



# Christmas Newsletter!

## Celebrating Christmas at Gig Mill.

As we approach the end of term and the end of 2016, there have been lots of wonderful celebrations taking place in school. Our youngest children in Nursery have been busy in Santa's workshop, and each of the Reception classes led superb nativity shows for family and friends. Our Year 1 classes led two performances of "Prickly Hay". There was amazing singing from Year 2 children who told the Christmas story in songs.

This week the children (and some staff) enjoyed a great Christmas lunch served by Julie and the catering team, and there has been lots of dancing and party games at Christmas class parties.

Everyone is really looking forward to our final events - a festive Macmillan Coffee Morning today, and our Carol Concert on the final day of term at 1.30pm.

***We wish you all a wonderful festive holiday, a great Christmas and a Happy New Year.***

Comments from our Key Stage One performances...

*You were all amazing and each one of you shone brightly like the stars you are!*

Such enthusiasm! Very well remembered, clear words and moves. Congratulations all of you!

A big thank you to the children and also the staff who work so hard to give us these memories!

Amazing! Took my breath away. Very proud mommy, made me cry happy tears.

What a fantastic performance! The singing and acting were brilliant. Christmas has really started now!!

## Christmas Fayre Winners

Well done to:-

**Sarah** in Year 5 who won the Children's Hamper and

**Aimee** in Year 6 won the Christmas Teddy raffle

A big thank you to **Asda** in Merry Hill who were such a big help for our Nativity performances, donating some costumes and hangers.



Everyone at Gig Mill would like to say a big thank you to all of the members of our HSA.

They freely give up their time and work extremely hard to organise events and raise money to benefit all our children.

**THANK YOU!**

## Hellos and Goodbyes

Mrs Dudley will be starting her maternity leave after Christmas and we wish her the best of luck with her new soon-to-be bundle of joy. Mrs Dudley will be replaced by Mrs Smith in Class 2BD.





# Charity Fundraising

Well Done! A great effort from all our fundraisers for Classrooms in the Clouds in Nepal who so far this term have raised:-

**£426.90** during our RRSA week (Rights Respecting School Awards)

Year 5's bake sale raised **£15.** – Roxy, Olivia J, Ellie, Amber, Jake, Paige & Lowri

Some enterprising students in Year 3, through craft sales,

have raised **£42.00** – Maya, Isobel C, Josie, Annabel, Lindan & Rhys (Y4).

Great initiative from the children, and a fantastic total this term!



As part of the “**Big Give**” pledge, our fundraising this term has been matched making a total of **£967.80**, This means our sponsored teacher in Nepal - Pura will be funded for 6 months. THANKS EVERYONE!



Thank you to everyone who attended/donated to our **Macmillan Coffee Morning** – we look forward to sharing the total with you all in the New Year. Well done to Year 6 pupils and staff, and the choir for making this event really special.

A special thank you goes to **Miss Ann Florist** in Rowley Regis for her donation of a beautiful bouquet of flowers which was offered as a raffle prize.

## Rights Respecting Schools Great News! Well Done!

We are all thrilled to be able to let you all know that we have gained our level one award.

The Assessor visited us at the end of November and met with staff, governors, children and parents to look at the range of evidence towards the Award.

She was very impressed with the whole school commitment, school-wide impact of the team, and the confidence of our children in articulating both their own rights, but supporting those of others.

**A huge thank you to everyone involved.**

To all our Reading Volunteers who come into school each week and read with our children, a big thank you. If anyone is interested in becoming a reading volunteer, please look out for more information in the Spring Term.

KS2 pupils who use our school bank or who would like to open an account please note that the HSBC Gig Mill Bank will re-open on **9<sup>th</sup> January 2016**.



## Looking ahead to 2017 : dates for the Diary

**INSET Day** – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017

**Term Begins** – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**Maths Pattern Day** – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2017 (Children to wear a piece of patterned clothing)

**Half-Term** – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**Spring Term Ends** – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017

## E-safety- for advice and information for parents:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

<http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<http://parentinfo.org/page/for-schools>