

# St. Swithun's Festival

Once again we were invited to decorate a tree for this spectacular annual event. The festival was open to the public for a week in November and coincided with the switching on of Retford's Christmas lights.

The children in Year 3 made a variety of angels and musical symbols with which to decorate the tree. Our tree was situated down the first aisle in church and was probably one of the largest trees there! However, there were many more trees to feast your eyes upon. It was great to be part of such an inspirational community event.



The tree is now back in school and is sited in the area outside the ICT Suite. Why not take a look?

Thank you to everyone in school for helping us to support this fundraising project for our local church.

# Book Fair

The annual Book Fair was held in school recently.

As usual, all the children had the chance to see and 'taste' the books before deciding which books were right for them.

We were introduced to many of the books by Jo, from Travelling Books during a special assembly and she showed us that there were lots of really exciting books for all ages.



We were very pleased to sell a total of £733.68 which means that the school has £380.21 to spend on books which will go straight into the school library for all the children to share.

Following the success of last year's 'Read More at Home' raffle we repeated this incentive and five lucky winners were able to choose a book of their own from the fair. These children are pictured above with some of the books we purchased for school.

Thank you once again for your support.

# Diary Dates



## December '12

- 5th Foundation Stage Concerts am and pm
- 5th KS1 visit to Haughton Park
- 5th Recycling Panto for 6AK
- 7th PTA Discoes
- 10th pm Y5/6 - 'A Christmas Carol'
- 10th 6.00 pm - Y5/6 - 'A Christmas Carol'
- 11th KS1 Concert pm
- 11th Seasonal Singers to sing at three concerts in the community
- 12th KS1 Christmas Concert 6.00 pm
- 13th Viking Dragon Presentation for Y3/4 Parents
- 14th 2nd Visit to Houses of Parliament
- 18th School Christmas Dinner
- 19th Y3/Y4 Christmas Party
- 19th KS1 Christmas Party
- 20th Foundation Stage Christmas Party
- 20th Y5/Y6 Christmas party
- 20th 6.00 pm Christmas Carol Singing—all welcome
- 21st Last Day before the Christmas Break
- 24th School Closed
- 24th Sports for Kids Playscheme

## January '13

- 7th Re-open after the Christmas Holidays
- 7th 1.00-3.00 Jewellery making for Parents (6 weeks course)
- 10th English Link Governor to visit
- 14th Assembly by Jaqui Jones
- 23rd Reading for Parents (4 week course)

## February '13

- 5th 6.30 Full Governors' Meeting
- 8th Literacy Volunteers Meeting
- 15th Last day at school before half-term
- 25th INSET Day
- 28th Partake 'Egyptians' Day for Y5/6
- 26th School re-opens after half-term

## March '13

- 5th Y3/Y4 to Twycross Zoo
- 25th Assembly by Jaqui Jones

Carr Hill would like to thank

DANWOOD

for their help in producing this newsletter

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NOVEMBER 2012

# Carr Hill newsletter

'a happy atmosphere with high standards'

# PTA Coffee Morning

Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> November saw a great deal of activity in the school Dining Hall.

Members of the PTA busily sold a vast array of cakes and drinks to hungry parents and their youngsters. There was a tombola and a raffle along with a 100 square game for people to have a go on. Phoenix Cards also set up a stall and were trading well.

It was great to see such a wide range of visitors attending and supporting the first fundraising event run by our new PTA. Thanks to all members of the team who put together the Coffee Morning and supported it on, or before, the day. The PTA wanted to pass on their thanks also to the parents and children who provided the delicious cakes for sale.

Anyone wishing to join the PTA or find out more about the group should please contact the office for details or look on the school website.

P.S. This first event saw a profit created by the new PTA of £297. Phew!



# New Parent Governor

Last month's Newsletter advertised the fact that the School's Governing Body needed a new parent representative to join the team.

I'm pleased to say that Mr. John Pritchard contacted the school to ask about the role and he subsequently completed his application and last week he was elected unopposed. Mr Pritchard has a son who joined the school last summer and Mr. Pritchard will now serve for a maximum period of four years on the School's Governing Body.

