



Happy Christmas Everyone

This has been a really good year - the pupils did extremely well in their summer examinations. Congratulations to all who worked so hard.

Well done to the departments around school who have excelled in many different and varied areas - sports events, environmental awards, Global Citizenship and Digital Leaders the school has done really well. As a Pioneer School we have really developed our concepts in other schools as head teacher I am so proud of the achievements.

Thank you to everyone for the continued support with fundraising - this Christmas Fayre was the best ever we raised over £1800 which will help toward the running of our mini buses. Thank you for selling and buying raffle tickets again we will use these funds to run the mini buses. Thank you to the staff for donating items to the 1st and 2nd prize hampers - your support is very much appreciated.

Special thanks go to Paul Mackreth for taking over transport duties; and best wishes to Rocco for a speedy recovery. I would like to wish Mike Boswell Jones (School Liaison Officer) and Annette Goodyear (Cook) the very best for the future as they both retire this Christmas. Best wishes also go to Judith Edwards (School Nurse) who has also left this term.

Looking forward to the New Year.

Best wishes

Mrs M Pittaway MBE

Headteacher



Christmas Santa Flight

On Monday 5th December seven lucky learners their parents/carers were able to go to Manchester Airport on a search for Santa - thanks to the ChildFlight Charity.

The learners, joined by staff members Miss C Jones and Mrs S Forber, boarded a plane in Terminal 2 of the airport and set off on their search for Santa.

At a speed of 550 miles an hour and 30,000 feet off the ground we thought that seeing Santa would be easy. Unfortunately as hard as we tried we were unable to see him, but a few of the group saw glimpses of his sleigh.

We were lucky though as Santa landed on top of the plane in order to fix Rudolph's reins, and as he had been helped by the people aboard he offered to meet us back in Manchester airport where he was able to talk to everyone and find out what they wanted for Christmas before giving out presents. Whilst we were returning to Manchester we were able to play games - we won :), have a Christmas sing-a-long (all were in good voice), drinks and crisps.

The learners and adults thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were extremely well behaved. An absolutely fabulous day.

Eco Centre

This term the Eco Centre hosted a Macmillan Coffee Morning and raised £174. Our Christmas Charity Appeals include The Salvation Army Christmas Present Appeal and Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day. Juniors

Small Animal Care

Since September the Animal Unit has accommodated a selection of new animals.

Monty, our resident Python Snake has caused the most intrigue in the Animal Unit and is very much like Marmite but she generally wins the most uncertain of students round and they respond well to her serene and calming persona. The children have loved seeing the baby finches grow from tiny little pinkies to developing their fluffy grey feathers and eventually transforming into their striking black and white zebra markings....hence the name Zebra Finches. The Finches are getting used to their new surroundings and making friends with their companions, the budgies. The children have enjoyed handling sessions with the most tame Zebra Finch, Sky. Camilla the Kissing Chameleon is definitely the most entertaining of our newest animals as she always comes to greet whoever is feeding her and never fails to impress with her tongue which is as long as her body. However, it can be a struggle to find Camilla in her accommodation due to her camouflaging abilities. We would like to say a big THANK YOU to SWINTON INSURANCE for raising money for the Animal Care Unit by walking from Llangollen to St. Christopher's School and raising over £500. These funds will be put to good use and help renovate our duck pond!



Chill Factor

Some very lucky pupils from across school visited the Chill factor in Manchester to experience bi-skiing with disability snowsport UK. All of the pupils were very brave whizzing down the slopes at top speed! Special mention to Ioan Kimpton who was particularly brave to have a go after being very worried en-route to Manchester!

Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh's bronze group prepared a festive meal for the Parents Support Group. Profits from the meal will help to fund the D of E. Well done to Lisa Williams, Emily Jones, Jordan Wright, Cawley Valence, Bradley Lawrence, and Jack Wilmott for helping to prepare the meal and practice their 'waiting on' skills.

A good time was had by all. A special thank you to Mrs Owen, Mrs Duckett, Mrs Jones and Mrs Geddis who supported the pupils and myself. Well done everybody.



