Castlecroft News

Winter Edition!

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Est. 1953-2023

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Our 70th Anniversary Celebrations
By Alexa and Poppy

On the 1st December, we celebrated the school's 70th Anniversary! The school was opened in 1953. We celebrated by having cake, dressing up in 1950's clothes and seeing what it was like in the 1950's.

Two very kind visitors came into our school, one was a teacher at Castlecroft in the 50's and the other lady was a pupil. We talked about the pink and blue tickets for good and bad behavior, the wooden open and close desks and the cane!

To mark the 70 years, we planted a tree at the front of the school, so we can watch it grow with us. Reception - Year 6, wrote and drew things about 2023, from what we eat for breakfast to the technology we use daily. Then we are going to bury them in a time capsule so people in the future can see how we lived. We listened to music that was trending in the 1950's, we did colouring in, ate mini rolls, crisps and had juice.

The dinner ladies, Mrs Spicer and Mrs Arnold, made up special boxes with cakes inside for the whole school to enjoy. They were very yummy!

The school is also planning to create a giant number 70 out of all the children on the playing field, then take a photo with a drone.

That was how we celebrated our day for Castlecroft's 70th anniversary.

Year 1 Bhangra Dancing By Evie



We went into the hall to learn to do some bhangra dancing moves while Vijay played the drum to keep us in time. We did digging the soil moves and sowing the seeds. Then we were the rain. We danced this by putting our hands in the air and then coming down to the ground like rain falling. We were also the sun and then finally, the flowers growing.

We told the story of the seeds growing in our dance.

I liked learning bhangra dancing with my friends but the drum was too LOUD!!

Year 5 Bhangra By Ishani

Today I was not expecting a special assembly but when we went down to the hall we saw Vijay, the bhangra teacher and realised we were going to do bhangra again! It was not easy for us as every year the dance gets harder and now that I am in Year 5 it was harder than we all expected. It was a lot of fun being taught



the bhangra dances and at least I didn't feel nervous doing the dance on the stage in front of the whole school like I did last year. We all danced really well.

Year 2 Come Dine with Me By Darcey

On Wednesday 8th November, it was the best day ever, as I got to see my Mum at school. She came to have lunch with me. We both had the BIG breakfast, it was really yummy. For pudding we had cake with icing and sprinkles on. It was fun to have my Mum at school and I want to do it again very soon.



Year 2 went to Kingswood By Arya

On Friday 10th November, Year 2 went to Kingswood to have fun in the forest and learn about 'Stick Man'.

First we got on the coach to go to Kingswood, I sat next to Darcey. When we got there we met Carla who read the book 'Stick Man'. My group made a stick man while the other group were making story boards. Then we swapped over. We had lunch, I had a ham sandwich. After lunch we had adventure playtime. Next, we sat around a campfire and had Smores. After that we made bird's nests and went to see the sheep. Finally, we went back to school on the coach, I sat next to Megan. I loved going to Kingswood and can't wait to go back next year!





ODD Clothes Day By Charlie H

On Monday 13th November, we were asked to come into school in odd clothes or funny hair for the start of our 'Anti-Bulling Week'. I came to school with blue hair and odd shoes. Children also came to school with their tops turned back to front and



inside out. We did this to say that it is ok to be different and to stand up to any bullying. I felt good coming into school with funky hair and mixed up clothes.



Football Match Castlecroft v Springdale By Rupert and Tommy

On Monday 13th November, we went to Springdale School on Warstones Drive to play a football match. We headed up to the football pitch at the back of the school. A few minutes before the match started, we had our team talk, then we were ready to start the game. A few minutes into the game, Stanley scored, followed by Kylan and Tommy. We worked well as a team and managed to stop Springdale scoring a goal. We played really well. When the final whistle was blown we had scored 7 goals and Springdale had zero. We had a team photo taken and then we went home.

