



BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Barney Buzz

Friday 7th December 2018

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Headmistress's News

A rather wet and miserable week has not dampened the Christmas spirits in Prep School and festive decorations are now adorning each and every classroom, with continued hard work as we approach the end of term. Looking ahead to next week, the excitement is mounting with a variety of Christmas events taking place, including a visit to Father Christmas, the pantomime and our Christmas lunch on Friday, complete with a Christmas jumper as a festive addition to our school uniform.

I am very much looking forward to our Pre-Prep Nativity 'Baubles' this afternoon and I do hope parents, family and friends will be able to join us for this event in the school Chapel with festive refreshments served afterwards in Senior School to get us into the Christmas spirit. In addition to this, the Christingle and Carol Services are real highlights of our school year and these take place after school on Monday. Family and friends are warmly invited to join us in the school Chapel at 4pm for the Years 3 and 4 service and at 7pm for the Years 5 and 6 service.

Please Note:

Parents who have children in the Pre-Prep and in the Prep School who are coming to watch the Nativity this afternoon may collect children in Years 3 to 6 from the Prep School after the Nativity if this is more convenient than returning to school at 3:40pm.

If your son or daughter is in the Choir then they will be needed at both the Carol Services on Monday. Please also remember that on Monday all children in Years 5 and 6 are expected to stay at school for tea in preparation for the evening Carol Service. The second service will be finished at approximately 8pm.

I look forward to seeing you at some of our festive events!

Laura Turner

Boarders' News

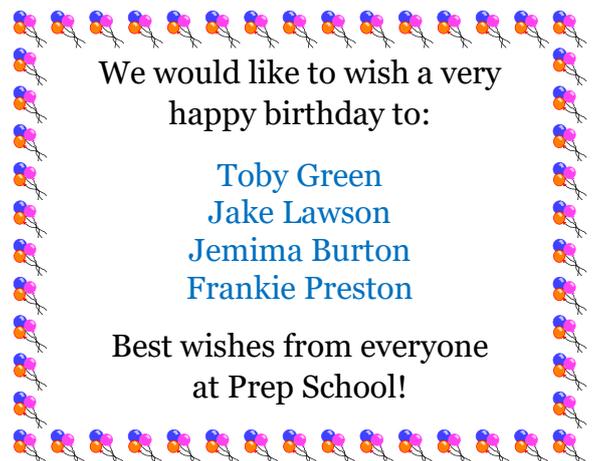
This Saturday Mrs Stewart and Miss Strachan came over to spend time with the prep boarders. It was an opportunity to have a relaxed yet creative day. The ever popular

'den' was made in the lounge with imaginative use of the sofas and sheets. The paints and glitter came out and there was plenty of fun with bubbles too. On Sunday it was the much anticipated trip to the Metro Centre in Gateshead. Over ninety of the boarding community travelled up to the shopping



mecca. Although there are 370 shops there, for the younger boarders it was all about one: the Lego Store! It was an opportunity to view the latest offerings in time for Christmas lists - and to make a few purchases too. After lunch it was time for some festive viewing at the cinema with the latest version of 'The Grinch'. Earlier this week the Old Courts residents enjoyed an impromptu walk into Barney to see the Christmas lights and have some chips for supper.

Mr Robson



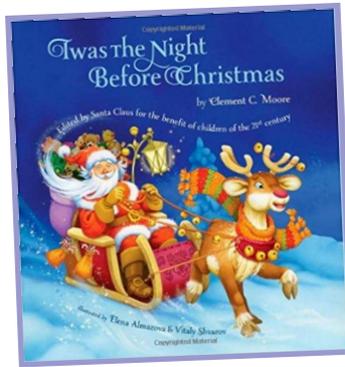
We would like to wish a very
happy birthday to:

Toby Green
Jake Lawson
Jemima Burton
Frankie Preston

Best wishes from everyone
at Prep School!

Christmas comprehension

This week Year 2 have been studying and learning some of the narrative poem 'Twas The Night Before Christmas' by Clement Clark Moore. This is a wonderful poem which contains a range of adjectives, verbs and rhyming words. It tells a story that is so descriptive, it is easy to imagine the festive scene which is played out on Christmas Eve. Together we watched a fabulous animation which told the story, then we read the poem ourselves. The children answered a series of comprehension questions then used the poem as inspiration for thinking about preparations made at home on Christmas Eve, in anticipation of Father Christmas arriving.



Perfect posties!

Year 3 have heightened the festive excitement in Prep School this week with the installation of the Christmas card postbox. Cards are being collected, counted and delivered daily by each class.



