

## Reading for Pleasure



We are always looking for ways to promote children's reading for pleasure because we know that the more children read, the more successful they are in their education all round. Each week in assembly, a class promote a book or poem that they recommend to others. Last week, 3Celts promoted 'Stone Girl Bone Girl' - a book they have been reading together in class. The previous week, 4Meercats encouraged everyone to read one of our Reading Challenge books – The Demon Headmaster (one of Mr Procter's favourites – it's where he gets all his tips!)



## Evacuate Year 6!



A great day was had by the children in Yr 6 who came to school as World War 2 evacuees on Wednesday. Carrying their gas masks, identity labels and luggage they arrived at school thinking about what it might have felt like to leave their homes and families to be sent to an unknown place of safety. During the day the children tasted 'Granny Walbank's mints' - sweets made to a wartime recipe; they made carrot biscuits with ingredients available on rations and they experimented with the idea of 'Make do and mend' - transforming one garment into bags, toys, glasses cases, skirts, waistcoats and a whole range of indefinable items!

In the afternoon they took part in a marching drill and drew propaganda posters or worked on Enigma style code breaking. All the children entered into the spirit of the day and learned from the experience.

We finish the term well-before Christmas this year (on the 15<sup>th</sup> December), but we want our children to know all about the Christmas Story and the meaning and magic of Christmas.

Advent Assemblies over these next two weeks will be focussed on the advent themes of hope, peace, love and joy.

All our children are involved in a Production at some point over the year. Year 5 are performing in the final week.

**On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December the Parents Group are running their Christmas Shop (please send gift donations into school – collection box in the entrance hall).**

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December we will be enjoying a pantomime together – ‘Aladdin’ presented by M and M Theatre Group.

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December it is the school Christmas Dinner.

Over the final week of term, Mrs Cloke will be taking the school choir to bring Christmas cheer to Silsden nursing homes.

On the final day of term, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, KS2 will gather at St James’ Church for our Christingle Service.

If children would like to wear a Christmas jumper on the last day of term, then they are welcome to do this... (Donations to Save the Children gratefully received)

This is the last newsletter of the term. Please note that the school closes for the Christmas holidays on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December and re-opens for the children on Wednesday, 3rd January 2017.

## Times Table Bee

Fluency in Times Tables really supports children to find other aspects of maths so much easier – and so we encourage children to learn their Times Tables in all sorts of ways. All the children have a log-in to Sumdog – the online maths games programme that children love! – and they can select particular Times Tables practice. Googling ‘Times Tables Games’ throws up all sorts of fun on-line games that help children be motivated to know and practice their tables...

And all this practice serves the children well for the Termly Times Table Bee. Children complete the Bee in each class. All the individual scores are added together to decide on the hotly-contested Class Winner for each cohort. So congratulations this time to:

Year 3: Celts

Year 4: Cheetahs

Year 5: Mars

Year 6: Ingleborough

All the children who achieved a 100% score in the Bee received an Award in SPOTS assembly.

There will be another Bee next term – with additional Awards for the most improved score – so keep practicing those Times Tables!

The Spelling Bee follows this week!

Christmas Post box: If children want to send one-another Christmas cards, this should be done through our Christmas Post Box – which will be in the main corridor from next Monday – full names and class on the envelopes please.

Thinking of others – some great fundraising by Silsden Primary School children this term: At the Hothfield Site £344 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, and £250 for Children in Need. Thank you for your support.