



So much has happened since our October newsletter – so here are just a few of the highlights.

Harvest donations – thank you to parents and friends for your very kind donations of food and money which we were able to pass onto the Trussell Trust Foodbank in Thornaby as part of our Harvest celebrations. Your donations of tinned and dried foods as well as toiletries and a cheque for £341.50 will go a long way to support this important charity. Ollie, one of our year 5 pupils, suggested that we also pick the apples from our orchard and donate these too. We checked whether the foodbank could make use of the apples and they were delighted with the suggestion. Thank you to our year 5 pupils who went out apple picking.

School Councillor elections – our class councillors and deputy councillors have been elected for this year. Well done to those whose speeches persuaded their class mates that they could represent them well. As well as meetings with our school council leader, Mr Robinson, to discuss ideas for school, councillors have already represented school on two official occasions. The first, earlier this month, was a visit to the Stockton Garden of Remembrance to place our poppy crosses in the garden alongside those from other local schools, businesses and organisations. Thank you to our year 6 pupils who sold the poppies and other merchandise across school, raising money for the Royal British Legion. Then last week a few of the councillors walked with Mr Robinson and one of our school governors Mrs Charlton, to St Francis of Assisi Church to decorate our Christmas Tree as part of the Ingleby Christmas Tree Festival. Thank you to families and friends who made decorations for the Ingleby Mill Tree. It looked amazing. This week, councillors returned to the church to see all of the trees in the festival.

Newspaper club – this term Mr Abbott set up an after school newspaper club with children from across KS2. The first edition of the newspaper was published in October and was a huge hit – including events in school news, sports news, staff interviews, puzzles and games. Look out for the next edition due to be published before the end of term.

Sporting news – we have had some great sporting success this term with children taking part in local competitions in tag rugby, cross country and girls football. Our tag rugby team made it through to the Tees Valley finals where after a good performance they were finally defeated. Well done to the team who were very well captained by Thomas in year 6. Our girls football team

were the winners overall in the first stage tournament and so will move on to the next stage – the Stockton finals. Well done to our girls team who didn't concede a goal throughout the tournament. In the cross country competition we had several of our individual runners placed in the Tees Valley finals. Well done to all our competitors this term.

Halloween discos – Children across school from reception to year 6 were offered the chance to attend a Halloween disco in the week after half term. Everyone seemed to have a great time dressing up, dancing and playing games.

Donkey visit – in school this week we enjoyed a very special visit from two donkeys called Matthew and Teddy from Blackberry Donkeys. Thanks to Mrs Rose, Mrs Lake and many of you sharing the online link and voting on our behalf, we won this very special visit as a prize.

Here is a link to their website if you would like more information <https://www.blackberrydonkeys.com/>



Children in Need day – Thank you to families for your donations for this worthwhile charity. For this annual fundraising event we had a dressing up day raising £316.80 for Children In Need

Odd Socks Day – children in year 2 wore odd socks one day during anti-bullying week which highlighted the theme that we are all unique.



Pantomime – M&M productions came into school to present their wonderful pantomime 'Cinderella' to children from reception to year 5. The children had a fabulous and very loud time! Later that week, our year 6 children travelled to the Forum to see the annual performance by Conyers School – this year 'The Frozen Planet'.

Coming up:

Christmas Fair - with just one day to go until December, here are a reminder of our Christmas events this year.



Tomorrow, Thursday December 1st is our Mini-Christmas Fair which starts straight after parents have collected children from school. See below for what is on offer in each team area as families are welcome to visit everything:

In Reception – Decorated glass jars made by the children and a chocolate fountain.

In Years 1 and 2 – Reindeer dust, a toy tombola, a chocolate fountain and sale of unused exercise books for those who like to write and draw at home.

In Years 3 and 4 – Book marks, Christmas gongs, Pinecone Rudolfs, Shortbread, winter bobble hats, tree decorations and reindeer dust – all made by the children. Also – a tombola and sale of unused school exercise books.

Families from year 3 and 4 who have booked a slot for Mr Carter's Escape Room – this will take place in the studio.

In Years 5 and 6 – Christmas Baubles and light up Christmas bottles made by the children as well as a tombola and a chocolate fountain.

Remember to visit the stalls in the hall where you will find knitting, home scents and gifts, Christmas baubles, pots and handmade gifts as well as sweets and confectionary. And after all of that you can have a sit down with a nice cup of tea.

Christmas performances:

Year 1 – Monday 5th December at 2pm

Year 2 – Tuesday 6th December at 2pm

Nursery – Wednesday 7th December at 10.30am and 2pm

Reception – Thursday 8th December at 2pm

Year 3 – (outside) Monday 12th December at 2pm

Year 6 – Tuesday 13th December at 9.30am

Year 4 – Wednesday 14th December at 2pm

Year 5 – Thursday 15th December at 2pm

Children in year 3 will also be performing in 'Snappy Christmas' at Thornaby Pavilion on Tuesday 6th December. This is a Stockton schools event so the

children will experience performing alongside other local schools in a huge event with a huge audience.

Christmas Movie Nights:

Years 3 & 4 – Thursday 8th December straight after school until 5.30pm

Years 1 and 2 – Monday 12th December at 4.15pm – 6pm

Years 5 & 6 – Tuesday 13th December at 4pm – 6pm

Reception – Tuesday 13th December at 4pm – 5.30pm

Christmas Parties in school time:

Reception – Monday 12th December

Years 3 & 4 – Tuesday 13th December

Years 1 & 2 – Wednesday 14th December

Nursery – Wednesday 14th December

Years 5 & 6 – Friday 16th December



Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day:

Wednesday 7th December. We invite all children and staff to wear a Christmas Jumper and make a donation of £1 towards school funds that we use to pay for transport for our Educational Visits.

Our final day in school will be **Friday 16th December** and our return date in the new year will be **Wednesday 4th January**.

TERM DATES

Autumn term 2022

Term ends: Fri 16th December 2022

PD Days: Mon 19th & Tues 20th December 2022 (children not in school)

Spring term 2023

Term starts: Wed 4th January 2023

Half-term runs from: Mon 20th to Fri 24th Feb 2023

Term ends: Fri 31st March 2023

Summer term 2023

Term starts: Mon 17th April 2023

Bank holiday (school closed): Mon 1st May 2023

Half-term runs from: Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd June 2023

Term ends: Wed 19th July 2023

PD Day: Thurs 20th July 2023 (children not in school)