Computing Day By Ishani and Daisy

Year 5 had a 'Computing Day' on Wednesday 15th November. It was kind of hectic at the start of the day but we soon started to concentrate and work on 'Scratch' and also fixed programming. Then we had to do some difficult programme solving to save something the creator had messed up. Once we had finished 'Scratch', we went on to an app called 'Hopscotch', where we had to create our own game with an animal of our choice and put in controls to make the game work by programming our animals to move. Then our game was complete.

We like solving mysteries in Year 5, so 'Computing Day' was really good for us. We enjoyed solving the problems and doing work that we would never usually do.

Year 1 Come Dine with Me By Sienna

On Thursday 19th November, Year 1 had a 'Come Dine with Me'. I loved it when I got to eat my roast dinner with my Mommy, Nannie and my baby sister. I really like it when they can come into school to see me.



Year 6 Visit the German Market By Ibrahim and Pavan

At 8:45 on Thursday 16th November, our German teacher (Mrs Bradbury) told us what we could do and what not to do in at the German Market. We left school on a coach at 9:30 with our spending money put away safely. The coach rumbled along with a lot of excited children, all the way to Birmingham. When we arrived at the market, Mrs Bradbury split us into groups and we went to look at the architecture as the stalls weren't open until 11am.

When the market finally opened, we went to find our first stall. We went to many stalls and spent lots of money on sweets and food. Once we had finished buying what we wanted, we had chance to get our lunch which was like a hotdog. Then we went on the carousel and had a lot of fun. We then walked to an art gallery where we saw Disney pictures and loads of other paintings. After that, we saw famous statues. We saw one of King Edward VII, he helped the Children's Hospital.

After a very exciting day, we happily made our way back to school. For us, the funniest memory of the day was when Niall bought the BIGGEST hotdog ever!







Children in Need
By Wynter

We came into school wearing spotty clothes on Friday $17^{\rm th}$ November, for Children in Need Day. I wore a cosy tracksuit which was as soft as Pudsey. In Year 2, we coloured in Pudsey tops and then went around the playground to ask our friends to sign them.

We had a special assembly telling us all about Children in Need and that we were raising money for the children who are sick and need help. We could buy cakes from a cake sale and I bought lots of tasty cakes. I really enjoyed raising money for the sick children by eating cakes and having fun.

Our school raised £437.70 for Children in Need.







Spelling BeeBy Thea and Louie

Miss Campion chose 4 children from Year 4 to represent Castlecroft in a Spelling Bee Competition. The children who had been chosen were Thea, Louie, Jayden and Jasleen. On Thursday 16th November, we went with Miss Campion to the Girls' High School. We ate our lunch when we first arrived, then went to our table in our groups. When we sat in our chairs we were ready to spell.

We were asked to spell easy and medium words which we spelt okay. Our hardest word was 'anti' something which we didn't spell correct. We didn't win but we all enjoyed taking part in the Spelling Bee because it was fun spelling different words and lovely working with our friends.



Netball Match Castlecroft v Woodfield By Lola and Isla

We were told that there was going to be a netball match, we were extremely excited. When we were told who was going to play, we were buzzing about being chosen. The players chosen were Isla, Lola, Kacey, Ameliah, Kyra, Olivia, Esme, Poppy from Year 6 and from Year 5, Harlee, Lucille, Aurora, Freya K, Freya T and Erica. On Thursday 23^{rd} November, we went to Woodfield Primary School to play the game of netball. Sadly, we didn't win but we had an absolute blast!!!



Maths Challenge By Zayn and Leo

On Thursday 23rd November, 4 children from Year 5 went to the Girls' High School to compete in a Maths Challenge. They were Annie, Ishani, Zayne and Leo. We ate our lunch when we first arrived. Then, about 15 minutes later, lots more schools arrived for the challenge. We were a little bit nervous at the start but at the same time confident. We didn't have any clue what we were going to be asked, but when we got started, we could answer the questions and we thought we were doing very well.

We came in 3rd place with another school which we were very pleased with. It was a lot of fun to take part in the challenge, probably the best thing we have done all year.

