



December 2018 Issue 95

Ruskin Junior School

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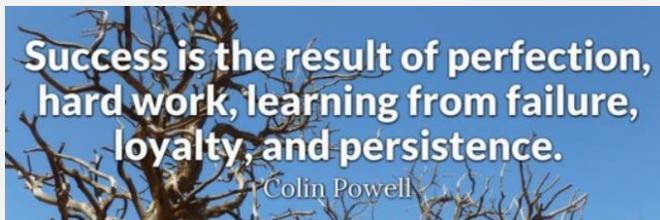
 @Ruskin_Juniors

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to this month's special festive edition of Ruskin Junior School's newsletter. So much has happened, it's difficult to believe it's possible for it all to have happened in the space of a month! Well, the tree's up in the hall, the children are singing Silent Night getting ready for our Christmas performance and Mr Priday is getting the rest of the Christmas decorations out of the loft (cupboard in the hall). It's the time to be jolly, it's the time to have fun but first, it's time to put your feet up, grab a mince pie and a cup of tea and reflect, on what has been one of the busiest months in Ruskin's history!

Merry Christmas!

Mr Beadnell



Dates for Term 2:

Thursday 6th December

School Discos

Friday 7th December

Dame Jane Goodhall Class

Assembly

Non-uniform for Christmas Morning

Tuesday 11th December

Christmas Celebration in the Hall

Wednesday 12th December

Christmas Celebration in the Hall

Friday 14th December

Friends Christmas Morning

Wednesday 19th December

Years 3 and 4 Christmas Lunch

Thursday 20th December

Years 5 and 6 Christmas Lunch

Friday 21st December

Last day of term: finish at 1:30

Monday 7th January

TD Day

Tuesday 8th January

Children return to school – start of term 3

Value for Term 2



Creativity

Lest we Forget

November saw the hundredth anniversary of the end of the First World War and the Armistice Centenary on 11th November. Year 4's Big Idea for the first part of the school year centred around this monumental historical event. They learnt about how the war started, what conditions were like for soldiers fighting in the trenches and also about the music and poetry of the era. Sir Ranulph Fiennes Class performed a beautifully profound class assembly featuring hand-knitted poppies and a perfectly acknowledged minute's silence. The following week, Years 4 and 6 were treated to a wonderful performance by Prime Theatre entitled 'The Eleventh Hour'. The children sat mesmerised for the entire hour as two actors played out the final moments of the war in superb fashion. Year 4 were also visited by local historian And even had their artwork displayed in the church as part of their Remembrance Service. All in all, a learning experience that will never be forgotten.



Children in Need

This year's Children in Need was masterminded by the School Council assisted by their staff representative, Mr Burgess. The theme was pyjamas and assembly was a sea of brightly coloured jim-jams and onesies. There were a number of wookie onesies, footie pyjamas and plenty of unicorn themed nightwear. Over the course of the day, the children participated in an art event where they created a whole school image of Pudsey and also watched BBC1's Duck Race together during the afternoon. Donations to the toy sale were especially generous and proved to be extremely popular. In total, the school raised £484 for the charity and we would like to say a huge thank you to all of you for your generosity and support.



Such Stuff as Dreams are Made on...

It was another wonderful night at the Wyvern as many of our Year 6s performed Shakespeare's The Tempest as part of the Shakespeare for Schools programme. Following months of practice, Mrs Musty-Jacksons troupe of actors finally got their chance to tread the boards live on stage at the Wyvern Theatre. It was a magical and extremely professional performance bringing the Great Bard's words to life, five hundred years on. A massive well done to all those involved for doing such a brilliant job and also to parents and staff who attended to give their support: hugely appreciated. As always, we were very proud of all who participated and thank them for representing the school so brilliantly.



Wyvern Workshops

Continuing with the thespian theme, budding young actors were invited to participate in some drama activities with actors representing the Wyvern Theatre based on their forthcoming Aladdin Production. There was plenty of acting talent on display and I am sure the children will find lots of opportunities to put this to good use!

Remember, Remember

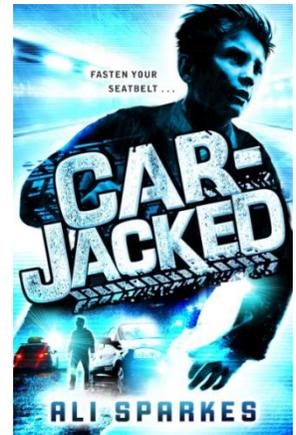
November is of course famous for Bonfire Night and Ruskin was proud to host its annual fireworks event. By all accounts it was a resounding success and a great time was had by all. A massive thanks to the staff who helped and especially the Friends of Ruskin for their hard work and dedication to make this event such a success.

Mathtastic!

A select few of some of our most-mathematically-minded pupils recently took part in a Maths Challenge Day at Brookfield School. The event was hosted by a maths specialist and having spoken to some of the children, they had a great time and found that although they managed to solve the maths problems in the end, they certainly spent quite some time in the Learning Pit but had the tools to climb out the other side!

Bookfest!

Year 5 were invited over to Kingsdown to participate in their annual Literacy Festival in November where they listened to Ali Sparkes, author of a number of children's novels including Frozen in Time, Destination Earth and Car-Jacked, talk about how she became an author, what it's like writing books and where she gets her ideas from. We'd like to thank Kingsdown School for providing year 5 with this great opportunity and we look forward to this continuing in the future.



Sports Desk

It's been a busy month of sports with the children participating in Competitive Sports Day. A wide range of sporting events took place including netball, tag rugby, football and hockey. There was plenty of sporting talent on display and a great sense of fair play permeated throughout. The points have been totalled up and the winners will be announced in a forthcoming assembly. We'd like to take this opportunity to say an extra big thanks to Mr Edmondson, Mr Hicks and Mr Robertson for

organising and running the event. A great day was had by all.



Class Assemblies

November was a busy month for class assemblies with Beatrix Potter class treating us to a fantastic assembly on their farming Big Idea. They gave a brilliant performance explaining clearly where our food comes from: it doesn't arrive at Asda by magic! Banksy Class continued with the food based theme with their assembly what it was like to celebrate Christmas in a Victorian household. Some of us lucky individuals were invited to the front to sample some culinary delights of the era which included mock turtle soup, lemon custard and bouillon. Thanks to all our parents and grandparents for their support in coming along to watch the children and also sharing what they do in the classroom.