I have already made arrangements for Mr. Pritchard to come into school to introduce himself to children and staff but I have included a picture of him here in order that all our parents are aware who their new representative is. John joins five other parent governors on the full board and I'm sure we'd all like to wish him every success in his new role.





## Children in Need

*This month saw the school once again joining in with the Children In Need fund raising fun.*

*The children (and staff) followed the theme provided by the organisers and came to school wearing anything to do with spots.*

*In addition, children produced dotted designs producing pictures made up of spots of all shapes and sizes. As you can imagine, the designs were often colourful and unusual and prizes were awarded to the best designs from each year group.*

*On the day, children could also bring in their injured soft toys and cash was also collected through the sale of biscuits. In this way, a great deal of fun was had by all and a magnificent sum of **£381.40** was raised.*

*Thank you to everyone who played their part.*

## Athletics Achievement

Having taken the Athletics title on behalf of the Elizabethan Family, the athletics team recently took part in the Bassetlaw Area District Final held at The Elizabethan Academy.

The children competed against six other schools from the Bassetlaw area all of whom had each won their own local competitions; hence the standard, and excitement levels, were extremely high.

After the children had completed their throwing and jumping events, the team was in second place going into the final running races.

Despite winning four of the last races, Carr Hill ended the competition with 108 points and finished a close second to Redlands Primary of Worksop.

The children worked extremely hard and should be proud of their efforts for being the second best Sports Hall Athletics team in Bassetlaw this year.



## Record Voucher Haul

An amazing total of 46 000 Morrisons vouchers were collected and counted this year! This overtook last year's record by just over 700.

In recent years these vouchers have allowed the school gardening club led by Mr Grayson and Mrs Grafham, to transform their vegetable plot into a mini allotment, providing the school kitchen with lots of fresh vegetables throughout the year.

This year's vouchers are going to be used by the children and staff in the Foundation, to help them buy seeds and equipment to set up their very own growing garden.

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who collected vouchers on our behalf and also our dedicated team of Year 6 helpers who counted every single one!



## Footballing Girls Unbeaten

This year, the Girl's Football Team have successfully kicked off their season remaining undefeated.

The first match was played against Ryton Park away, which is always a tough game. However, our Girl's made us proud, maintaining a goal-less draw. Player of the match, Chloe Mitchell, was excellent, battling her way throughout the match and showing great commitment.

The second match was against Redlands away. This was a nail-biting match throughout, with all girls putting on a display to be proud of. Carr Hill

unfortunately went 1-0 down, but due to the sheer commitment and perseverance of the girls, we managed to come back with an amazing strike by Kadie Ellis from outside the penalty box. The final score was 1-1.

Unfortunately, the game against St. John's was cancelled because of staff illness so we will hopefully be playing them in the New Year.

We look forward to the next few games and hope to continue with our success.



## Year 3 Time Travelling

Before half term, Year 3 children travelled back in time at St Swithun's church to learn more about the Christian faith and pilgrimage. Children enjoyed a whole host of activities including making clay gargoyles, learning about the importance of prayer and getting the chance to play the Church organ.

Riley from 3KT said, "I enjoyed making the clay gargoyles because they looked really good. It was fun but they were a bit fiddly!"

Similarly Anna, from 3KW said, "I liked singing in the choir and wearing the big white tops!"

The wonderful behaviour of the children was commented upon throughout the day.

Thank you to the parents who accompanied Year 3 on the trip, as it would not have been possible without you.



## Christmas Parcels



*As a part of the Operation Christmas Child initiative, Mrs Basden has been encouraging our children at Carr Hill to create Christmas boxes ready to be sent to children overseas.*

*Once again, we had a marvellous response and children from right across the whole school volunteered to join in.*

*In total, 96 shoe boxes full of presents for children were wrapped and prepared for collection. This equates to about 10% of the total sent by the people of Retford; an excellent effort.*

*We hope that these parcels will help make a difference to a small child's life this Christmas.*

## We Remembered

On Remembrance Day, Miss King's Class Choir were once again asked to sing at the Market Square Service.

The number of comments and emails we received, as well as a congratulatory letter to the Retford Times, showed what a marvellous job the children had done in representing their generation at this important occasion. We are very proud of them.

