



## Bishop Wood C of E Junior School

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Mr G Stanley, Headteacher

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

### **Happy Christmas!**

As we approach the end of a very long Autumn Term, I want to take the opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support of Bishop Wood School. Your commitment to working in partnership with us for the best outcomes of the children is one of the things which makes working at Bishop Wood such a great pleasure. It has been a long Term and everyone needs the opportunity to reflect and recharge over the Christmas break. I am sure you will join me in wishing all the amazing staff members here a Happy Christmas! I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Please enjoy this wonderful festive poem written by Wills H and Fin M (Year 6):

### **Christmas Rap**

On one cold Christmas night,  
The town was filled with festive lights.  
Having hot cocoa,  
Santa going Ho-Ho!  
Dad's burnt the turkey,  
Everyone's a bit jerky.  
Mulled wine and spice?  
Are you being nice?  
The big man is chugging coke,  
His sleigh starts to smoke.  
Crash! He's landed!  
He's positively stranded!  
'Humbug!' says Scrooge,  
'Cos he's in a b ad mood.  
They go to the present, future and past,  
How do they do it all so fast?  
Adults having mince pies, scoffing the lot,  
Children drinking cream, straight from the pot!  
It's the most wonderful time of the year,  
'Cos adults are laid back; too much beer!

### **Christmas Service**

This week the whole school joined together for two services at St Peter and St Paul. Year 5 did a wonderful job of leading the service and were brilliantly supported by the rest of the school. Both services were a joy to watch. Thank you to all those parents and other family members who came along to support the school and who sang with such gusto. Christmas has officially started!

### **Governors Update**

The governors of Bishop Wood School would like to extend our thanks to all staff, parents, and children for their dedication and hard work this term. Your commitment to our school's values continues to create an environment where young people can thrive.

It has been inspiring, as always, to witness the collaborative spirit that defines our community, reminding us that, together, we can achieve amazing things and see moments of wonder in more ordinary things.

As a Church School, Christmas resonates even more deeply within our community. This time of year serves as a wonderful opportunity for reflection, gratitude, and celebration of the values we hold dear; the activities and events we have shared this term have not only brought joy, but have also illustrated and reinforced our commitment to nurturing young hearts and minds in a Christian environment.

As we look forward to the new year we hope to carry the spirit of Christmas with us, embracing kindness, compassion, and hope.



We wish you all a peaceful and joyous holiday season filled with love and laughter. Thank you for being an integral part of the Bishop Wood family, and we look forward to continuing our journey together in the coming year.

Warmest wishes,

Liz Ayling, Vice Chair

The Governors of Bishop Wood School

### **Creative Writing Club**

Congratulations to the members of our Year 5 and 6 Creative Writing Club who presented their Murder Mystery to teachers and families this week. Their characters were extremely colourful and the plot very intriguing. We do have a couple of spaces free for any other children who would like to join next term. Please let Mrs Harland know if you are interested.

### **SENCo Update**

This week we said farewell to Mrs Guest who has worked at Bishop Wood for many years and in many different roles. Her most recent role was that of Special Educational Needs Coordinator. This was a role to which she brought a huge amount of drive and passion. We will be starting the work to find a replacement in the New Year. Whilst that work is underway, Mr Patten and I will be sharing the responsibility for SEN in the school. I will update you all as we move through the process.

### **Buddies**

Can we all extend a huge thank you to the Buddies who have been extremely busy this festive period. They have put together some wonderful events and supported the school with such amazing energy. Thank you all for your hard work – we really do appreciate it.

### **Outdoor Learning**

I am incredibly excited to announce that we will be working in partnership with Mike Williams from [‘Out To Learn’](#) from January onwards. Mike will be working with groups of pupils to help develop the school grounds in a sustainable way whilst also incorporating some wonderful, structured learning sessions. We are planning it so that every child will have a series of sessions before the end of the school year is out so do not panic if your child is not selected in the first tranche. I will keep you updated via the newsletter on what the children have been up to.

‘I’m excited about the possibility of working with Bishop Wood School to offer an engaging and impactful Out to Learn programme that nurtures wellbeing, supports academic growth, and fosters a sense of awe and wonder in nature.’ – Mike Williams

### **Autumn Term Governor Award Winners**

Congratulations to the following pupils:

3I – Nancy C - for always displaying excellent learning behaviours, being a wonderful role model and making excellent progress this term.

3S – Arthur S - for consistently demonstrating a great attitude across the curriculum and for being a wonderful friend to his peers.

4A – Alice G - for always being a great role model, showing enthusiasm and determination in her learning across the subjects. Well done!

4PS – Ava T - for her superb attitude to all areas of school life, her resilience and perseverance and for being a wonderful role model to others.

5DR – Arthur B - for always working hard to improve learning behaviours, asking thoughtful questions across the curriculum and being enthusiastic about all areas of school life.

5H – Ella H - for never shying away from a challenge, showing excellent effort and concentration across the curriculum and always trying to do her best

6C – Freddie S - for his kind and thoughtful nature (often helping his teacher and his peers) as well as his great attitude to learning and the terrific progress he is making.

6M – Eli W - for his excellent effort in all areas of the curriculum and in particular for his amazing maths.

### **Other Honours**

Hal W – Grade 1 Ice Skating

Dolcie HP – Jazz performance

### **HW Dance Grotto - 22nd December 12-4**

Come along and see us we will have stalls, snow globe, bouncy castle, craft stalls, food, and drink, cheerleading and Santa himself along with the grinch and Elsa. as well as fun and games for everyone. Our raffle that you can get tickets

for one the day have The Breeze Pamper Hamper, The dance team game night Hamper, The Storm for Him hamper as well as others.

We will also have our High Street Lucky Stars. Will you be lucky enough to win one of her fab prizes donated from local businesses? To name a few we have £100 Crockers voucher, meal for 4 at Akemen, floral arrangement from magnolias, Gift voucher for HW Dance, Free MOT from Tring MOTs and a voucher for feathers and sprinkles plus many more. To book Santa please email [Billing@hwdance.co.uk](mailto:Billing@hwdance.co.uk) slots will also be available on the day. We hope to see you there.

All information on the event can be found [here](#) and for the raffle [here](#).

HW Dance

#### **Litter Poster Competition**

Thank you to all the children that took part in this competition. The Eco-warriors voted for their favourite posters and the winners were announced on Tuesday in assembly. Well done to Esme - 3rd place, Lucy/Ralph and Eve/Cass/Jasmine/Holly - joint 2nd, and Alice G - 1st place!

The amount of litter collected each Friday has reduced slightly, down to 45 pieces one week, but that is still 45 too many! Please help us to make our site litter free by not sending your children with single use plastic on their snacks - only fruit, vegetables and bread-based snacks are allowed. Thank you for your support with this.

Thank you and best wishes

Mr Stanley