

Smarter Soccer Stars



This month, Grantham Clothing Company's Managing Director, Ian Marsh, contacted the school to make us an offer we couldn't refuse!

Mr Marsh had heard how successful the school's football teams had been over the last three years and wanted to supply the current team with a brand new 'top of the range' kit; a kit fit for champions.

Pictured above is the current team sporting their new strip and we are very grateful to Mr Marsh and his company for their generosity. I'm pleased to say that a couple of boys have already written a letter of thanks on behalf of the school thanking him for his offer and commenting that they hoped the new kit would bring them extra luck in the new year.

School Closure



Parents will already be aware that a burst water main in the town centre caused havoc for our school this month. Both ourselves and St. Swithun's were affected which meant that both schools were without water.

Following advice from the water company and Notts. County Council, we were left with no alternative but to close the school because washing, cooking and toilet facilities were unavailable.

We are very sorry for closing at such short notice and we are very aware of the disruption and difficulties closing the school causes. It is never a decision taken lightly but you will understand the matter was out of the school's hands.

We hope there are no further disruptions of any kind in 2013.

Carr Hill would like to thank

DANWOOD
for their help in producing this newsletter

December '12

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)
8th 6.30 pm-PTA Meeting in School. All parents are welcome to join us.
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
18th Sports for Kids Playscheme
19th Sports for Kids Playscheme
25th INSET Day
26th School re-opens after half-term
28th Partake 'Egyptians' Day for Y5/6

March '13

1st Partake 'Egyptians Day' for Y5/6
4th Assembly by Jaqui Jones
5th Y3/Y4 to Twycross Zoo
25th Assembly by Jaqui Jones
27th Last day at school before Easter Holidays
28th INSET Day

April '13

2nd Sports for Kids Playscheme
3rd Sports for Kids Playscheme
15th School re-opens after Easter
25th TAG rugby for Y5/6

May '13

13th SATs week for Year 6 children
21st 6.30 Full Governors' Meeting
24th Last school day before half-term holiday
28th Sports for Kids Playscheme
29th Sports for Kids Playscheme

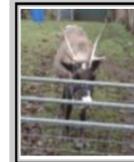
June '13

3rd School re-opens after half-term
17th Year 1 Children have phonics check

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DECEMBER 2012

'a happy atmosphere with high standards'

newsletter

Christmas Concerts

The Christmas period is always a busy time in schools with productions, parties and other events.

Children in Mrs Shaw's and Mrs Hudson's Classes performed on three occasions for their parents and a group of Key Stage 1 children. 'Whoopsy a Daisy Angel' was acted and sung with great enthusiasm and it was pleasing to see so many parents and friends who were able to join us for the performances.

Our youngest children in Foundation invited parents to two Christmas Sing-alongs which were very popular and very loud!

Key Stage 1 children played to two packed houses of parents and children. 'Children Around the World' was performed brilliantly by the children and they fully deserved their rapturous applause at the end. It was certainly a nativity with a difference.

Years 5 and 6 created their own productions of 'A Christmas Carol' with every one of the 120 children playing their own important parts in the overall success of the event.

In addition, we organized a traditional carol service with carols and readings, and mince pies and mulled wine served by members of the PTA.

We are SO grateful to all the staff, parents, relations and friends who worked so very hard to make these children's productions happen. To reach such high standards is a credit to everyone involved.

Once again, a sincere thank you to all concerned.



Children's Outdoor Gym

I'm pleased to report that this month we have heard from the 'Awards for All' organisation regarding a project we proposed earlier this year.

The communication from the group confirmed that we have been successful in our bid to produce our very own children's gym in the grounds of the school at a cost of just under £10,000!

The newly created area will allow our children access to the junior size gym equipment to help them keep fit and have fun. The fitness area will contain equipment similar to that provided by expensive gyms, and we believe we are the first school in Bassetlaw to provide such facilities.



Westminster Visit Part 2



Earlier this year, I reported in the October Newsletter that a group of forty children had the chance of a once in a life-time trip to London to visit the Houses of Parliament. What I didn't disclose was that a further forty children were left disappointed because so many children were keen to go on the trip.