IDL

Congratulations to everyone in the IDL dept. for the work and effort they have put in practicing for their Christmas performance. A wonderful festive end to the term A special mention to thank all the parents, carers, staff and pupils who worked together this term with the team from lend lease (Wrexham Prison Community Project) to build a new sensory garden for the Idl dept. It looks fantastic!!! Pupils from all depts. in school enjoyed 3 days of music workshops with three musicians from "Live Music Now". A percussionist, guitarist and harp player worked with the pupils in sessions that everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Thanks also to "Bitesize" theatre for providing us again with another fun and exciting performance.

Enrichment

This year has seen the Enrichment programme expand even more with over 300 students from 13 schools and 31 courses. The new bush craft course has got off to a flying start with students learning how to cook in the wild and build their own shelters with Mr Dave Gittins. Another new course which is proving to be very popular is the Drama course at Coleg Cambria. The students are loving the course and have put on a short showcase at the theatre in Coleg Cambria (Yale site) on Wednesday 14th December. I would like to thank all the tutors for their hard work so far this year and the students who have made so much effort in the many and varied areas that Enrichment courses cover.

Gold!!

We are so excited to have confirmation from the Duke of Edinburgh's Award that several pupils have passed their Gold Award. This is a first for the school and we are very proud. We now await the full details of their invitation to London where they will receive their award from a member of the Royal family. Full details will appear in the next issue. We would like to thank all the staff within the who give so generously of their time to make the award scheme happen.

Middles

The Middle school classes have been involved in lots of exciting international projects.

Class 8 have been involved with a letter writing project and we have already had responses from schools in Ireland, Canada, Jamaica and Dubai. Class 7 have also been making their own Christmas decorations and sending them to 28 different countries around Europe, with those schools sending their own to us. The class got to learn about the different cultures and see what different countries' decorations are like, with a tree put up in their class to show case them.



Sports Performance and Coaching

It's been another busy and successful year for the P.E. department in St. Christopher's, here is just a snapshot of what has happened:

- September: Sports Leaders Level 3 Course begins and the Next Generation of Level 2 start their course. STC Llandudno begin their new league campaign with 3 wins and 1 defeat.
- October: Sports Leaders Level 3 begin ILM (Institute of leadership and management) Level 2 Course with Empower. Sports leaders level 2 assist Sports Development with the Wrexham Schools Cricket Festival.
- November: St Christopher's win the Secondary School Achievement Award
- Sports Leaders attend the Lidl Play more Football Course and become Directors of Football for St Christopher's. Sports Leaders Level 2 and 3 Attend Cricket Leaders Course through Cricket Wales

Library

The year has started off well with additional lessons taking place in the library, literacy, life skills and Window on Wales, alongside Catch-up and Preparation for working life. The pupils from each of the groups have been involved with organising events for everyone in school, fundraising to pay for our outings and various fieldtrips.

The Christmas raffle has been another success and it is all thanks to everyone who has championed the school by going out and selling the tickets and donating the prizes, your support is invaluable and it is the children who will benefit from all your hard work, so to everyone who has been part of the raffle - a huge thank you.

Enfys took centre stage on the 8th of December for a production of the Elves and the Shoemaker, parents, staff and pupils came to watch as the children did an outstanding performance.



Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner

The annual dinner was another great success. 80 local senior citizens were treated to a meal, bingo and carol singing. A huge thank you to all the staff and Welsh Baccalaureate students who organised the event and waited on.

Bingo

a big thank you to staff and PSFA for their support with the Bingo 24.11.16 and also to Dan and Lyndsey May for introducing the Interactive Whiteboard in our last bingo to cater for players who are hard of hearing. We raised around £330. Thanks. Sian. The next Bingo date will be 30.3.2017.

Quiz Fundraiser

A big thank you to all those who came and supported the quiz at the Cunliffe Arms in November. Over £300 was raised. A special thanks to Lynsey May for organising.

TCC Wales Christmas Tree Competition

Congratulations to Class 10 for winning the TCC Wales Christmas Tree competition. The class made their own "Anti-Bullying" tree, decorated with positive messages about this issue. They have been working hard on their community organising work and this is a testament to the effort they always put in. Well done- Mr. Long



Twitter

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Nadolig llawen a blwyddyn newydd dda.