competition at Launceston College. Children participated in a number of activities like the hoop challenge, dribbling a football, jumping over a bench and so on. Despite being up against some stiff competition and being one man down the team came third!

Food Bank

Windmill Hill Academy is a partner with Launceston Foodbank

If you or your family are struggling to make ends meet or have a short term crisis then please talk to a member of staff in school (Sheila Jackson, Parent Support); help with food and other items can be offered almost immediately.

All information is strictly confidential

Class 4 Author Visit

This half term, Class 4 have had the privilege of being visited by a Cornish children's author, Judy Scrimshaw, prior to the launch of her new book – 'The Little Red Egg' – which is the first in her 'Morwenna Pendragon' series of books. They even found out that it was being printed locally in Launceston!

Judy shared with the pupils how she writes her books and explained the techniques she uses to illustrate them, which she does herself too. The class listened intently to her first book 'The Ballad of Morgowr' and discussed the phrases and language she used – some of which is also written in Cornish.

As a result of Judy's visit, the children were inspired to plan and write their own stories, which they are keen to share with pupils in other classes.

Everyone in Class 4, would like to say a big thank you to Judy for coming in to work with us. For more information, please go online and visit Judy Scrimshaw's website: www.grannymoff.com

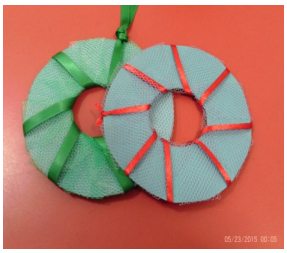
Cross Country at Duchy College

Look What We Made in Sewing Club

During Sewing Club with classes 5 & 6, we have been making fairies using dolly pegs. Here is how we made them:

1) Get a dolly peg. 2) Paint on her hair, face, body and shoes.

3) Use netting, ribbons, scraps of material, wool and make a small pom pom.



4) Tie the pom pom onto the dolly peg fairy around her waist.

5) You have a beautiful fairy to hang on the Christmas tree.

Dear All,

It is that time of the year again. A time when I am relegated to the back pages of the newsletter to make way for all things Christmas. There is always so much going on at this time of the year so we have put all our activities and events on the front for you to keep track of so please keep this handy over the next couple of weeks. The first event is decorations day (Friday 2nd December) and we are inviting you to once again come in during the morning to help out in classes. There will be tea and coffee as well as mince pies and biscuits as a reward to getting sticky and glittered so please feel free to come in.

Last week we had a visit from Ofsted and I would just like to say a huge thank you to all the pupils and parents/carers for the support given to us. The final report is not quite ready yet but we are looking forward to receiving it when it comes out. Thank you once again.

Friends of Windmill Hill Academy News

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

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

Twitter @FriendsofWHA

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 10th for a Valentines Disco!

Christmas Fair

The Christmas fair this year will be held on Friday 9th December from 3.30 and we are hoping it will be bigger and better that 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	Jewellry	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 will be waiting for you!

Please turn to next page for a list of our draw prizes so far!

Grand Draw prizes so far:

Friends	Bike, Fitbit or Tablet (to the value of £150)	**Friends**	Christmas Hamper
Firebrand	Carvery for Two	**Launceston Fryers**	voucher Meal For Two
Homeleigh	Cream tea for 2	**Threads**	Double oven gloves and apron
Warrens	£5 Voucher	**Truscotts**	Free MOT
Mrs Terry (my mum)	Tins of Biscuits and chocolates	**Lifton Farm Shop**	£10 vegetable Hamper
Pat Williams	Remote control car	**Trethorne**	Entry for 2 people
Tesco	Soup Maker	**Mrs Williams**	
Jo Down Glass	Two glass dishes	**Hazzard**	Voucher
Flower Scene	Plant	**Co-op**	£5 voucher
Francine's	Cod & chips for two	**Mrs Terry (my mum)**	Christmas Crackers
David Parish	Scarf	**Maunders**	Thermos flask
Rugby Club	Ten Game Tickets	**Boots**	Fenjel Shower Mousse and Imperial Leather Foam burst
Diamond Cutz	£10 voucher	**Craig Chapman**	Voucher
The Bridge	Voucher for soft play or skate park	**Judy Scrimshaw (author)**	Bag, books and mugs

More still to be added!