



Inspire Believe Achieve

We enable our children to be the best that they can be, through our vision of "Inspire Believe Achieve" rooted in the belief that "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

Christmas 2023

Head of School Update

What a busy December we have had here at Whaplode Church of England Primary School!

The month started with a wonderful Christingle service at St Mary's Church where pupils took time to reflect on all that the Christingle represented. Pupils from Y5 & 6 had created Christingles for the whole school and we were delighted to raise funds to support the incredible work of The Children's Society. Thank you so much to all who joined us for this service.

The school has yet again supported St Mary's Church's Christmas Tree Festival by decorating a tree with love. Pupils from every class created a heart shaped decoration with a message or drawing on which was then hung on the tree within the church. If you are visiting the church over the festive season, please take a moment to seek out the tree and read a bauble or two.

Early December also saw the school welcome Paul Thompson, Director of Education for the Diocese of Lincoln who visited us to recognise and celebrate the school's achievement of gaining an 'excellent' grading in last summer's SIAMs inspection. He presented the school with a certificate of recognition which will be displayed in the school lobby area. Just a few days later, a group of pupils from KS2 travelled to Holbeach to sing at the WI Hall as part of the Here For You group's Christmas party celebrations. The thirty pupils enjoyed singing a selection of Christmas carols for the group and also enjoyed the refreshments provided! It was lovely to support the local community at this time of year and to see how appreciative they were of our efforts.

A special mention should be made of our beautiful school Christmas tree which was decorated in early December by pupils and staff. A huge "thank you" to Mr Welch for his incredibly generous gift of a 9-foot tree which has been growing for many years on his family's land.

Last week our youngest pupils performed two wonderful Nativity productions to sell-out audiences and were amazing! They sang beautifully, narrated the story of the first Christmas so clearly and made us all feel so very proud of them all. A huge thank you to the staff that made this possible and to all of you who joined us for this magical event.

We would also like to thank all who have contributed to our recent fundraising events. The Swimming Pool Committee organised their annual Christmas Fair which was incredibly well supported. They raised an incredible £1200 to support the continued development and running of our swimming pool. Thank you to all who supported this event and a huge thank you to the committee for their tireless fundraising endeavours.

We ended the term in style this year, with KS2 pupils enjoying a visit to the pantomime at Spalding's South Holland Centre to see Beauty & the Beast, whilst pupils from EYFS & KS1 enjoyed their Polar Express-themed Christmas party day. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the panto visit judging by the shouts, cheers, hisses and boos filling the theatre. The behaviour of all who attended was excellent and it was a pleasure to take the children to such an event. Our youngest children enjoyed attending school in pyjamas for their party day, which included Polar Express themed activities and games throughout the day, as well as a party lunch.

As the term comes to a close, we would like to wish Mrs Barrett all the best in her new role and look forward to welcoming Mrs Ackah to the staff team when we return in January.

On behalf of all our staff, I would like to wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year. Thank you all for your support throughout 2023 and we look forward to working together once again throughout 2024.

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