



STOKE-BY-NAYLAND C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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19th December 2017

Dear Parents and Friends,

As we come to the end of a very busy term, some news and reminders.

The Big Sing

Oak Class (Years 5 & 6) took part in 'The Big Sing' at Snape Maltings Concert Hall, joining many other primary schools from across Suffolk. The concert hall is a fantastic venue for children to listen to professional musicians and actually sing themselves and Oak class acquitted themselves very well! The Snape Big Sing 2017 involved 800 students from 21 schools across Suffolk (including primary, high and special educational needs schools). Scholars from the Voces Canabiles Music Foundation

led the workshops and we heard some superb 'a cappella' singing from professional singers.

The songs included new composers writing especially for the event. One of the songs, From a Railway Carriage - Nico Muhly (2015), can be heard on the following YouTube link.

<http://r1.dmtrk.net/41N2-BLH8-3SGGM8-76R90-1/c.aspx>



If you look carefully, you will just see some pupils from our school as the camera pans around. We hope to put this link on the website soon.

Christmas Plays

Saplings, Maple and Silver Birch presented fantastic nativity productions this year entitled 'The Grumpy Sheep' (Years R to 2) and 'The Star Attraction' (Years 3 and 4). A Christmas atmosphere was engendered by beautiful costumes (thank you parents), sparkling lighting and sound (thank you members of Oak class) and the beautiful singing from the cast around the 2 nativity stories. Thank you for the charity donations at the end of the show which raised £112. This will be split between EACH, whom we regularly support and the 'Make a Wish Foundation'. This latter charity was chosen because Caitlin's family are raising money in memory of Kye, (brother and son).



Parents Working Party

Many, many thanks to the parents (and grandparents) who did a range of jobs around the school grounds one weekend at the beginning of December. Fallen leaves were cleared, the quiet area fence made safe, the quad area near the computer room was cleared and the decking in the Saplings area was pressure washed. This work has made a huge difference.

Since then Annabel (Digby & Quintus's mum) and Jess (Elizabeth and Ted's mum) have continued to use their expertise to tidy plants and shrubs and add Christmas lights to the tree outside of the main entrance.

Please do get involved with future working parties as help is always needed.

ECO Club

Good News! We hope to start running ECO club again in the new year. Jess and Annabel are keen to take a lead in this and we are hoping that we will have help from The Woodland Community based in the area. They already do much work with Rowley Wood. This means we will be able to continue the good work started by Bernard, who retired this term.

Bernard Bailey

Bernard has been working as our gardener for an amazing 26 years! As well as this work, he gave so much of his time for free to help our children learn about wildlife and conservation. He has been responsible for much of the planting around the grounds and had a particular flair for weaving willow. In appreciation of all his work we invited him to our Christmas dinner (along with some staff he had worked with in the past) and presented him with an engraved trowel and fork set and a photograph album of memories at our school. Bernard then presented us with a picture of flower pressings showing the life cycle of a cowslip, with beautifully presented explanations around it.



Carol Service

Wednesday 20th December

9:30 in school hall

All are welcome



REMINDERS

- Oak class Kingswood trip – 2nd payment of £35 was due on 8th December. If you have not yet made this payment, please do so ASAP. 3rd payment of £30 is due on 26th January 2018.
- PE kit will be needed back in school from the first day back in January. Please include warm jogging bottoms and a warm top as we will work outside where possible.
- **We return to school on Thursday 4th January 2018.**

I hope you and your family enjoy a Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Jane Le Grice

Jane Le Grice
Headteacher