



Cathedral Primary School Newsletter



'Many Voices, One Harmony'

Newsletter No.4 - December 2021



A message from Mrs Yarnold

Dear Parents & Carers,

What a wonderful term! There have been so many end of term Christmas celebrations and each one of them has blown us away. The singing around the school and during the performances has made Cathedral Primary School a very special place to be.

Key Stage 1 told us the Story of Christmas in many different ways. With the Reception performance, Maurice the mule, with the help of his friends, was able to work out exactly what was going on in their busy stable. In Year 1, the lovable disorganised angel managed to lead the way to Bethlehem. Finally, in the Year 2 production of 'Baubles' the children told us about how some helpful mice and a school caretaker created some beautiful baubles for a bare, forgotten Christmas tree. Each one of these plays made us feel so proud of the children.

Key Stage 2 children took part in a Christmas Carol Concert at the Cathedral. We are so fortunate to have such a magnificent setting where children, staff, parents, family and friends can gather together. This celebration once again gave us an opportunity to witness the talents of all the children. Each one of the children worked so hard to learn some beautiful songs and create awe and wonder moments.

There was a festive atmosphere around the school on Wednesday as Santa visited CPS to deliver some lovely presents for the children. As always, our younger children asked some thought provoking questions. Our favourite question this year was 'How did Rudolph get his red nose? The children were also delighted to once again all receive a lovely book as a Christmas present.

Since writing the last newsletter there have once again been some really exciting curriculum topics and events. Year 6 had a fantastic chocolate-filled trip to Cadbury World as part of their Mayans topic and Year 4 made use of the brilliant resources at the Museum - the children loved being able to handle real ancient Greek artefacts.

Huge thanks once again to the PTA for organising Christmas fundraising events. The annual Christmas tree selling, cards created by children, wreath making, virtual baking session, christmas books and of course not forgetting the raffle. Thank you once again for being so creative in your money raising events.



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Once again, you have been very generous with gifts this Christmas. We are well stocked up with some lovely treats. Many thanks from all the staff. We would also like to thank you for your continued support this term with homework, spelling and reading activities. Please remember that it is really important to keep up with regular reading over the Christmas break.

I would like to finish by saying a huge thank you to all of our school community for your support this year. Your positivity, your children's enthusiasm and big smiles make our school a very special place to be. I really hope that families manage to have some safe time together and look forward to working with you in the new Year.

We would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas!

Best Wishes

Sara Yarnold and the CPS Team



Year 6 Highlight

Year 6 have loved creating Maya Creation Story shadow puppets which we were able to use in our science lesson, exploring how shadows keep the shape of the object creating them but become larger due to the position of the light source!



From the Office

Thank You ➤ Thank you for all your generous gifts, we feel truly special in the office. ☀

Foodbank ➤ Message from Bristol North West Foodbank. Christmas opening times. Our last day of opening in 2021 will be Friday 24th December 10am-12 noon at our Emmanuel Chapel, Henbury outlet. We will reopen on Monday 3rd January 2022 at our Avonmouth outlet.

Shine ➤ We are aware that several families have been unable to book the slots they need at SHINE for Term 3 because of insufficient availability. Please be aware that we are discussing options with SHINE to try to help release additional space within the school which could allow them to increase numbers.

School Meals ➤ Don't forget, the closing day for meal bookings can now be made until midnight on **SUNDAY** of the commencing week. You can book one week at a time, or several weeks in advance.



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CPS PTA

What a busy term! A huge thank you from the PTA to everyone who has so generously supported all of our fundraising this half term. With no Winter Fair again this year, fundraising has been harder, but we are so grateful to everyone who has supported the PTA in one form or another. As a community we have achieved so much – here are the highlights:

Firstly, thank you to the tremendous efforts of the Christmas Tree team who co-ordinated the sale and delivery of over 100 trees as part of the joint CPS and BCCS Christmas Tree Sale. The sale raised a fantastic £1,128 for each school.

The children designed some beautiful Christmas cards that Andy and Tara Bird at Folio Print kindly printed and packed for us. We are particularly thankful to Andy and Tara for their support this year as their daughter has since moved onto BCCS and the task of getting the cards made and packed is no mean feat. Thank you also to our card sponsors for your donations - together with card sales, we raised £927.

Thank you to Jonathan Bradshaw and family for putting on our first Family Christmas Bake Along! What a lovely way to spend an afternoon learning how to make a Christmas gingerbread trees – lots of fun was had by those who took part. We hope to make this a regular feature!

The Christmas Raffle raised a fantastic £1051 this year. Thank you to every one who bought a ticket and to those who donated our fantastic prizes which included a F1 Mercedes shirt and cap signed by Lewis Hamilton, a £100 bar tab at The Volley, Ballyage hair from The LockStock. £50 Cosy Club voucher, Afternoon tea at the Hilton Garden, home made tote bags full of goodies, book bundles, pamper sets, Harvey Nichols box hamper, bubbly and wine and so much more. We are so grateful for your kindness and generosity in helping make the raffle so successful this year.

In addition to this, an enjoyable evening was had by those who attended our Christmas wreath workshop hosted with our friends at Floriography. In our 5th year of holding this workshop, it's become somewhat of a tradition at CPS and we always enjoy seeing each unique creation afterwards! The workshop raised £70 towards the PTA.

Finally, the PTA were thrilled to be able to fund the Christmas book gifts again this year, which were delivered by Santa on the last day of term to the children. Thank you to our book-wrapping volunteers/elves(!) for helping make this happen.

This year's fundraising is primarily supporting the school's literacy programme but it also helps fund more regular activities for the children such as Forest School, WOW days, author and art workshops, living eggs and more. More plans are in the pipeline for next year and we hope to work with BCCS PTA where possible to fund improvements on site that will benefit both schools.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break and we look forward to working on more PTA activities with you in the New Year.

All the best
CPS PTA



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PTA Christmas Tree Team

Thank you to the schools community for supporting the joint PTA Charities Christmas tree sale. We have raised a whopping £2156 from sales and deliveries which will be shared equally between BCCS PTA and CPS PTA.

A massive thank you to all the volunteers who helped with this event, so much effort goes in by so many people giving up their time for such a worthwhile cause. Marketing, administration, deliveries, sales and logistics are all covered by our amazing volunteers.

Thank you so much and best wishes for a very Merry Christmas.

PTA Christmas Tree Team



Forest School

What a fun packed term we have had at Forest School Miss. Hornshaw has been running the sessions for Year 2 as part of her Forest School Leader qualification and she has done an amazing job inspiring both classes. We have looked at animal habitats and created our own, we have looked at what predators might live in the forest and how they all survive. Year 2 have started working with tools, saws and drills to make some Christmas crafts and have shown us how determined they can be to get the job done, well done.



Rock and Pop classes have been continuing their journey at Forest School learning how to stay warm and look after one another.

They have been exploring and gaining more confidence in the natural world developing their own inquisitiveness. They have also created some fantastic Christmas decorations using resources from the woods showing us how imaginative they can be outside the classroom.



School Dog Update

Bramble is getting more used to the children now and is able to stay calm and self controlled when she is walking around the school and outside. She loves it when the children come into the office to visit me or to read her a story. Sometimes the children give her training commands and then I treat her if she follows their instructions. We are currently working on her being able to be calm out of her pen when adults are in the office and being able to stay laying or sitting down in order to earn a stroke from them. She is doing really well, as it takes a lot of self control for such a friendly dog!

