

ISSUE
263

DATE
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Wistow Ways



**Orton Wistow
Primary School**

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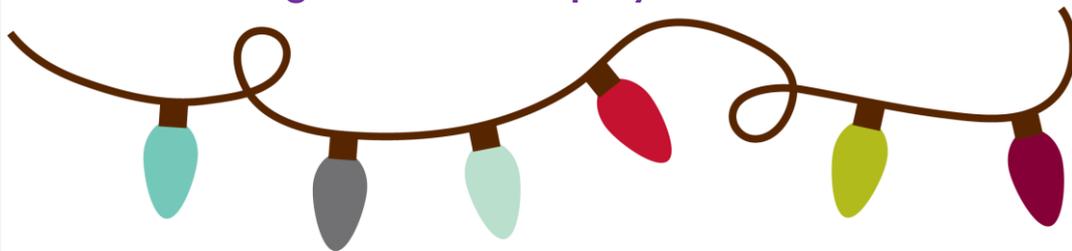
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This week's Assembly Theme:

Today we talked about Advent and had a Carol Concert in school for the Foundation Stage up to Year 4 children.

The Year 5 and 6 children walked to Alwalton Church for a Christmas Service.

Message from the Deputy Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

Where has this term gone? Only these last three days before the children and staff get a well-deserved break. The first term of the year is also the longest and in true OWPS fashion, we have packed in an unbelievable amount over the past 15 weeks.

Last week's Year 2 productions were excellent and I'd like to say a huge well done to all the boys and girls for the roles they played. It was amazing to see how confident they were in front of a large audience and their singing and dancing was some of the best we have seen on the Orton Wistow stage.

I hope you all have a very restful and enjoyable Christmas break with your family and friends and we shall see you back at school in 2019!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Best wishes,

Colin Marks
Deputy Headteacher

Reading

Our expectation is that every child reads a minimum of five times per week.
Last week's results were:

Class	%	Change from last week
Penguins	76%	Down 7%
Magpies	83%	Up 20% 
Elephants	90% 	Up 23% 
Iguanas	90% 	Up 10%
Giraffes	67%	Down 17%
Caterpillars	57%	Down 17%
Macaws	47%	Up 7%
Armadillos	43%	Down 10%
Flamingoes	40%	Down 23%
Hérons	60%	Down 30%
Sharks	63%	Down 7%
Cobras	73%	Down 10%
Nightingales	48%	Up 5%
Wombats	32%	Down 9%
School	62%	Down 5%

As you can see, ten classes saw a decrease in their totals last week and this brought down our school total to the lowest of this half term.

It is interesting to see how many of the classes fluctuate from one week to the next, sometimes by a considerable amount. As we go through this year and continue to promote reading, I hope that we will see more children who have turned their reading into a regular habit.

I hope that you will find the time to do some reading over Christmas and New Year ready for the first check on Thursday 3 January.

Attendance

Last week, our Whole School Attendance was: **97.%**

Gordon the Good Attendance Gorilla was most impressed by these classes who had the highest attendance of 100%:



FLAMINGOES
NIGHTINGALES

Shining Stars



Well done to the following children who all received a Shining Star last week!

Penguins: Sophia Stevens

Magpies: Darcie Hodgson

Elephants: Mayzee Hodgson

Iguanas: Jaiden White

Giraffes: Elyse Morgan

Caterpillars: Abi Bright

Macaws: Jessica Wharton
Armadillos: Maisie Kean
Flamingoes: Camilla Avolio
Hérons: Rosie Bisla
Sharks: David Hammond
Cobras: Henry Saidler
Nightingales: Katie Cracknell
Wombats: Ruby Pywell

House Points by Mr Eardley

Dempsey
48



Mallard
68



Nene
75



Fens
66



This Week's Menu by Mrs Cooper

	Top Ten Favourite	Roast	Comfort Food
	W/C Monday 17 th Dec	Tuesday	Wednesday
Main Course 1	Sausages & Gravy (optional) ✓	Chicken Fillet in Gravy & Yorkshire Pudding	Spanish Meatballs in Tomato & Basil Sauce ✓
Main Course 2 (V)	Quorn Sausage & Vegetarian Gravy (optional)	Quorn Fillet in Vegetarian Gravy & Yorkshire Pudding	Quorn Balls in Tomato & Basil Sauce ✓
Main Course 3	Battered Fish		Cheese Whirl ✓
Starchy Food	Mashed Potatoes Hash Brown	Roast Potatoes New Potatoes ✓	Pasta Potato Smiles
Dessert 1	Apple Strudel & Custard ✓	Chocolate Sponge & Chocolate Custard ✓	Flapjack ✓
Dessert 2	Honey & Oat Biscuit ✓	Fruit Salad & Shortbread ✓	Assorted Ice Cream Tub

Christmas Dinner

by Mr Eardley



Last week's Christmas dinner was our biggest ever and once again it ran like clockwork thanks to the help from staff and our Year 6 pupils.

