

Drake Primary School Newsletter

15th December 2023



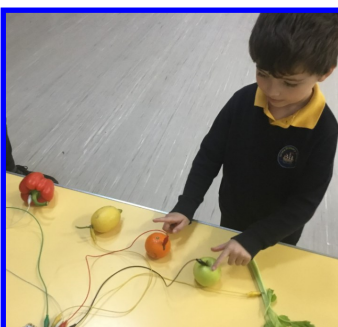
Year 3 singing and playing the Glockenspiels

Dear Families,

Another festive week at Drake, with parties, performances and a Christmas workshop day. Around this, the children continue to work hard until the end of term, mastering their math skills, completing their last pieces of writing, summarising their learning from the term, finishing art work and reviewing their science units. Leaders have been monitoring books over the last few weeks with a focus on support and challenge within lessons.

It has been an absolute pleasure for the children to be able to share their Christmas performances with families this week. The staff and children work hard developing music skills and learning songs and stories. The children are well rehearsed at practising these in school, but the performing of these to an audience requires a different kind of courage and confidence. The children have made us very proud!

This week Reception enjoyed workshops with the School of Noise. They learnt about sound and used an Ototo to play samples using fruit and vegetables. They used a theremin (synthesiser controlled by hand movement) to make sounds and enjoyed using Chladni Plate to see how sound vibration creates beautiful patterns.



This is the final main newsletter of the Autumn Term so we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. We hope that you all have some opportunities for quality time with family, have a break from work and enjoy the Winter holidays. We look forward to seeing the children back on Thursday 4th January.

Every Day Matters

It is a statutory requirement for children to attend school every day.

The class with highest attendance this week are

Tereshkova

100 %

Congratulations!



Whole school attendance is 94.96%

Secret Student

Named secret students this week are:

Reception: Cassius, River, Amelia P, Evelyn, Bonnie, Molly, Poppy, Eli, Cassius

Year 1: Berwin, Mabel, George, Laura, Indie, James, Blake, Charlie

Year 2: Harley, Harlo, Vanessa, Dart, Lillie

Year 3: Sem, Georgia, Oscar G, Bentley, Jaxon, Jackson, Igor, Sam, Ruth, Freddie

Year 4: Adna, Amanda, Myles, Isaac, Oliver, Lee, David, Sonny

Year 5: Isabella, Lily, Darragh, Nathan, Albie-Alan, George, Gabriela,

Year 6: Caitlin, Summer, Alisha, Henry, Caleb, Eloise, Maya

These pupils have demonstrated our school values and learning behaviours, well done.

Next Week's final Christmas events

Year 2 Nativity

The Year 2 Nativity will take place on Monday at 9:30 and 2pm in the main hall

Carol service

All classes will be visiting St Cuthberts church on 19th December for a Carol Service. This is an event for children only. We are unable to invite families due to limited space within the church.

All children will attend school at the usual time. Reception, Year 1 and 2 will be leaving first so please ensure that children arrive by 8:45. Children should wear school uniform, but may wear a Christmas jumper in place of their school jumper or cardigan and may wear Christmas accessories.

Choir

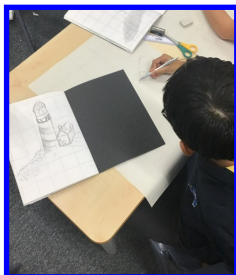
Our school choir will be singing some of our Christmas favourites as we welcome families in at the gate on the last day of term 20th December at 1 pm. The side gate by the main hall will open first to families of choir members so that you can gather to watch your child.

Prefect Update

This week was full of Christmas cheer.

We have had a really busy week in Y6 creating our 3D lighthouses in art and we had a Christmas workshop. We went to different activities and we really enjoyed the Kahoot quiz and the stocking making. We went to help the Y1 children get to where they need to be. Lots of classes have had Christmas parties which have been really fun. Lots of year groups have had their music concert this week, where parents have been invited into school to watch. Some parents came into our Friday assembly this week to watch some of our piano players play. They were amazing.

Merry Christmas everyone and see you again in the new year.



Reading

It is important that children read every day. On a Monday, reading diaries are checked and teachers award gold stars for children who have read more than 7 times.

229 children across school read more than 7 times last week.

This week's award is to:

Maathai

Daily run

To support mental and physical health and well-being, children run every day.

This week's award is to:

KS1: Earhart

KS2: Curie

School Update: Workshop Morning

Last Summer, we held a 'workshop day' in school. This involved a range of workshops offered to the children and led by staff across school. The children were able to mix with different year groups to complete an activity. Following its success, we decided to schedule three of these into our year. We then discovered that it was enjoyed so much that the children would also adopt the idea for Children in Need. This week, we held the first of our annual workshops with a Christmas theme. The day was enjoyed by all.

Our Christmas workshops included

Reindeer hunt
Lolly stick decorations
Karaoke
Quiz
Zumba
Joke-a-thon
Drawing/colouring mindfulness
Coding
Finger painting
Sewing stockings
Gonks
Multiplication colouring
Glockenspiels



Feature Podcast

Our children contribute to school life and learning through our Drake Radio. You can listen live <https://player.broadcast.radio/?autoplay=1&stationId=730>

Watch our feature **video: Music** in Forest school <https://drake-infant-school-and-nursery.primarysite.media/media/the-samba-three-band-of-forest-schools>

All podcasts are available on video centre section of the school website. <https://drake-infant-school-and-nursery.primarysite.media/>

MALLARDS

Thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas fayre. It was a great event and lovely to see so many of you there. MALLARDS raise money to support the school. We will be looking for more members in January. mallards91rv@nsix.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

All scheduled events are included in class newsletters and added to the school website calendar. <https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/diary/grid/2023/01/>

We aim to provide as much notice as possible for school events, but there are sometimes opportunities that arrive at short notice. As new events are created, we will list them here and then add them to the calendar for future reference.

Autumn Term dates

20th December: Last day of term, school closes at 1pm

Spring Term dates

3rd January: INSET Day
4th January: School re-opens for children