



## Newsletter November/December 2016

*Well here we are, nearly at the end of 2016. It's been a fabulous festive end of term at Willesley. Year 2 have given us a fabulous nativity, letting us understand how children around the world celebrate Christmas. Acorns and Year 1 also treated us to a multicultural look at Christmas with their 120 strong epic performance. KS2 weren't to be outdone either; their singing at church was the best I've heard in my time so far at Willesley. Oh and the staff sang well with their version of I Wish it Could be Christmas Everyday!*

*Decorations morning was well attended. It was great to see so many parents and grandparents helping to prepare the school for Christmas. I'd also like to thank the WASPs for the amazing Christmas Fair I think that it was also the best attended fair we've had.*

*Finally I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful and safe Christmas. Thank you all for making Willesley such a special place to be a headteacher.*

*Matthew Brookes*

**Remembrance Day:** Thank you to all those supporting this very important date and purchasing poppy memorabilia at school. The children paid their respects during a minutes silence on the playground. Several Year 6 children attended the Sunday service and parade in Ashby, laying a wreath on the schools behalf.



**Roman Day –** Year 3 celebrated their Roman topic by dressing as Romans. The children participated in lots of activities including marching, making mosaics and learning new songs. They finished their day with a Roman feast. We all had an amazing day!

**Sporting Events:** A sporting highlight came in the form of a visit from ex-pupils Taylor and Tarran Mackenzie, (National Super Stock and Supersport racing champions) who came in and took an assembly with an inspirational message of resilience and determination for success. All classes had chance to get up close to the race bike and talk to the riding Champions, after seeing the old class photos from 2004!

November began with 20 of our Year 5/6 pupils competing in a Sports Hall Athletics event and coming 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. All of our Year 2 children and 23 of our Year 1 children enjoyed taking part in Multi-sports Festivals; both were a credit to us with fantastic behaviour and attitude. Our Year 5 Tag Rugby team played in a close

final against Broom Leys, losing by only 1 try! A team from Year 4 enjoyed an afternoon of Multi-sports competing against other schools and 23 children from Year 2 gave a magnificent performance in a Dance Festival.

We were so proud of our Year 5/6 Boys and Girls Table Tennis teams, who competed in the Super Series Level 3 final. Both teams were brilliant and the boys won Spirit of the Games trophy!

Our final sports event of the month was the dodgeball competition - we sent three Y5/6 teams, with 2 teams meeting each other in the quarter finals & the A team progressing to the finals competition. It was lovely to see such determination & smiling faces from many children new to representing the school at sport.



**School Inhaler** – Schools are now advised to have a generic inhaler in school for use in emergency situations. We have purchased two to be used in school and at sporting events/visits in emergency situations only.

**Club Activ8** – Reminder if you have not yet been and had your child's Club Activ8 card activated at the leisure centre then please do so. Your child can then start collecting points towards paying for swimming, booking courts etc. Forms and cards are available from the office if needed.

**New Sports Kits** - The staff and pupils would like to **thank the WASPs and all our families** for their tremendous fundraising efforts. The funds raised have provided us with our wonderful new football kits! (Much needed as we were looking a little mismatched on the pitch!) We now have 3 very smart, all matching purple kits for our girls and boys teams. What a boost it will be to our already strong teams in forthcoming competitions. The kits will be well organised by our sports apprentice Matt Smedley.



In addition, after seeing a **Crazy Catch** in action at Ashby Hastings Cricket Club and seeing how useful it can be for practising throwing and catching, the WASPs very kindly offered to fund one for the school. To be used and enjoyed by all age groups and teams!

**KS2 Carol Service** – Yet another wonderful evening – the children were in fine voice, the best singing we have heard for a while. As always a time to reflect on the Christmas Story and those around you. We hope you all enjoyed the staff's contribution to the evening? The collection raised £340 which will be donated to Rainbow Hospice – Thank you.

**Willesley Sings Christmas CD's** are available to purchase for £4 which includes Christmas songs performed by each year group.



**WASP's** - Well, what a Christmas fair! Gluhwein and bier were flowing, games were played and competition was fierce, tombolas were cleared of prizes, and gifts and goodies galore were bought. It was full of festive cheer and brilliantly well supported – thank you so much to everyone that came, enjoyed and spent! The grand total raised was £2,297, a truly fantastic amount. An extra thank you to all the volunteers who helped set up, run and clear away – we really couldn't do it without you.

The Christmas fundraiser has also been very well supported; the final collection will be on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December and all remaining orders will be available for collection from the parent shelter from 3.00pm on that day; please come and collect yours!

Future dates for your diary:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb, Race Night – place your bets, cheer on your horse and enjoy a great night!
- 31<sup>st</sup> Mar, Chocolate Bingo – the best variation on the traditional game, with oodles of chocolate prizes!

Watch out for a uniform sale next term, date tbc.

So far this year, the money that has been raised is paying for the coaches to take the children to the pantomimes, and a refreshing drink while they are there. Other monies will go towards further playground equipment.

### Diary Dates

Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day of Term
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Teacher Day
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Children back to School
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Y6 Stone Age Day at school
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Fs & Y6 – NHS Height & Weight
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Y5 Global Leicester visit
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	2RM class assembly – 9.15am