We have worked out that we served one dinner every 20 seconds! What a fantastic achievement and over 400 children and staff happy and fed.

Student Update Forms

by Mrs Nalton

(Currently reading 'One Day In December' by Mike Gayle)

Student Update Forms have now all been sent home with your child for all year groups.

Thank you to all those parents that have sent them in. If you have not yet returned your form a third copy will be sent home with your children this week.

Please can you ensure that these are returned back to the School Office as soon as possible, even if there are no amendments, as it is very important that we hold your correct contact details, and any change of address.

Thank you very much.

Collections

by Mr Eardley

(Currently reading 'The Defence' by Steve Cavana)

Thank you to everyone who made a donation at the end of the Foundation Stage and Year 2 productions.

We collected £352.50 in total which will go into school funds to support our production costs.



Book Fair

by Mrs Ironside

(currently reading 'Tombland' by CJ Sansom)

Thank you to everyone who came to the book fair we sold £670.90 worth of books!

As you know, we receive commission for every book sold, and we use this money to top up our library and class reading corners. We have managed to gain £342.54 to spend on free books, and have been given £25 of books off the trolley as well.

Thank you!



KS1 Parent Representative

by Mrs Attwood

PSHE Subject Leader

(Currently reading 'The First Fifteen Lives of Harry August' by Claire North)

As you are aware OWPS is currently working towards an accreditation for the Anti Bullying Quality Mark. As part of the work towards this accreditation we are required to work with pupils, governors, staff and parents through a steering committee.

We are currently seeking a KS1 parent representative, in addition to our KS2 representative to sit on the steering group 3 times per year. The meetings take place between 9.00 and 9.30am once per term with the next meeting on Tuesday 8th January. You are welcome to attend this meeting.

If you would like to put yourself forward as a parent representative for the Anti Bullying Steering Group or would like further information about the role, please leave your name and contact details at the School Office and I will arrange time to talk to you.

Further information on the Anti-Bullying Quality Mark can be found here: <http://www.abqm-uk.com/>



The Results Are In!

by Mr Eardley

You may have seen in last week's local and national press that the 2018 KS2 SATs Results tables have been published.

I knew that we had done well but was delighted to see that we came 4th in the city with 82% of our children achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths Combined. The National average was 64% and the Peterborough average was 54%.

Achieving such high results is a team effort, involving the hard work of staff, children and their parents. I am also proud that we work hard to make sure that the children experience a rich and varied curriculum which includes developing their skills of Resilience, Responsibility, Perseverance, Concentration and Teamwork as well as our PRIDE Code.



Year 2 The Inn-Spectors Nativity KS1

by Mrs Granville

(Currently reading 'Restoring Grace' by Katy Fforde)

Year 2 put on an amazing performance of 'The Inn-Spectors,' to both the school and their families last week.

The play told the story of the Nativity and also of six Inn-Spectors, whose job it was to inspect the inns in Bethlehem, to make sure they were suitable for Baby Jesus.



After lots of acting, jokes, fantastic singing (including some wonderful solos) and much pondering, the Inn-Spectors declared that the inn was indeed fit for a king (phew!!)



Mrs Granville and Miss Cameron are incredibly proud of Team Year 2, who rehearsed, acted and sang with such enthusiasm and commitment. To sum up our final performance on Thursday evening, using an Inn-Spector's line from the play: 'what a perfect sight, what a wonderful night!'

Well done all!

FOWS

by Sophie Chambers

(Currently reading with her children 'Arthur is called Monster Swap' by Jonny Zucker)

Children's Christmas Sale

The Christmas Sale on Friday was a busy but successful afternoon, raising a total of £1084!

Most children were able to purchase gifts for their family members, even if we did have to be a little more creative with gifts for men towards the end! Thank you, as always, to the families who sent children in with some money to participate and also to our team of volunteer market sellers for giving up their precious time at this busy time of year.



Fundraising Total and Spending

The Autumn term has been a hugely successful one in terms of fundraising. A total of **£9,493** has been raised thanks to our events, a BGL donation and Barclays Bank match funding for the Christmas Fayre.

Thank you to everyone who has participated, volunteered and supported us, this is a great result!

*Thank
you!*

We were very pleased to be able to help with the hall renovation project by purchasing the new £4,500 lighting system. We provided the 400+ crackers for the Christmas lunch last Thursday and have also earmarked around £450 to purchase tin drinking cups for the dinner hall. These reusable cups are a great eco initiative to replace the disposable plastic cups that are currently used and subsequently reduce the amount of plastic wastage within school.