Christmas Fair By Kyra

I came to our Christmas fair on Friday 24th November. I walked around the stalls with my friend Victory. I really like how Christmassy the hall looked and was excited to spend my money on all the fun stalls.

I bought lots of teddies, books and I also went into the dining room to buy some delicious treats. I spent all my money and got lots of lovely things, I also bought my friend something special. I would like to thank everyone who made the fair happen as I really enjoyed it and it made me feel happy.

The fair raised a **whopping** £1673.92. When the raffle was added to the final total, the PTA had raised over £2,500.





Year 4 Christmas Poster By Jasleen and Tommy

Our class helped make a Christmas poster to be put in the notice board by Castlecroft shops. We coloured in some Christmas tree light bulbs and letters that spelt out 'HAPPY CHRISTMAS'. We made the poster to wish everyone a Happy Christmas from our school. We enjoyed making the poster because we got to use very bright colours and make a very colourful poster to cheer everyone up.

Robin Hood Saves the Day! By Mya and Liv

Recently the Juniors performed the play, 'Robin Hood Saves the Day!' Year 6 designed the tickets which were amazing. Our first proper performance was in front of the Infants, although there were a few mistakes, we managed to cover them up and the performance was good.

Year 6 had all the lead roles, Year 5 played the turkeys and Year 4 and 3 did some dances as well as being in the choir. The next performance was on Wednesday 6th December in front of a real audience and this was professionally filmed. We then had two evening performances which got better each time. Year 6 said their lines well and the dancing and singing from everyone was brilliant.

It was truly amazing and we were all lucky to be a part of it.



Early Years Nativity By Bella and Fiadh

Nursery and Reception went to a church to do our play for all our mummies and daddies. In our play there were lots of animals; 5 sheep, 4 hens, 3 goats, 3 cows, 3 donkeys, 2 cockerels, 2 cats and a dog that said "Woof!" really loud.

The story is about Mary and Joseph having a baby in a stable. We loved the baby Jesus. The shepherds and the kings came to visit the baby by following the bright star. They gave baby Jesus some presents.

We sang 'Hello Baby Jesus' and 'Snuggle up in the Hay.' At the end we sang 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas' and all the adults smiled and clapped really hard. They loved watching us.

We loved doing all the play.



The Mayor's Christmas Party Orla and Jaden

We were really excited as the Mayor of Wolverhampton had invited some children to his Christmas party and our class had been drawn out of the hat. Then all of the Year 3 names were put into the hat again and 6 children were drawn out. We were so excited when the 6 children were chosen; Jaden, Orla, Layla, Lyla, Charlie and Jaidon.

Mr Dyall took us in his car to the party. There were 8 schools including us who had been invited. When we walked into the hall, it was so colourful and the band was playing Christmas tunes. We had lots of yummy cakes and crisps to eat. We played pass the parcel to Christmas songs, which was great fun. We met Rudolph who gave us a high five along with the Mayor. We also saw Santa who gave us all a present.

We felt very special to be invited to the Mayor's party. We had an absolutely amazing time.



Sing 4 Christmas
By Erin



Year 4 went to St John's Church in Wolverhampton to 'Sing 4 Christmas'. We were all REALLY excited to be singing together. We got on the coach at school and fussed about who we were sitting next to. Eventually, when we were all seated, we talked about what songs we might sing, so we started singing, 'Last Christmas' and 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas', we sounded very good. When we arrived at the church we were extremely nervous. The church was decorated lovely but the seats were very

uncomfortable. Lots of other schools were also there.

We sang 'Rocking Around the Christmas Tree', 'Jingle Bells', and 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'. Some teachers had to sing parts of the song at the front of the church, Miss Campion sang 'six geese a-laying'.

After singing all these songs, we felt very Christmassy. We all enjoyed our Sing-a-Long.

Everyone Loves a Baby! By Rory

On Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th December, Year 1 and 2 had their Christmas play. We told the story of baby Jesus. We practised all the songs and dances. I was a wise man and got to wear a gold and blue crown. My favourite song was 'Angels Singing'. It was fun and exciting doing our

