



Headteacher News



Term : Christmas 2015

Whole School Topic: Colours

Welcome to the Christmas newsletter for 2015. The Castle School is abuzz with seasonal festivities and fun and lots of exciting learning opportunities for all. Firstly, I would like to thank our very generous parents and community. We have raised a lot of money for various causes this year including an amazing £274.24 for Jeans for Genes Day, £240.63 for Children in Need, £203.97 for Macmillan, a very pleasing sum of £148.82 from a bucket collection at the secondary Christmas Show and £65.87 from our choir carol singing in Thatcham and Newbury. Thank you to our pupils and staff for their tireless work on this and also to everyone for their kind donations. The Castle School truly has a fabulous community.

Even though it is winter, we are still working on our planting beds and we have had a wonderful crop of radishes, which have been enjoyed by many including some classes making them into lovely dishes such as radish salad. We are now all concentrating on winter lettuces, which we hope to start harvesting next year.

We have been very proud of all our pupils again this term. They all really challenge themselves and as a result excel in their learning. One group that really wowed us were our key stage 4 boys who performed a brilliantly choreographed dance at The Corn Exchange in November. They received some amazing comments from the public and I hope are an inspiration to other young people to go out and do something incredible and not just sit back and watch!

Some photos of our learning



Harvesting the radishes!



Key Stage 4 boys dancing At The Corn Exchange



Post-16 Christmas Craft Event



Bikeability at The Castle

There is always so much more I want to tell you about the wonderful things our pupils and staff have done. Please do visit www.thecastleschoolnewbury.org.uk where many more exciting things can be seen in the Castle News section.

Please note that the last day of term is **Friday 18th December 2015** and we return to school on **Tuesday 5th January 2016**. Have a really wonderful Christmas.

Thanks, Jon Hewitt (Headteacher)

Governors' News

I am in my second year as a Parent Governor, so I am still fairly new and still getting to grips with how much of a challenge it is for the Leadership Team to run a school such as Castle School. In the run-up to Christmas, with the children being so excited about the guy in the big red suit turning up on time, I think it is so fantastic that the school can keep the children focussed on their school work.

There have been some wonderful events recently. The Secondary House Christmas Production was wonderful to watch showing the high level of organisation and creativity that was needed by the students and staff. The dance event at The Corn Exchange, organised by Fuzzy Logic, was amazing to watch. I appreciate how much hard work and effort the students involved put in to create their routine. On a personal basis, I never thought I would see our son dancing on stage. Many thanks to the staff involved.

I look forward to seeing what our hard working staff can come up with over the coming year. I would like to wish everybody a Very Happy Christmas.

Malcolm Pullinger – Parent Governor.

