



Headteacher's Newsletter

Autumn Term Issue 6

15th December 2023



Dear Parents and members of the school community,

It is such a shame that I have missed out on the end of term fun, being at home the last few days with Covid! I would just like to thank my amazing staff for 'running the ship' without me. I hope everyone stays well for the holidays.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Salvation Army Carols last week. It was lovely to see so many there including some of our previous parents of children who are now young adults. You managed to raise £140 for those less fortunate at Christmas. Thank you to the band who were as brilliant as ever.



This week our younger children in Willow and Beech Classes performed their Nativity, which featured a traditional storyline, alongside up-beat songs and excellent costumes. The children were amazing and were delighted to perform to their friends, family and wider community, including governors and children from Otters Nursery. Thank you also to the Willow and Beech teachers and staff.

Yesterday, our resident cook, Linda Martino, made a fantastic Christmas lunch for everyone and today Troubadour Productions performed a pantomime, Dick Whittington, for the children. Thank you to the Friends of Cliddesden for providing this, the Christmas tree and the refreshments for the Nativity. I hope I have made a few new converts to hot Vimto!

A message from Friends

Well, we have reached the end of another fantastic year. Our recent Secret Sale event has been our greatest so far and we can proudly announce that our grand total raised is £450. This has beaten last year's total of £415.

We would like to thank everyone involved, to all of you who donated gifts, our parent helpers on the day, the staff and of course the children who had a fantastic time choosing their gifts for their loved ones. We hope you like your gifts.



That's it from Friends for this year, we would like to wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and bright new year. See you all in 2024!

Friends Committee

Inter-School Sports



In December we had a couple of inter-schools' sports events. Our Basketball Team took part in the annual Basingstoke Schools Basketball competition at The Vyne Community School. Our team was made up of Year 5s and Year 6s and was their first competition. We performed well, beating Bishopswood and drawing against Merton. St John's, who won the competition, were very tough opponents and too strong for us.

Overall, the children should be proud of the skills and determination that they showed and some of them will be back next year with more experience.

Our football team played their second game in the league against North Waltham. It was a tough match with both teams playing some quality football and they were evenly matched. The result of 1-1 was a very fair one as there was nothing to separate the teams. I gave 'Cliddesden player of the match' to Joseph for excellent goalkeeping. So far, we have played two games without a loss. Well done team.

Our Year 6 children completed their Bike-ability training last week. Thank you to the wonderful instructor, Matt from HCC Bike-ability.

Spring Term

The spring term begins for the children on **Wednesday 3rd January**. On 2nd January the staff have an INSET day. We are sharing our training with our small schools' cluster of North Waltham, Sherborne St John and Burghclere schools. The staff will be off site and the school closed completely, including the office.

And finally

I wish all the children, parents, staff, Governors and everyone else who makes Cliddesden such a special place, a very merry Christmas, a well-earned break and a Happy New Year.

Kenneth Davies
Headteacher