

NEWSLETTER –December 2024

December is a really special month in primary schools. There are a number of really exciting events for your children to enjoy and many which we ask you to join us for. Thank you to those of you who attended our Christmas Fayre on Friday and that together with the KS2 pantomime trip has really got us off to a good start.

KS1 and Reception concerts start this week. The children will be performing 'The Big Little Nativity' and next week KS2 children will perform a traditional concert of songs and readings. We appreciate that this is a busy time of year but we do ask that children return for the evening performances. All concerts are ticketed due to fire regulations - everyone in the audience will need a ticket and this includes all children over the age of one. Babies in arms/prams are not counted in our numbers but we will be making our own record. Please look out for messages from individual teachers for information about costumes and timings for return to school.

We owe a huge thank you to the PTFA for organising such a great Christmas Fayre on Friday, below is a message from Chris:

As the new Chair of the PTFA, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents, carers, and teachers for supporting the PTFA events so far this academic year.

I'd also like to say a massive thank you to all of the PTFA volunteers, without whom, putting on the events would not be possible. Some of the PTFA are pictured here in this photo, which was taken just before the doors opened to the Christmas Fayre. Thank you all for a great team effort over the weeks leading up to the Fayre, your help on the stalls, and also the clear up after!

If you'd like to know more about the PTFA or would like to get involved, then please reach out to your year group representative.

Looking ahead to the Spring term, we will be organising an adult only 'Chip and Quiz' night as well as an Easter Family Bingo. Details of all events will be in the monthly newsletters.

But for now, Merry Christmas to you all from myself and all of the Hampton Dene PTFA. Chris

Diary Dates

December

Tuesday 3rd – 2pm – KS1 & Reception Christmas performance

Wednesday 4th -5:30pm KS1 and Reception Christmas performance

Thursday 5th – Nasal Flu vaccinations

Friday 6th – Extra Curricular clubs finish today

Tuesday 10th – Ladybirds visit the Courtyard.

5:30pm KS2 Christmas concert

Wednesday 11th – Choir sing at Hampton Park Church (am).

2:45pm & 5:30pm KS2 Christmas Concert

Thursday 12th – Butterflies, Ospreys and Kestrels, Courtyard visit

Tuesday 17th – Hawks Ice Skating trip, Caterpillars Courtyard visit.

6:30pm Choir take part in BHBS concert

Wednesday 18th – Ospreys and Kestrels to Perrygrove Railway. Christmas Lunch

Thursday 19th – Last day of the Autumn term

From all of us here at Hampton Dene we wish you a peaceful and Merry Christmas. Thank you for your support throughout the year; we look forward to working with you all throughout 2025.

Hampton Dene Primary School wish you all a restful and Happy Christmas.

Owls Class went up Aconbury Hill and asked the question: What does an Iron Age Hill Fort look like now? We walked through and next to the defence walls. Once at the top, we could see the advantage of living up there for we could see out over the neighbouring countryside. Miss Jones



Hawks Class on the Roman trail in Caerleon



The Amphitheatre



Workshop and Museum



Baths



One School Cherishing All

Reminders

- A plea to all parents who drive to school – please consider the needs of our local residents when parking your cars at pick up and drop off. Please leave driveways clear and bear in mind that all roads should be accessible by emergency vehicles; side roads can be narrowed significantly by parking on both sides.
- Don't forget to order lunches
- The last day of term is Thursday 19th December (Friday 20th is Staff INSET). We return to school after the Christmas break on Monday 6th January.
- Please remember all children need to be in school before the gate closes at 8:40am, arriving late into school has a big impact on self esteem, confidence and attitude to learning. If you need help with the morning routine please speak to a member of staff who will be happy to advise.

The unexpected snow in November gave us a chance to go out and explore. We all had a fabulous time making snow men and having fun with our friends.



Snow this early on in the school year is quite unusual. We will always do our best to stay open for those staff and pupils who can get here safely. Please let us know if you are having trouble getting to us because of weather conditions as this is coded differently on our registers. Please also be aware that a late safe arrival is preferable to non-attendance.