We have creatively linked our 'special job' to Maths lessons where we have used our skills in addition and problem solving. Keep the cards coming in, how many will be delivered this year?

Calculating well!

Year 5 had great fun on Tuesday morning in Hall Maths learning how to work their magic calculators. Once they had mastered it, they were then challenged to make a secure envelope to keep their cards in, and take them home to test out on family and friends. Finally, they were given a problem solving activity, where they had to arrange the numbers one to twelve so that all lines on the star added up to the same number. They had great fun and put their perseverance and collaboration skills to the test.



Woodlice wonderland!

It has been an extremely busy week preparing for our Nativity performance and the children have 'knocked our socks off' with how well they performed. They sang and acted beautifully and we could not be prouder of them. Alongside fitting in practises, the Year 1 pupils also enjoyed creating a woodlice hotel, recreating a habitat in a shoe box. They have enjoyed observing them over the last few days and are developing into mini 'David Attenboroughs!'.



Festive films!

As many of you will have seen, next week, the School Council have arranged (with the help of Miss Strachan) to hold a film 'night' during 'signing in time' on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. All pupils are invited to come and watch a film with us, have a mug of hot chocolate and some popcorn. On these afternoons, lessons will finish a little early to ensure that we can watch the whole film before it is time to go home. If your child would like to come, they can be picked up from the Prep School playground at 4.50pm, get the school bus home as normal, or be collected at the top of the Senior School drive at 5pm. We ask that parents do not arrive earlier than this, before the end of the film, as this will cause a disruption to the viewing.



Pupils should bring in £2 on the day, to cover the cost of refreshments, and hand in to their class teacher at morning registration.

Please note signing in will also be going ahead, as normal, for those not taking part in film 'night'.

Awards This Week:

Merit Certificates:

Lily Shearn, Elodie Lavery, Arabella Milbank, Thomas Scott-Priestley, Edith Smart, Flora Whitaker, Frankie Wilks, Fiore Catellani, Isla Durban, Reuben Hosking, Caitlyn McLean, Tom Staley, Peter Stevenson, Megan Sunley, Freydis Blake, Georgina Chapman, Hugo Lanigan-O'Keeffe, Leo Rokk, Charlie Bridges, Matilda Chapman, Sienna Lawson, Isla MacConachie, Rory Metcalf, Harry Forrester, Max Hunton, Joseph Swann, Jacob Thomas, Grace Dickinson, Niamh Hennessy, Dermot Metcalf, Jake Lawson, Lewis Maunder-Brown, Gus Living, Molly Rendall, Jonny Royle, Oliver Barrass, Isaac Binks, Jessie Burgess, Juliette Harper-Wilkes, Hugo Manners, Alia Saunders, John Turnbull, Carter Wake, Lilly Cassidy, Annabel Jackson, James Nath, Isabelle Shield, Pia Willcocks, Jack Baptist, Alexander Carr, Fiore Catellani, Dylan Dougal, Isla Durban, Sebastian Howard, Oona MacConachie, Megan Sunley, Charlotte Blenkins, Sofia Wilson, Gus Coggrave, Sophie Winnard, Oscar Bennett Collins, Violet Heintz, Edwin Barwick, Alex Metcalfe, George Goad, Abygail Jameson, Minnie Wilson, Isaac Binks, Jessie Burgess, Alia Saunders, Fenella Heagerty, Isabelle Shield, Pia Willcocks, Dominick Armstrong, James Harburn, Olivia Harland, Archie Walder, Jack Baptist, Callum Clark-Alderson, Sebastian Howard, Oona MacConachie, Jenson Moody, Freddie Wilks, Archie Lanigan-O'Keeffe, Matilda Owens, Henry Jenkinson, Tom Body, Joseph Robin Truss, Luke Banner, Emily England

Maths Puzzler

Congratulations to everyone who submitted solutions to last week's puzzler. I've included Ben French's below

Largest even number:	62
Largest odd number:	71
Smallest odd number:	03
Largest multiple of 5:	95
Number closest to 50:	48

This week sees the return of my favourite puzzler of the year - Secret Santa! Year 6 have been exploring networks and pathways as well as combinatronics this week to develop their Secret Santa solving abilities. As the snow settles around Hogwarts Harry, Ron, Hermione, Luna and Neville were all exchanging gifts. Can you use the following clues to work out who gave what to whom?

