



Seven Hills Primary School,
Appleby Way, Ackroyd Street, Morley,
Leeds, LS27 8LA
Tel: 0113 252 7194
Fax: 0113 307 4683

Headteacher: Mr Richard Catherall MA NPQH

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent,

This term seems to have gone as fast as Santa's sleigh on Christmas Eve. As well as the many exciting and focused learning experiences this month, we have had many enjoyable festive events.

On the back of our visit from Mr Rowe and his Highways Safety team, Mrs Richards announced the winners of our Road Safety poster competition. The children are well prepared for being safe and seen this winter.

Just over 400 Christmas lunches were served at the start of the month and Mrs Woodhead (Chief Cook) and her team were in early chopping potatoes, peeling carrots & sprouts and making sure the ovens were ready for the turkey and other festive food. School staff took turns to serve the children and had their Christmas lunch with the children too.

The Christmas Fayre was once again an enjoyable and well attended event. We were very pleased to be joined by Father Christmas and many children got to experience visiting Santa and received a present. Thanks to FOSH for giving their time too and providing the refreshments. There were a variety of stalls that included chance games e.g. bottle stall, tombola, raffle and guessing the name of the giant cuddly penguin! Your kind contributions brought over £1262.35 and helped to pay for the Christmas parties and other events for the children.

The FS and KS1 Christmas Performances were wonderful occasions. All the children and staff in school - as well as parents - thoroughly enjoyed watching the Christmas Nativity concerts. The singing, dancing and performing were superb with the children looking fabulously festive in their costumes and make-up. It really helped to deliver the true meaning of Christmas. We are all very proud of all the children that took part in the performances.

Festive food, games and dancing took place at our Christmas parties where the children got dressed up and had a great time. Many thanks for the party food that you were kind enough to contribute.

This morning's Christmas Service was a joyous occasion. The Christingle candles were lit, carols and songs were sung and artwork was shown. Christmas poetry and music were also performed for adults and children to enjoy.

Amongst all the festive fun that we are having it would be lovely if you were able to spare £1 as part of our Christmas jumper day celebration as 50% of the money raised will be going to FOSH and 50% will be going to the national charity for Christmas jumper day, 'Save the Children'.

You will be aware of school carrying out fire drills every half term to practice the evacuation in case of a fire. Fires in schools are few and far between but it is vital that children and staff are skilled in evacuating as quickly and safely as possible. Our times for these evacuations (and everyone accounted for) are regularly around four minutes. During the first two weeks of our return from the Christmas break we will practise an invacuation. An invacuation is to prepare children to know what to do in extreme circumstances. These may include intruders that are deemed to be of a high risk on the school premises or local area, or wild animals on the loose on the school grounds. We will introduce these procedures in a sensitive way for the children so as not to panic them but to understand that we need to practice for different eventualities so that we can be as safe as possible at all times.

After the Christmas holiday we will be having a winter spellings challenge for Years 1 to 6. Before the break the children will receive 30 spellings, from their age related list, to learn. It would be very much appreciated if you would help your child to learn these spellings over the break. Miss Webb and Miss Whitaker have produced a booklet of activities to support this, it includes 'Look, Cover, Write, Check'; writing rainbow words and creating a spellings word search grid. After the Christmas break the children will be tested on these spellings and those children that perform to a high standard will receive a prize in assembly.

We are hoping that we have behaved well enough to receive a visit from Santa tomorrow morning for Key Stages One and Two when we will hold a special assembly for the children. Father Christmas has already visited Nursery and Reception classes and they made him feel very welcome. Finally, you are warmly invited to our 'Carols around the Snowflakes' on Friday afternoon starting at 2:30pm in the KS1 playground. You may take your child once they have returned back in to school and collected their belongings, e.g. toys/games.

Kind regards,

L. D. Catherall

Mr Catherall

