

Castlecroft News

Winter Edition!

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Bhangra Dancing By Thea and Zarin

On the 5th and 6th November, the whole school learnt a special dance called Bhangra. It originated from Punjab in India and is linked to nature. We struggled at first but VJay (our bhangra teacher) helped us to remember the difficult dance moves by repeating the dance many times. We enjoyed dancing as well as experiencing different cultures. We started off with lots of stumbles and chatter but ended up with a well-assembled dance. YAY!

VJay is a brilliant dance teacher and was very understanding when we couldn't do the dance moves. It was super fun, especially when we performed the dance in front of the school. We laughed a lot throughout the routine. VJay beats a drum called a dhol with 2 wooden sticks, called Dagga and Tihli, to keep the rhythm. The Dagga is the thicker stick for the base side and the Tihli is a thinner straight stick used for the high-pitched treble side. When he hits the drum with them, it makes a very upbeat sound. IT WAS SO COOL!

He showed us lots of different instruments and props you can dance to some were a little bit strange but also looked great fun.

Overall, it was an incredible experience and an amazing opportunity. I hope that all the classes enjoyed it as much as Year 6 did. VJay was so kind and caring and had a lot of patience with us.

THIS HAS BEEN A FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE!



Kingswood Activity Centre By Oliver Fm

Year 2 went to Kingswood on a coach, we sat by our friends. When we got there, we went into the classroom and met a nice lady who was going to help us. We played for a bit, then the lady read us 'Stick Man'.

After that, we went outside in our wellies and collected lots of sticks and leaves. Then, we made our very own 'Stick Man' with the sticks and leaves. We stuck the sticks together with clay which was messy.

We sat around a fire and put dough on a stick and baked it in the flames. It turned into bread, which we ate. It was so delicious, just like the bread you get from the bakers. Next, we climbed trees and played on the adventure playground. The lady who was looking after us was very nice and wanted to make us happy, so we all had a really good time.



German Market

By Anya and Erin

On Thursday 13th November, Year 6 went to the German market in Birmingham. We left school at 9:30am, our journey took about 45 minutes but it felt like 45 hours! When we got to the market, we split into 4 groups that eventually merged into two. As we were walking around the stalls, we tried lots of different assortments of fantastic food, full of sugar, making us very hyper. We bought lots of souvenirs that were surprisingly expensive.



Children in Need Day

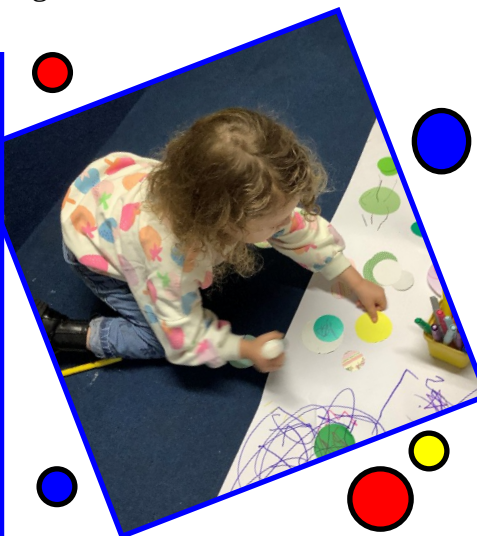
By Sidrah and Isabelle

On Friday 14th November, we all came into school in our Pudsey clothes, or our own clothes, as it was 'Children in Need Day'. We all gave £1 to our teacher for the charity.

We were all very excited about the day but it was also good to remember that the day was really about raising money for children who needed help.

We did some Pudsey activities like colouring in and word searches. We also had a cake sale, where we were able to buy 2 delicious cakes each.

Pudsey day was a lot of fun for us but raising the money for the charity was the most important thing. We raised a grand total of £587.33.



Computer Coding Day

By Elsie and Yasmine

Year 5 came into school on Monday 17th November to have a computer coding day. Mr Hartley, the computer teacher, showed us some coding on the computer. Soon after that, we did our own decoding. After our break, we made our own games and then played them. We did a bouncy ball game and had so much fun.

