



## **Christmas Edition 2018**

School reopens on 7<sup>th</sup> January.

## Useless Christmas Facts

1. Mince pies were made with beef and spices.
2. Before turkey, the traditional Christmas meal in England was a pig's head and mustard.
3. Hanging stockings out comes from the Dutch custom of leaving shoes packed with food for St Nicholas's donkeys. He would leave small gifts in return.
4. Nearly 60 million Christmas trees are grown each year in Europe.
5. The song Jingle Bells was first called One Horse Open Sleigh and was written for Thanksgiving.
6. Oliver Cromwell banned festivities in 1647 and the law wasn't lifted until 1660.
7. Santa has different names around the world - Kriss Kringle in Germany, Le Befana in Italy, Pere Noel in France and Deushka Moroz (Grandfather Frost) in Russia.
8. Since 1947 Oslo has sent an Xmas tree to London to thank us for our help in the Second World War.
9. Boxing Day gets its name from all the money collected in church alms-boxes for the poor.
10. There are 13 Santas in Iceland, each leaving a gift for children. They come down from the mountain one by one, starting on December 12 and have names like Spoon Licker, Door Sniffer and Meat Hook.

### Dear Parent/Carer

We have had a very busy, fun filled term with many activities that the children have taken part in and enjoyed.

For those of you who have been fortunate enough to watch the Christmas shows or attend the church service we hope you enjoyed them. The children worked very hard learning lines and songs for the productions and although understandably nervous, performed very well.



### Christmas Raffle Winners

Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket for the Christmas raffle. We raised a total of £242.00. The lucky winners of the raffle prizes are as follows: Daniella Y3, Madison F. Y6, Doryane Y6 x 2, Melody Rec, Daisy Y3, Ethan Y3, Harry Rec, Emma Y4, Joshua Y4, Alfie Y4, Denzel Y2 and Lorenzo Y2.



## National Online Safety

The above story is available from the blog on our school website. It's a simple Christmas story that helps children to understand how to stay safe on-line.



## Reminders

**Unfortunately, a very few of our parents are continuing to park on the restricted zones outside school.**

Please be mindful that children are, as a result, still being put at risk by inconsiderate parking. **TWO CHILDREN HAVE ALREADY BEEN HIT BY CARS AND THERE HAVE BEEN MANY NEAR MISSES.**

In the interests of the safety of all our children **DO NOT PARK ON GREENCOURT DRIVE.**

**School Meals**, as you are aware Dolce provide the school meals. Please go online (Live Kitchen) and make sure that if your child/children have any dietary requirements you complete the section that advises them of it.

## Sporting Events

We are waiting for the date for the next round of the football competition.

There will be more sporting events in the new year.

**Reminder there are no afterschool clubs the week of 7<sup>th</sup> January.**

Letters will be sent home for the new afterschool clubs when we return.

## Activities This Term



Year 4 have been coached by members of staff from Salford Reds Rugby Club.

Year 4 Naismith have also been fortunate to work with a team of musicians from Chethams School of Music as part of an outreach programme, which aims to introduce children to a range of music styles and different instruments.

The School Choir sang a selection of Christmas songs at the Ellesmere Centre in Walkden, passers-by were very complimentary about their singing.

The School Choir also performed a medley of songs after school on the 18<sup>th</sup> December for parents and staff.

Christmas dinner was enjoyed by all those who partook!

Our School Ambassadors delivered the presents kindly donated by parents and staff, to the 'Mission Christmas' warehouse in Manchester.

Thanks to everybody who contributed towards our Save the Children non-uniform day, we raised £216.00

We were lucky enough to receive ten places to a showing of Zog, so a group of our 'Always Children' travelled to Media City today to watch the show.

*Best wishes for a safe, happy and enjoyable Christmas & New Year from all the staff and Governors at Peel Hall.*

*We look forward to seeing you back at school in 2019!*

*Mrs G Dunkley*

Headteacher