To avoid the problem of having lots of disappointed children, I'm pleased to say that Councillor Mumby organised a second visit which took place this month.

Once again, the children had the opportunity to see where our laws are made and the children seemed particularly impressed by the House of Commons. The children also had the chance to see the London Eye and buy from the souvenir shop before being picked up to travel home.

Unfortunately, the pouring rain meant that we weren't able to enjoy the scenery in quite the same way that the previous group had, but all in all, it was a rewarding day and once again, the children were a great credit to the school.

Vikings Raid Carr Hill

Children in Years 3 and 4 held their Vikings and Dragons Day last Thursday.

The children designed the day to be a celebration of this term's work so different stations were set up in the Hall and the Year 4 classrooms, and parents and carers were invited along to find out all about Vikings.

All of the children were given a responsibility to share their work and many wore prompt cards to encourage the adults to ask them questions. Design Technology work made up the bulk of the displays with children showing off their Viking houses made from wattle and daub, Viking Longships, shields, moving monsters and sewings.

Groups of children explained the ideas behind their short film clips and the parents enjoyed tasting the dragon inspired biscuits and drinks. Children in Year 3 also performed their Ode to Odin which they composed and played on the recorder. 'The Tale of the Old Man and the Sea', a story from The Saga of Eric the Viking, was performed as a finale to the day. Many children commented that the most enjoyable part of the day was singing the Viking rock song.

All the staff were extremely proud of the hard work the children put in to make the day a great success and it was fantastic to see over 120 parents attend.



100% Attendance

For some time now, Carr Hill has been working to improve our children's attendance and last year was the first time that the school had attendance levels which were better than the national average.

We organise individual and class competitions to reward those for good attendance as well as identifying those children who don't attend regularly so that we can try to resolve the reasons for their poor records.

This term we have 72 children who have achieved 100% full attendance since September. They have not missed a moment of school so far!

The children were awarded special certificates and prizes for their excellent records.



Carr Hill Carolling

Following the success of last year's event, the school held a traditional Carol Service but this year we moved inside due to the inclement weather.

The celebration meant that children, parents, staff and friends of the school could join together, sing some traditional carols, and hear children share readings to tell the Christmas story.

Approximately 70 people attended in all and everyone joined in the singing to help create

a really traditional Christmas atmosphere.

After the service, everyone went through into the Art room where Mrs Parson's, our school cook and members of the PTA served mince pies, hot mulled wine and soft drinks.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this a friendly, joyous occasion.



Legion Say Thank you

*Dear Head,
Just a short note to thank you for your choir's contribution to the Remembrance Day Parade in Retford.*

Their leader is to be congratulated, as are all the children who took part. Their singing was beautiful and was much appreciated by the crowd of more than a thousand people.

We were all amazed that they performed with such dignity and without any prompting.

Each year Carr Hill takes part in the Poppy Appeal and children are selected to organise the sale of the emblems within school to raise money for this worthwhile cause.

This year, we've received correspondence from the local organiser of the British Legion Appeal thanking our school for the part we played in the Poppy Appeal and for the amount we donated.

In all, two boxes of poppies were sold by the children in school and the collections raised a donation of £74.58 to help with the work of the British Legion.

In addition, Christopher Hickman who is the chairman of the Retford branch of the Royal British Legion wrote to thank us for our children's marvellous contribution at the Remembrance Day Parade. His letter is reprinted here and we appreciate his taking the time to write to our children to thank them for their efforts. We are all very proud to be associated with such an important community event.

Reindeer Visit

In October, the children in Key Stage One were set a challenge by some of Santa's reindeer. They were asked to find out about some of the countries that Santa will visit this Christmas Eve and report back to them at their secret training camp. The children decided to raise most of the money to pay for the trip themselves by doing jobs at home and holding a very successful Christmas Craft fair.

It was a very cold December afternoon when we met the reindeer, Elf Jenny and Santa at the training camp. The children had lots of fun with the Christmas treasure hunt and playing Jingle Bells with Elf Jenny's bells. They also made tree decorations and had photos taken on Santa's sleigh.

We met several of Santa's reindeer and passed on the information they had asked for, which they were very pleased about.