- There were no direct reversals (no one gave to the person who gave to them)
- Ron gave a Quidditch book to the person who gave a wand to Harry
- The person who received the Firebolt gave some Every Flavour Beans to Hermione
- Ron received a time turner from the person who got the Every Flavour Beans
- Luna gave to the person who gave the time turner
- A girl in Ravenclaw gave to a girl in Gryffindor

I am really interested to see which methods you use to solve this. As always, answers to me by Wednesday next week - good luck!

Mr Ayres
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Forthcoming Events

November

- Fri 7 Pre-Prep Nativity, Chapel, 2pm
All parents and families welcome
- Sun 9 Old Courts Christmas Day
Boarders' Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, 5pm
- Mon 10 Reception class visit Father Christmas at the Bowes Museum, 12:30-3:00pm
Pre-Prep 'Film Night', 3:30-5:00pm
Years 3 & 4 Carol Service, Chapel, 4:00-5:00pm
All Year 5 & 6 pupils stay at school for tea
Years 5 & 6 Carol Service, Chapel, 7:00-8:00pm
- Tues 11 Year 2 walk around Barnard Castle
Years 3 & 4 'Film Night', 3:30-5:00pm
- Wed 12 Years 5 & 6 'Film Night', 3:30-5:00pm
- Thurs 13 Pantomime 'Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs' at Durham Gala Theatre, 1pm
- Fri 15 Christmas Jumper Day for charity
End of Term Gathering for pupils, 9am
Prep School Christmas Lunch for pupils and staff
Pre-Prep Christmas Party for pupils, 2pm
Year 6 Carol Singing at Charles Dickens Lodge, 2pm
Term finishes at the end of the school day
Buses depart 5:10pm, as usual

January

- Tues 8 Boarders return from 4pm
- Wed 9 Lent Term begins

Headmistress's Commendations:

Jessie Burgess, Carter Wake
Archie Walder, Fiore Catellani
Dylan Dougal, Tom Staley
Samuel Wake, Liberty Forsyth
Freddie Harland, Joe Rutherford
Finlay Toyne, William Watson
Fred Dullage, Alexander Carr
Oona MacConachie
Fiore Catellani, Megan Sunley
Caitlyn McLean
Finley Cable-Jones
Joseph Stephenson
Arabella Milbank
Harry Westgarth
Felicity Lineton

Well done!





Sideline

Sports performer of the week:

Congratulations to Scarlett Hutchinson for achieving 'sports performer of the week'. Along with Anna Metcalf, Scarlett was chosen to trial for the Durham County Girls Hockey Squad. Subsequently, both Scarlett and Anna were shortlisted and have trained up at Houghall College. Both girls were then selected to represent the County in an U13 Tournament at Leeds Grammar School. Unfortunately, Anna was unavailable on this date due to a prior commitment at a gymnastics competition. However, Scarlett went forward to represent Durham County against teams from Northumberland and Yorkshire. This is an incredible achievement because Scarlett was competing against girls up to three years older than her. We were all delighted to hear that Scarlett played exceptionally well and scored in one of the games. Scarlett, along with Anna, will now go on to compete for the U13s in January or U12s in March 2019. Between games, both girls will train and it is anticipated that they will get three opportunities this season to represent the County team in competitive fixtures. We wish Scarlett and Anna the best of luck with their training, and performances when selected again.

Thank you to parents for your support at fixtures

As the competitive fixtures for Michaelmas term have now drawn to a close, on behalf of pupils and the school, please can I take this opportunity to thank you for outstanding levels of support at both home and away fixtures. For many parents, attending fixtures is a logistical nightmare and requires a lot of organising, so your support is very much appreciated! To have so many parents in attendance at events, such as House Hockey and Rugby, is another reason for pupils and staff to feel proud!

Mr Burgess

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Christmas Film 'Nights'

Monday 10th December - Nativity

Reception, Years 1 and 2



Tuesday 11th December - The Grinch

Years 3 and 4



Wednesday 12th December - Nativity

Years 5 and 6

No need to sign up, please just bring £2 into school on the above days and hand it in to your class teacher at morning registration.



We hope you are able to join us for a festive film 'night' and enjoy lashings of hot chocolate and popcorn as the Atkinson Hall is transformed into a cinema!

As a reminder to parents, children must bring in £2 on the day to take part and must be able to stay at school until the end of the film. They can be collected at 4:50pm from the Prep School playground, at 5pm from the top of the Senior School drive or catch the school bus home, as usual.

Join in the festive fun on Save
the Children's Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 14th December



**Wear your most festive jumper
instead of your school jumper.**

(Normal school uniform underneath!)

£1 per pupil



...Make The World Better With a Sweater...www.savethechildren.org.uk