We also enjoyed playing the football code game, we had to make the ball move which was amazing. We can't wait to learn more computer coding.

Football Match Castlecroft v Bantock By Henry



On the 17th November, Castlecroft Primary School football team played a match against Bantock Primary School. As we got to Bantock, there was a medium sized football pitch and loads of adults to cheer us on. There was a great atmosphere.

When the match was about to start, Mr Morgan told us the formation. Me and Alfie were at the back, Jayden in the middle, Charlie right wing and Louie left wing. Noah was our striker and Harry was the goalkeeper. We didn't have any subs.

The game started with a corner from Jayden, resulting in a goal.

Harry had a goal kick which reached Noah for a tap in. Then Alfie scored followed by Jayden scoring another. Louie scored our next goal, with Jayden scoring his hat-trick of the match. We finished the game with Alfie scoring an incredible goal from the halfway line. The final score was 7-0 to Castlecroft.

We are excited for our next match.

Christmas Fair By Kya and Magda

At our school Christmas Fair there were lots of different raffles, including drinks, toys, sweets, beauty and there was also electronics. It was so festive; everyone had worked so hard to make it special. There was a food hall with burgers, hotdogs, French fries and samosas.

You could also decorate biscuits and be creative with different crafts.



The Christmas fair and raffle raised about £1,800.

Thank you to everyone who made it happen.

Scrooge and the Ghosts of Christmas By Sam

This year, the Junior Christmas production was 'Scrooge and the Ghost of Christmas'. It was a Christmas Carol with a few twists.

Year 6 had to audition for the parts we wanted. It was so much fun, especially when you got the part you wanted. I was given the part of Scrooge, which was very demanding but extremely rewarding. I learnt all my lines over a weekend, then slowly perfected my character with each practice.

Mrs Birbeck-Simpson ran a drama club to help us become more confident with our parts.

For a few weeks, we were set on learning our lines and putting the play together. All our hard work paid off as our performances were great.

I would like to thank all the staff that helped put on this production, as without them it wouldn't be able to go ahead.

I really enjoyed being Scrooge as it was great fun and such an amazing experience.



The Twinkly Nativity

By Analyse-Rose

I practised saying my words for our Nativity. It was a little bit hard to remember all my words as I was the star and had a lot of words to remember.

Nursery and Reception went to church to do our play for all our grown-ups. My Nannie, Grandad, Mummy and Daddy came to see my play. The play was about the Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the donkey. They walked to Bethlehem, so Mary could have the baby, but all the inns were full so they stayed in a stable.

The Kings and Shepherds came to visit the Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the donkey and gave Jesus some gifts.

We sang a lot of songs about 'The Twinkly Nativity'. They were happy songs and made all our grown-ups smile. We got a really big clap at the end from everyone, which made us all feel haaaappppy!!!!

I enjoyed being a star because stars shine bright and I really like stars. I feel like a superstar now.



Compton Care

By Darcey T

Castlecroft choir travelled to Compton Care in the teachers' cars. When we got there, we sang a variety of Christmas songs for the people at Compton. Mr Dyall said some of the people listening to us even cried because they were happy, as we were so good. I liked singing all the different songs and we were all given cookies at the end, which was a real treat.



We Three Kings

By O'Shea

The Infant's Christmas production was called 'We Three Kings'. It was about three kings who saw a bright, shining star in the sky. King Balthazar knew what the appearance of the star meant, because he was smart and read a lot of old scrolls.

The three kings travelled to Bethlehem because a baby was going to be born there, who was the Son of God. The kings met the Baby Jesus and gave him their wonderful gifts.

We did the play to our grown-ups on Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th December. I was quite confident with performing in front of an audience as we had practised a lot.

The performances went really well and there were lots of laughing at the funny bits and even more clapping at the end.

I really enjoyed being in 'We Three Kings' as it was a lot of fun and it is always nice to show our parents what we have been doing in school.

