

Rook's Nest Academy Newsletter

Issue 5—20th November 2014



Music mania

We are excited about the musical opportunities we are offering at Rook's Nest Academy. This ½ term Y2 children are being taught how to play the recorder and the glockenspiel – we can't wait to hear their Christmas rendition! We have also entered the "Young Voices" competition for next year where year 6 children will be representing the Academy in Sheffield. We are still waiting for some parents to respond and urge you to do so as soon as possible so we can confirm numbers.

Guitar lessons

If you would like your child to begin learning the guitar we still have a few places left for this ½ term. It will cost parents £7.50 until Christmas. Next year tuition fees will need to increase to £25 per term. If you would like to get your name down early for next term please call in at the Academy office (places are going fast).

Uniform

A polite reminder to all parents about the importance of children wearing the correct uniform. It is part of the policy here at Rook's Nest Academy that no jewellery (except watches), makeup or extravagant hair designs spoil the very smart image that the academy staff, governors, parents and children have worked hard to create. High expectations are essential in all things including the way in which children present themselves. Please do not be surprised if you are contacted because your child is not in the correct uniform. The amnesty on earrings ends in December and until that point, plasters must be used to cover earrings. It seems to be an ongoing battle in some classes and one which we are passionate about winning. However, this does detract staff from their key purpose of educating young children, so your support would be appreciated.

Christmas Fayre bring a "bottle or a box".

Please continue to look for donations of raffle and tombola prizes for our upcoming Christmas Fayre. In particular we would like the children to go through their toy cupboards and donate any unwanted toys and books that are in good condition.

Dates

Thursday 20th November 9:10—

Mr Robertshaw's Yr4 Class Assembly

Thursday 27th November 9:10—

Year 1 Assembly

Friday 28th November—

Non-uniform day (Bring a bottle or box for next week's Christmas Fayre)

Thursday 4th December 9:10—

Mrs Stacey's Yr5/6 Class Assembly

Friday 5th December—

Christmas Fayre 2:00 - 6:00

Tuesday 16th December—

Key Stage 1 Panto (am)
Year 1 & 2 Party (pm)

Wednesday 17th December—

Christmas Dinner
Year 3 & 4 Party (pm)

Thursday 18th December—

Foundation Panto / Party (all day)
Year 5 & 6 Party (pm)

Christmas Lunch

Our Academy Christmas lunch will be on the 17th December. There will be no other meal prepared on this day so if you do not wish your child to have a Christmas lunch (traditional, Quorn or Halal) then they will need to bring sandwiches from home. The cost of the Christmas lunch will be the usual £1.80. Please complete and return the slip below to indicate your child's preference.

My child _____ in class _____

Would like Christmas lunch	<input type="checkbox"/>	IF "Yes" →	Traditional	<input type="checkbox"/>	I pay for school lunch	<input type="checkbox"/>
	OR		Quorn	<input type="checkbox"/>		OR
Will bring sandwiches from home	<input type="checkbox"/>		Halal	<input type="checkbox"/>	My child accesses free school lunches	<input type="checkbox"/>

Changes to ordering lunch

The staff and governors have made a decision about the notice that will be required for children to move between sandwiches and school meals. There are many reasons for this decision but it is primarily to ensure that staff are able to achieve their core purpose of educating children.

Before the end of this term parents will be sent a letter, which they should complete and return, confirming which days their children will require school lunch. Once parents have indicated this decision 2 weeks notice will be required if they wish to change. This reflects the practice within other Wakefield schools.

Weekly lunch money must be paid each Monday morning. Late payments will be accepted until Thursday of the same week. If no money is received by this time letters will be sent out to parents. The Academy cannot afford to be placed in a position where a debt is allowed to build up.

Children in Need



The visitor who came in from the cold.

Children in the Academy were very excited by a visitor we had on Tuesday. Found on the playground, and named Hamish by Mrs Hartley, the hedgehog was fed and taken around classes before being safely released.



A huge thank you to all our parents and children for taking part in the walk to school and for providing buns for sale in aid of Children in Need. We made a fantastic total of £427.90 and much fun was had by all.

The staff bake off was great fun and some of the cakes were even edible. First prizes went to Mrs Cooke and Mrs Hampshire as judged by the Year 5 and 6 Team Captains.

Key Stage 2 Church Performances

Parents of Key Stage 2 children performing at the Church on Tuesday 16th Dec, who also have a child in Key Stage 1 or EYFS are welcome to collect them from school at 2:30 should they wish to enjoy the performance as a family.

Christmas Performances		
Year group	Date	Time
KS1 (Y1 & Y2)	Wednesday 10/12/14	1:30pm
KS1 (Y1 & Y2)	Thursday 11/12/14	9:30am
Foundation Stage	Thursday 11/12/14	2:00pm
Foundation Stage	Friday 12/12/14	9:30am
KS1 (Y1 & Y2)	Friday 12/12/14	1:30pm
KS2 (Y3, Y3/4, Y4, Y5, Y5/6 & Y6)	Tuesday 16/12/14	3:00pm (at the Church)

Salty Snacks get the Snip

The **School Council** have decided that break-time snacks should be healthy. Therefore with immediate effect crisps will no longer be allowed to be brought into school for snacks. This will encourage children to make healthier choices and promote healthy eating at Rooks Nest Academy.

This will also reduce the amount of litter around school as empty crisp packets are the most common litter found lying around.

May we also remind parents that sweets and chocolate have never been allowed as a snack.

