

Castlecroft News

Winter Edition!

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*Wishing you and your family a very special
Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Thank you for your continued support.
Best wishes from all the staff at Castlecroft.*

Diwali

By Raynor Garner

Mrs Sharma came into our school on Tuesday 1st November to tell us about Diwali, she was dressed in a pretty sari. Year 4 were told the story of Rama and Sita and we acted it out. The King had two sons, the eldest one was called Rama who was going to be king but their stepmother wanted her son to be king, so she banished the brothers and Rama's wife, Sita to the forest.

In the forest Sita saw a golden deer and wanted it as a pet, so she sent Rama to get it, leaving his brother to look after Sita. They heard a cry from the forest, so after protecting Sita in a magic circle, the younger brother went to look for Rama. But while the brothers were away. The Demon King tricked Sita out of the circle and took her to a different country. The brothers wondered where Sita had gone, so they asked the forest animals. The king of all the monkeys came to help and told the brothers where she had gone.

They built a bridge with boulders and stones across the sea to get to Sita. The demons and monkeys had a battle and Sita was rescued. When they were returning back to their kingdom, it was dark so all the forest animals guided them back home with lights. So that is why Diwali is called the 'Festival of Lights.' Rama, Sita and his brother went back to their kingdom and lived happily ever after. I really liked learning about Rama and Sita and acting out the story.



Bhangra **By Lola Hill**

On Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd November each class went into the school hall to learn a bhangra dance with Vjay. Our class learnt lots of different movements to the beat of the dhol drum which was played by Vjay after he had taught us the moves. It was quite tricky remembering all the moves and I did forget a few in the beginning but with practice, we got it right.

On Thursday afternoon we had an assembly where every class performed their bhangra dance in front of the rest of the school. It was really good watching all the different dances especially Year 6, as they danced to 'Dance Monkey' and they did some really good moves.

It was fun learning bhangra but I was very nervous to perform our dance in front of everyone but I felt really happy once our class had danced and was very proud of myself when we had finished.



Football Report

Castlecroft v SS Peter and Paul
By Tommy Chalstrey

On Monday 7th November, Castlecroft Boy's football team travelled to SS Peter and Paul school for a football match. Before the game we warmed up and then the referee asked for our captain, which was Elijah. The game began quickly with SS Peter and Paul taking control but we didn't hesitate and attacked straight away winning the ball back. We went on the counter-attack and took a few shots and managed to score our first goal of the match. We put pressure on the opposition and scored another 2 goals then the referee blew the half-time whistle. In our team talk we decided to move Tommy upfront with Toby and then made a few more changes to the rest of the team. In the second half we dominated the game and played well passing from the wingers (Finley and Niall) to the strikers (Tommy and Toby). We scored another goal and Jacob made an absolutely amazing save, who then booted the ball to Finley who ran and crossed it to Toby who score from a volley right into the bottom corner of the net.



We didn't concede a goal in the whole of the match, so the final score was 5-0 to Castlecroft. Castlecroft played really well and supported each other when mistakes were made.

Computer Workshop

By Rupert Broxton-Williams and Tommy Chalstrey



On Friday 11th November Mr Ashton, the computing teacher, came into Year 5 to teach us about debugging and coding on the computer. We did some debugging activities which were tricky but great to learn. After our break we did some coding work on 'Scratch' which looked hard but we soon got the hang of it. After lunch we played a game where you had to tap the balls to get more points, which was a lot of fun. Then we restarted 'The File' and created a football game where you got points by clicking it, we also added a timer.

At home time Mr Ashton handed out badges to 4 people in the class who had done really well. The workshop was a lot of fun but also hard at the same time.



German Market

By Evie Metelko

Year 6 went to the German Market in Birmingham on Thursday 10th November. There were lots of stalls selling food and toys. All of the stalls were festive, one even had a mini windmill on top. We walked around all the stalls, there was lots to buy. A lot of Year 6 gathered around the sweet stall with a pick 'n' mix and gum. Nearly all the children bought sweets. We rode on the carousel before eating our lunch. Me and Sophie went on the horses which went up and down then we went in the carriage, we preferred the horses though.

After we had finished our lunch we made our way to a private gallery where we looked at some landscape paintings which were stunning. My favourite had mountains by a lake. We also looked at some Arabic Art which was very interesting it does not have people in it.

From there we headed back to the coach and to school. It was so much fun going to the German Market and we would like to thank all the staff for taking us.



Children in Need Day

By Violet Deaves and Ameliah Samuels

Pudsey day was AWESOME at Castlecroft because we had so much fun and raised an amazing £518 to help Children in Need. There was a delicious cake sale and classrooms were full of unusual and colourful clothes, as we didn't have to wear our school uniform. Children were wearing dazzling football kits and flashy T-shirts. The best thing of the day was doing a work out with Joe Wicks. Every year raised lots of money so hopefully we will be able to help a lot of children.



The Rats of Wolverhampton **By Aleighza Bailey and Isla Jones**



Our Christmas play this year was called 'The Rats of Wolverhampton'. We auditioned for the parts we wanted in the play and we were all happy with the roles we got. We were given the parts of the Pied Piper and Freda (the Pied Piper's assistant). After a lot of practice learning our lines, singing the songs and doing dance routines, we had our dress rehearsal 2 weeks later. It was very scary performing on stage in front of the whole school for the first time. Then on Wednesday 30th

November we did an afternoon performance in front of our families, followed by two evening performances on the Thursday and Friday. It was very nerve-wracking to be on stage but also a lot of fun. We both enjoyed singing our duet and the more we sang in front of a live audience, the less scary it got.

The whole experience was really good, we loved working together as a class singing songs and dancing. It has made us more confident and braver. We loved being a part of the production.

Nursery Nativity

Savanna Gambone and Reid Stanley

It was Christmas time in the Nursery and the elves were coming. We had decorated our Christmas tree ready for the performance. We did our play for our mummies and daddies which was about Baby Jesus. We sang songs and did our words. "I was a brown cow and sang Moo,Moo,Moo!" said Reid

Savanna liked being an angel and loved her sparkly dress. She said "Follow the star and your baby will be the Son of God," in the play.

We know our mummies and daddies liked our play because they were smiling and looked really happy, especially when we were dancing at the end.



Hey Ewe!

By Orla Brookes and Ben Stephens

Our Christmas play was called 'Hey Ewe!' It was about a little sheep who could not get to sleep, she could sense that something was going on and she was rather curious. The other sheep just wanted to rest and weren't interested in going anywhere. The Roman Emperor, Caesar Augustus wanted a record of who had been born, so Mary and Joseph travelled to Bethlehem.

Then a dazzling star appeared in the sky and lit up the hills all around them which guided everyone to where the Son of God was born. The kings followed the star, along with the shepherds who were guiding their sheep. The kings gave the Baby Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to welcome him into the world.

Year 2 practiced the play for only 1 week and 3 days before we performed the play in front of the adults on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December.

Year 1 wore Christmas jumpers for our performances as they were the choir and sang lots of lovely songs and some of Year 1 children had to play a few of Year 2 parts as there were some off sick.



As well as singing, the Reception class were part of the nativity playing Mary and Joseph, angels, shepherds and kings.

At first it was scary going on stage in front of everyone but we soon started to enjoy it when we saw all the smiling faces. Performing 'Hey Ewe!' for all the adults was a lot of fun and it looked like they enjoyed it as they were clapping, smiling and waving at us.

At the end of our play we sang 'We wish you a Merry Christmas' REALLY LOUD!