School Lottery

The school lottery needs your help! We have noticed that the jackpot has been in decline this year, driven by a lack of new uptake and people renewing but not activating their tickets. The more people that sign up, the bigger the jackpot becomes! If you don't already play our school lottery then please take a moment to sign up by visiting www.ourschoollottery.co.uk and search for Orton Wistow Primary School. You could be in with a chance of winning the weekly £25,000 jackpot!

New supporters could also win a family ticket to The Harry Potter Studios by signing up before December 22nd.

Congratulations to Claire Mardlin on winning £13.20 this week!

easyfundraising

Have you registered to support us through easyfundraising yet? It's a really simple way to raise money for us through your everyday online shopping with 3,300 big name retailers such as Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, eBay, Boden and M&S.

Every time you shop, we receive a small donation to say 'thank you'.

It's completely free and over £20million has been raised for causes just like us so far. You can sign up and help us at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsfortonwistowprimaryschool/

Lego League

By Miss Wyatt

(Currently reading 'Body of Evidence' by Patricia Cornwall)

On Saturday 8th December, Mrs Simmons and Miss Wyatt accompanied a group of Year 6 pupils to the First Lego League competition, held at Perkins Engines in Peterborough.

This was the culmination of a Term's efforts, where the pupils worked with a group of engineers from Caterpillar to design and program a robot to complete a series of missions based on the theme 'Into Orbit'. Alongside the coding aspect of the competition, the pupils had to research an area of their own choice and create their own presentation.

Throughout the day, the pupils were graded on their presentation, the robot design, the robot missions and the Core Values (Teamwork). We were delighted to be awarded the trophy for the most thorough research.

The group worked fantastically together and all the adults involved were very impressed with their behaviour, enthusiasm and particularly their teamwork and conduct throughout the day.



Huge thanks need to go to all the engineers who gave up their time every Monday evening and during the day on Saturday to help, guide and support us.

Well done to Orton Orbits (Samuel J, Samuel G, Cameron, Katie H, Katie C, Robyn, Thomas and Damien)

Attendance

By Mrs Russell

(Currently reading 'The Complete Sherlock Holmes' by Arthur Conan Doyle)

The recently published data tables not only show KS2 SATS results, they also show attendance. We are delighted that Orton Wistow Primary School had the highest attendance of any primary school in the city!

We are lucky that our attendance is so high. Our last Ofsted inspector said 'Why would you want to stay at home when you could be at Orton Wistow?'

These high results show that you share our view that regular attendance is very important. Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning. Parents also have a legal responsibility to ensure their child's regular attendance.

We monitor all children's attendance regularly using the systems recommended by the City Council. This means that we make contact, via letter, if your child's attendance falls below 97%. As you can imagine, it only takes a few days off school to fall below 97%.

We are about to send out the Autumn Term Attendance Letters. For some of you, you may find the letter a bit of a shock or disagree with the wording, which comes from the template PCC letter.

If you have informed us of WHY your child was off school, then you have provided a reason and the letter is a formality.

However, where we have concerns about a child's low attendance, we will make appointments to meet with their parents early next term so that we can discuss these concerns.

Snow Days

By Mr Eardley

On very rare occasions, it is necessary to close the school due to unforeseen circumstances, such as adverse weather conditions where there is a health and safety issue or when staff cannot reach the school. We recognise that parents appreciate advanced warning when this happens but hope that you understand that the unpredictable nature of weather means that we often have to make a decision on the morning in question.

If it is necessary to close the school, we would contact you via Parent Mail and Twitter and would add an emergency message to the front page of our website. We also inform local radio when we have to close in winter and they broadcast this. If you do NOT hear from us, you should assume that the school is open – even if other local schools are closed!

Alwalton Xmas Services

By Reverend Ingham

We warmly invite families from Orton Wistow Primary School to join us to celebrate at the following Christmas Services at St. Andrew's, Church Street, Alwalton PE7 3UU. Email: www.alwaltonchurch.org.uk:

December 22nd

6.00pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve: December 24th

5.00pm Family Christmas Eve Celebration

Come and join us for a Pirate Christmas at St. Andrew's, Alwalton - feel free to dress up as a pirate - carols, songs, games, fun and a Christmas story.

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day: December 25th

10.30am Family Christmas Day Communion

Coming Up!

Week: WB 17 December

Monday

Alwalton Church Year 5 – 6 10-12pm

Choir to Sacrewell Farm 3.30-5pm

Wednesday

Last Day of term

Thursday

School Holidays

Next Week: WB 24 December

School Holidays

In 2 Weeks: WB 31 December

Monday to Wednesday

School Holidays

Wednesday

Professional Day Staff

Thursday 3rd January

Children start back to school

Friday

New FS Tour 9.30-10.30am

Year 4 Healthy Living day

In Three Weeks: WB 7 January

Thursday

Year 5 Family learning 9.10 -10.10