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2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy New Year! Watching the children perform in their Christmas plays is always a very special time for me - I am sure it is for you too! For a few moments I am able to reflect on the children speaking and singing and think about their journey through Hipsburn. I have been headteacher here at Hipsburn long enough to remember Year 6 when they were in preschool and to see how they have developed and grown in so many different ways; it makes this job such a privilege. Some of our children join the school mid-year or move from other places (or even from other countries) and are not with us for all their time but I am able to see very quickly how they develop with us. Each and every day we have so much to focus on with the curriculum but our school vision goes much further than this.

Our vision can be seen on our website, teachers display the school vision in classrooms, but, more importantly, the vision manifests itself on the school yard, school trips, in assembly as well as in the lessons. I think we do a good job at preparing our children for life beyond the school gates - we are always learning and changing and developing - teachers and children! Alongside maths skills and reading and writing we are looking at how to instil a sense of direction and focus for our children.

Many of our parents have volunteered to come into school to talk about their jobs and the skills needed for their roles in society. On a recent trip to Nissan in Sunderland (look at the photos in the Etal Class area of the website - amazing!), a Year 6 parent commented that this experience has confirmed how their son wants to be an engineer one day. I

am sure, having recently watched Cinderella Rockafella, we will see budding actors and maybe even directors in the future too! How inspiring all of this is for children and adults within the Hipsburn Community.

Finally, a huge thank you for your support leading up to Christmas. The performances and the carols around the tree were lovely experiences and it was great to hear your comments as you left the building.

Thank you for your donations at these events and for attending the Christmas Fair and supporting our school PTA. The gifts, cards, messages and emails at Christmas were greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all the staff. Once again, THANKYOU!

Kevin Moloney, Headteacher

Some Upcoming Events

- ◆ Clubs this half term:
Mondays, Trident Soccer, All
Breakfast Club, Every Day, All
Tues/Weds Homework, All
Tuesdays, Gymnastics, Yrs 1-2
Tuesdays, SATs Club, Year 6
Weds, Guitar, Years 3-6
Thurs, NUF Multi-Skills, Etal
Fridays, Lego, All
- ◆ London instalments due by
Friday, 12th January &
Friday, 9th February
- ◆ Alnwick Beach Day
Tuesday 30th January
- ◆ PE Event at DCHS, Year 6
Monday 5th February (tbc)
- ◆ Alnwick Class Assembly -
parents welcome
Thursday 8th February, 9.15-
9.45am
- ◆ Football Festival at
Shilbottle, Etal
Thursday 8th February
- ◆ Etal Beach Day
Friday 9th February
- ◆ Dunstanburgh Beach Day
Monday 12th February
- ◆ Etal Class Assembly -
parents welcome
Wednesday 14th February,
9.15-9.45am
- ◆ Ford Beach Day
Friday 16th February
- ◆ Break up for Half Term
Friday 16th February
- ◆ Teacher Training Day
Monday 26th February
- ◆ Back to school
Tuesday 27th February

**Please keep checking the
calendar on the school
website for more events**

What a performance (or two)...

A big well done to everyone involved in making our festive performances a huge success. From the humblest sheep in 'Born in a Barn' to the singing superstars of 'Cinderella Rockerfella' - you all performed brilliantly and are officially (drum roll...)

AMAZING!





A big thank you from Pudsey and Save the Children for your generous donations to Children in Need and Christmas Jumper days last term. You raised £181.50 for these great causes - a spotacular sum -you're all officially amazing! Here are some memories from the events...

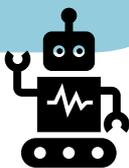


Inside the factory...

We went to the Nissan Factory in Sunderland on 14th December. When we arrived, we were warmly greeted by Andrea and Robin - our activity leaders. First, we were led to a classroom where we were then told about Nissan and its history and career opportunities. We then had some tasty cookies and juice, before we connected tablets to robots and programmed them to drive around the room. After lunch, we went down to the workshop and saw real robots! One had a pen in his hand and drew a Santa, a snowman and Christmas tree (all drawn very well) along with 'Hi Hipsburn!' The other robots all danced - it was awesome! We went back upstairs and coded the robots to follow obstacle courses. Once we had completed those, we drove them around and even raced them.

We all had an amazing day!

By Finley, year 6



AMAZING!



On the beach...

Last half term Alnwick, Bamburgh and Dunstanburgh classes had brilliant Christmas beach school days with Bridie from Mudlarks. We love our beach schools and a recurring theme over all the beach days was the Stickman story by Julia Donaldson. There were many Stickman adventures to be had - on the way to the beach we collected sticks and played Poo Sticks on the bridge. We used our imagination to make our own stickmen and retold the story using the natural objects we found. At lunchtime we listened to the story Santa Trap about a very naughty boy called Bradley who tried to catch Santa. In the afternoon we made Santa traps and a Santa sleigh on the beach. Our traps included lots of amazing ideas such as trip wires, slides and nets!



Dunstanburgh class had a fabulous beach day. In the morning, we played lots of fun warm-up games and created our own sand tower. Following this we made Santa's sleigh in the sand. Our final activity was to make and decorate a Christmas tree in the sand. We had a great day!





Ford class has been learning about the artist Romero Britto and been creating some of his artwork using our own ideas.

Britto is a Brazilian artist, painter, and sculptor. He is known for his colourful and cheerful artworks that combine cubism, pop art, and graffiti.



Caught on camera!...



Over the last few weeks of last term, we were using our camera trap to record the wildlife on our school field- here's a selection of what we captured! From the humble pigeon and the fiery pheasant to the fantastic sight of a deer family caught in night vision!



29.76 inHg ↑ 35°F 11/20/2017 03:04PM CAMERA1

News round-up...



Meet our year 6 junior librarians who have the very important role of helping to run our school library every Friday afternoon!



Emilia and Finley Waugh picked up championship medals at the North East of England regional cross country running championships at Temple Park, South Shields just before Christmas.

Finley (10) racing in the male U11 event took 2nd place and the silver medal, the fourth race in a row he has finished runner up to Noah Penfold of North Shields Poly.

Emilia (12) racing the U13 girls took 3rd, the bronze medal, and auto-selection for the North East team for the U.K. athletics inter-counties championships, with a strong performance never out of the top 3 from the gun. Winner, Olivia Murphy of Birtley, ranked U.K. number one for U13 girls over 1500m in 2023 was again the best on the day.

It obviously runs in the family - well done to both!



As always, a huge thank you to everyone who generously donated to the ADFB last term. We are a collection point for the food bank so we accept donations all year round - just use the drop off box in the front porch whenever you can. The Food Bank are always in need, thank you.

 ParentPay

If your child is having milk this term or taking part in after school clubs, then payment is now due.

We appreciate you keeping on top of payments as they become active. If you are falling behind with payments, please don't be offended if we contact you for settlement. If you are having difficulties paying, please speak to us - we are very understanding! Thankyou.



A reminder that we have a small number of pupils in school with severe nut allergies. Exposure to nuts and nut products can cause a rapid and serious reaction for these individuals. We ask for your co-operation in not sending any nut product in to school, either as a snack or in packed lunches. Thank you.