



WILLOUGHBY
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Christmas Newsletter 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I can hardly believe we have reached the end of 2022 and the last few days of the Autumn Term. We have seen many highlights and opportunities of which our Willoughby community can be extremely proud.

Wider Curriculum

This term, Willoughby pupils have experienced a variety of learning activities in the community and within the academy. On Sunday 13th November, Head Girl, Katie and Voice of Willoughby representative Noah (wearing his great, grandfather's medals) proudly represented the academy at Bourne's Remembrance Day Parade and the whole school created a poppy collage, which was displayed in Abbey Church. A number of pupils took part in STEM activities dissecting owl pellets and were amazed when we had a visit from Silverstone and they had the opportunity to explore parts of racing cars, while Pre-formal classes experienced a miniature pony visit. Older pupils have also participated in a range of internal and external work experiences. We are very grateful for all the local companies that continue to support and offer work experience opportunities for pupils.

Charity Events

The term saw us celebrate; Children in Need, National Anti-Bullying Week, Remembrance Day, and Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. Thank you to all families for supporting in this and helping us raise money for such worthy causes. I would also like to thank you for your Autumn Harvest food donations for the local Bourne foodbank, which due to your generosity we were able to support for the first time this year.

Christmas Competitions

As always, Christmas saw a number of competitions. The Cummins Christmas card competition winners were Buttercup – Saayon, Poppy – Cayson, Sunflower – Joseph, Waterlily – Teddie, Daisy – Jaxson, Daffodil – Joe, Cherry Blossom – Alfie, Venus Flytrap – Vinnie, Foxglove – Ariel, Protea – Harvey, Bluebell – Ollie, Jasmine – Jay, Snapdragon – Jan, Leopard Lily – Stephen, Tiger Lily – Sam. All pupils will receive a Christmas card, so please do look out for them in school bags. The winner of the best class Christmas door was; 1st place – Buttercup, 2nd place – Protea, 3rd place – Cherry Blossom and 4th place – Water Lily. The winner of the best decorated Christmas tree (voted for by parents) was Poppy class. Congratulations to all winners.

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Christmas Show

Not content with staging one Christmas production this year, Willoughby actually presented two! Lower school produced a nativity, while Upper school pupils presented a Christmas medley. I am sure you will all agree they were amazing productions and highlighted the diversity, inclusiveness and talents of our pupils. I would like to thank everyone involved in putting the performances together and especially Hilary for her continued enthusiasm and commitment to the development of performing arts within the academy.

Curriculum

At Willoughby, we continually reflect and review what we do and how we do it. This term we have worked particularly hard on implementing Read Write Inc phonics, ensuring that what we deliver in the classroom enables your child to achieve their personal best by building on prior knowledge and skills. We are continually updating the school website and would encourage you to check this on a regular basis. Our class termly newsletters will be with you in the New Year. If you have any questions about what your child will be covering next term, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Hello and Goodbye

This term we say goodbye to Laura Pigott, who has been class teacher in Venus Flytrap Class, Phil Cavanagh, Leopard Lily class teacher and Nina Prowting, Pastoral Deputy Head. We would like to thank them all for their hard work and dedication to Willoughby and wish them all the best in their future endeavours. Next term, we welcome Amy Morrell as Venus Flytrap Class teacher. Amy is an experienced practitioner with a passion for SEND and has spent time in class over the last few weeks getting to know the pupils, understanding Willoughby routines and is looking forward to meeting parents next term.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support over the last term. It is an immense privilege to work with this fantastic community.

Have a safe, happy Christmas and best wishes for 2023.



Vicki Billyard
Interim Headteacher

