



PRIORSLEE ACADEMY

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Dear Parents/Carers,

This week has felt truly magical. Even when the news has been filled with negativity, our school has been filled with smiles, laughter, singing and festive cheer. This week, we held four Nativity performances, and the children in Year One and Two were truly wonderful: they were so brave; they sang clearly and spoke with huge confidence. It was wonderful witnessing so many children overcoming barriers and gaining confidence! We cannot wait to watch our Year Three and Four pupils at the end of next term (please see dates on our diary dates for next term).

We also hosted our first ever walk-in carol service with St Peter's Church and Oakengates Salvation Army Brass Band, and our choir, who performed three songs with support from the wonderful Mrs Bailey; they really did steal the show! It was a fabulously festive evening and we are excited to announce that we will be making this a new annual tradition!

Yesterday, the amazing ladies in the kitchen cooked nearly 400 Christmas dinners, and they were yummy! I cannot thank the ladies enough for the hard work they put into making it such a success! The children had a wonderful time eating their Christmas meals, and pulling their crackers with their classes.

It has been lovely walking around school and speaking to the children about the letters they have received from Father Christmas, about the fabulous activities they have been participating in whilst in class, looking at the stunning work they have been creating, and listening to some of the beautiful stories that the children have written in their own time.

We have worked extremely hard on our extracurricular club offer for next half term, and we are hoping to offer even more clubs for the second half of the Spring Term. Please remember to book places via your My Child at School account. We hope your child is as excited about the clubs on offer as we are! We are also offering a large number of free lunch time clubs, which we hope will encourage our children to participate in new activities, and increase physical activity.

Attached are our diary dates for next term, and once again we have worked hard to develop and make next term exciting! Any dates where your child will need to wear something other than uniform e.g. themed days/non-uniform days, I have placed in **bold**.

We have been very fortunate that we were very cautious with our re-opening plans for September, because it means that we have not had to readjust the whole school ready for returning in January. We are still very uncertain about what the future may bring in terms of restrictions, but we are planning to continue working in key stage bubbles, with our staggered start & end times, and staggered plays and lunch. This means that we minimise mixing, whilst maintaining a normal school day! We will keep you updated if any changes are being made, which I hope will not be in the middle of bedtime/bath time routine like it was last time!

I hope you have a wonderful Christmas, and I wish you all a fabulous New Year! I hope you have an opportunity to relax and spend time with your loved ones!

Many thanks,

Mrs Cooper
Head of School

