

GUNTHORPE C OF E

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER
2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I can't quite believe I am sat writing the final newsletter of 2024, where does the time go? The next few weeks are going to be busy ones for staff, children and our families. I have attached a useful dates document at the end of this newsletter. Be sure to keep checking this as there is lots happening at school (as I am sure there is out of school too!)

We very much enjoyed the visit of Nigel Frith, the Southwell Diocesan Director of Education, on Tuesday. He joined the children for our Christingle service. It was a very special collective worship and a big thank you to our Worship and Wellbeing group of children, who led this service.

Last week, we enjoyed our 2nd Awards and Achievements Assembly. Children proudly shared their certificates, medals, trophies and even a Blue Peter badge! It is a lovely event and showcases the amazing talents that we know our children possess. Thanks to those parents who were able to join us for the event.

The highlight of last week was of course our Christmas craft day, topped off with a Christmas film after school. The atmosphere around the school was wonderful. Seeing so many happy faces, enjoying the different activities on offer was brilliant. Thanks to Hayley O'Shea for volunteering to make lanterns with all the children. Hopefully we will see some of them at the light switch on this Friday.

I am sure I will see most of you before we break up but in case I don't, have a fantastic Christmas with your families.

Take care, Mrs Brown.

Gunthorpe Light switch on

This Friday (6th Dec), the Christmas lights will be switched on, down by the river. We will be meeting at 6pm. There will be carols around the tree and then families are invited to walk back to the village hall at 6.30pm. I believe there may be a 'special' person leading the walk back, depending on how things are working out at the North Pole!

FOGS Raffle Tickets

Children have come home with raffle tickets in their bookbags, priced at £1 each. If you (or others in your family) would like to purchase them, please send money and stubs back into the school office by Mon 9th Dec. There are some great prizes on offer, including a £150 voucher for the Old Vol and various vouchers to spend online and in the shops. The raffle will be drawn during the Senior Sing-along on Thurs 12th Dec.

Nativity/Junior Performance

A quick reminder that all children will be taking to the stage over the next couple of weeks. The Infants perform 'The Nativity' next Wednesday (11th Dec) @ 6pm. The Junior Christmas Presentation will be Tues 17th Dec @ 6pm. FOGS will be selling refreshments before these shows.



ALTERNATIVE ADVENT

Our Alternative Advent calendar is now in full swing. Thank you to those children who have already shown their act of service by sending in items to support Framework. A member of their staff will be coming to collect all our donations on the last Thursday of term. It really is a great cause and I know that the team at Framework appreciate the kindness that our families show.

SAFETY WORK COMPLETE

Our brand new fences are now looking like they have always been in place around the perimeter of the school. I know the children are happier that less balls seem to leave the playground!

We now have both pedestrian and car park gates that lock automatically. We ask that you buzz using the smaller pedestrian gates if you arrive once the playground gates have been shut by Mr Brewster.

The keypad on the left of the gates will alert the school office and they will buzz you in. The other keypad is for the main carpark gates and should only need to be open if deliveries etc are arriving. Remaining funds for this grant also allowed us to have some CCTV placed around the school grounds. This enables us to ensure the school and the grounds are as secure as they can be, both in and out of school hours. Signs will shortly appear to advise that cameras are in operation.

Governor Vacancy

You may remember a few months ago, I advised that we had a space on our Governing Body. We are hopeful that a member of the local community is going to fill this role. I think this is fantastic as it brings the wider village community together with the school. There is however, another place for a parent Governor on the committee. If this is something you think you may have the skillset for, please do get in touch with myself or Tara Cook, the Chair of Governors (via the school office). We are a friendly bunch, we meet twice a term and there is the occasional visit in school.

WHOLE SCHOOL PANTO TRIP

Just a reminder that next Monday (9th Dec) we will be taking all children from Reception to Year 6 to the Panto at Newark Palace Theatre. The plan is that we will have our school lunch slightly earlier than usual so that we can be ready to leave school around 12.30pm.

We will then leave on coaches ready for the 1.30pm showing of Aladdin. We will be arriving back at school later than the normal end of the day, at around 4.30pm. We will send a text out as we leave Newark so that you know when to arrive at school. Please be aware that the coaches will need space on Davids Lane, to drop us safely.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

6th Dec - Jingle Jog (Jun 1 @ Rushcliffe country park)

6th Dec - Village Lantern walk and light switch on

9th Dec - Whole school trip - Panto (Aladdin) @ Newark
Palace Theatre

10th Dec - Last swimming session

11th Dec - Infant Nativity @ 6pm

12th Dec - Senior Sing Along - 2pm

16th Dec - Rocksteady Performance @ 2.30pm

17th Dec - Junior Christmas Presentation @ 6pm

18th Dec - Christmas Dinner - wear Christmas
jumpers/outfits etc

19th Dec - Party Afternoon (bring party clothes to change
into)

20th Dec - Break up for Christmas

6th Jan 2025 - Return to school for Spring term

16th Jan - FOGS meeting @ 9am (School Hall)

13th Feb - Young Voices

14th - Break up for half term

27th June - INSET Day

28th/29th July - INSET Days

Next academic year 2025-2026

2nd Sept 2025 - INSET Day

3rd Nov 2025 - INSET Day

3rd July 2026 - INSET Day

27th July 2026 - INSET Day