



**Margaret McMillan Primary School**

## **Newsletter**

**December 2016**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we draw to the end of a very busy Autumn term I would like to thank staff, parents and children all for that has been achieved. We have started the academic year 2016/17 really well and the children have been getting to grips with their learning.

We have taken part in many events to address the safety and wellbeing of our children including Road Awareness week where Margaret McMillan Children worked with pupils from St Cuthbert's and Lister Primaries to help keep Scotchman Road safe. The children also took part in cyber safety workshops, Healthy Choices week and National Anti-bullying Week.

We provide a broad curriculum and want it to be enriched and meaningful for the children. We do this through visits and visitors. This term our children have visited the post office, the Library and watched a production of the shoemakers wish. They have taken part in dinosaur workshops, Owl workshops, Greek day, Victorian day, Cyber safety workshops and Road Safety sessions.

We have held 2 very successful productions, the Eid production by years 3, 4, and 5 and more recently the Christmas production by Nursery, reception and years 1 and 2.

We also want our children to understand that we have a responsibility to help those less fortunate than ourselves and we have raised a massive £1556.73 this term for good causes such as Water aid (Eid production), Children in need, McMillan Cancer Support (McMillan coffee morning) and Save the Children (Christmas jumper day). Well done everyone!

We ran our parents maths workshops again this term and the feedback was 100% positive. Parents found it extremely useful. We will be running new workshops in the Spring term and I urge you to attend if you are able. Parents also attended a meeting about our anti-bullying policy. Again, the feedback received was very positive, and I also sent a letter outlining the meeting and questions raised for those of you who missed it.

We have also been busy remodelling some rooms in school to provide much needed office space and a place for phase 3 children to work outside of class on interventions etc. They should be complete early in the new year.

Friday 16th December is Mrs Binns last day before going off on maternity leave. She will be replaced by Miss A Rathor. Miss Simms will also be leaving for maternity leave in January 2017 and will be covered by Mrs L Stobbart. We wish them all the best with their new babies.

For those of you who are celebrating, may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas; and to all, a peaceful holiday and a Happy New Year. See you all in 2017!

Lorraine Martin

Headteacher

## Phase updates

### Anti bullying Week

It was anti bullying week in November, children in each class spent time discussing and developing ideas around the anti bullying theme. Classes presented their work in assemblies to parents and gave clear messages about dealing with these issues.



### Christmas Production



Phase 1 (Nursery, reception and year 1) and year 2 performed their annual Christmas production. This year it was called “The Wiggly Nativity”. This year we held 4 performances due to the high level of demand for tickets. As usual, the children were brilliant.

### Final week of Autumn term

In the final week, before the Christmas holidays, the children’s literacy work has linked to the story of ‘The Grinch Who Stole Christmas.’ They took part in various activities in the classroom which will contribute to a new display in the school hall.

Thursday 15th December was Christmas Jumper day and the Christmas parties were in the afternoon.



### Diary Dates Spring term

Back to school .....	3rd January
Year 5—Northern Ballet workshop.....	3rd and 4th January
Y5 visit to Leeds Grand theatre.....	5th January
Y6 residential to Howtown Gill, lake district .....	9th to 13th January
Microsoft virtual visits.....	16th January
Y2 Mandir Visit .....	18th January
Y3 and Y4 Pantomime visit .....	20th January
Y5 Fire Safety talk.....	20th January
Reception—Eye testing.....	23rd and 24th January
Y3 Road Safety sessions .....	25th January, 1st and 2nd February
Break up for Half term.....	17th February
Back to school .....	27th February