



This time of year is always filled with so much excitement as school is such a hive of activity with a real buzz of enthusiasm. These include FODs events as well as visits that have taken place outside of school and our wonderful fundraising events. I would like to take the opportunity to wish all of our families a peaceful and relaxing break and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Mrs Sexton

Year 5- Community Project

As part of their community project, each Year 5 class visited the Day Centre at St Luke's Hospice to see first-hand how the money they raise will support the hospice's incredible work. The children had the valuable opportunity to speak with staff, volunteers, and patients, gaining a deeper understanding of the difference their efforts can make.



Following their visits, Year 5 held their first fundraising event for St Luke's Hospice - and it was a fantastic success! The children worked incredibly hard preparing for the occasion, and their festive singalong filled the school with joy and Christmas spirit.

Most importantly, Year 5 raised an amazing £1,476.10. We are absolutely over the moon with this total and want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our families for their generosity and support.

Academy Update

Thank you to all of the parents who engaged in the parent consultation. We are pleased to inform you that progress towards joining INOVA academy continues to and we hope to complete the conversion in the Summer term.

Parking

Thank you to the parents who report unsafe parking around the school area. Our office team pass on the concerns to the parking enforcement team at the council, however we feel that direct communication from parents would have even greater impact. Please continue to raise concerns with us but taking the time to email the council too could have even more impact:

parkingenforcement@sheffield.gov.uk

In this issue

Y5 St Luke's
Academy update
Parking
Y5P class assembly
Children in Need
Y3 Millhouses Church
Y3 Stone Age Day
Y4 Magna Visit
Pupil's Parliament
Assemblies & visitors
Y4 Foodbank
Y3 Broomcroft
Y4 performance
FODs Xmas Fayre & gift stall
Climate Change
Dobcroft does Christmas

Coming up next term:

5 Jan- School reopens
5 Jan- 4 TH swimming
10 Jan- X country@ Handsworth grange
13 Jan- Y6 Crucial crew
17 Jan- Orienteering in Ecclesall woods
Work Showcases:
20 Jan- 6BC
21 Jan- 6P
22 Jan- 6W
27 Jan- 3F to visit Broomcroft nursing home
28 Jan- Y5CB class assembly
6 Feb- Y6 charity fayre
7 Feb - X country & orienteering @ Norfolk park
10 Feb- Y5/6 Young Voices @ Arena
13 Feb- FODs special person stall

Y5P Class Assembly

Y5P entertained us all brilliantly in their class assembly. What a lovely, full showcase of so much learning from gymnastics to English to Maths to Music: what a treat. The children were so clear and articulate and really enjoyed the chance to have an audience to showcase their efforts to. Well done Y5P!



Children in Need 2025

The children had a fantastic time celebrating Children in Need 2025! The school was filled with bright yellow and spotty outfits as everyone joined in to show their support. Through their enthusiasm and kindness, the children helped raise an impressive £446.00, demonstrating what a big difference we can make. Well done everyone!

Year 3 Millhouses Church

On Wednesday 10th December Year 3 children (and a great many parents) visited Millhouses Methodist Church's Christmas Tree Festival. Whilst there, the children helped to tell the Christian story of the birth of Jesus through creating sound effects and some children becoming angels and shepherds. The children then all completed a team crafting activity to create a stained-glass window showing the Angel Gabriel appearing to give the important message to the shepherds. Children also took part in a treasure hunt to find hidden items on the many, many beautifully decorated Christmas trees - one of which our Year 3s had created the decorations for. The children really enjoyed the visit and their behaviour and manners were fantastic. It was a joy to take them out of school. Thank you too to all of the parents and carers who gave their time to help.

Year 3 Prehistory Day

This half term in History, Year 3 have started learning all about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron age periods of prehistory. As part of this, they had a very knowledgeable visitor come into school, introducing this topic with a special 'Prehistory Day'. Children started off with a game, learning about what different foods and objects were available, grown or made during the different periods in Britain. They then looked at and sketched a vast range of artefacts from all three periods, gaining an excellent insight into how everyday objects changed over time. The day ended with everyone making a small bowl from clay with foods that would have been found and eaten at that time. It was a fun day and most importantly children learnt a lot of new and interesting facts that they will be able to reference during the rest of their learning.



Magna Trip

Y4 had a fabulous time on their recent trip to Magna. The sound workshop was a great way to start their new science topic - it was so much fun and all pupils learnt a lot of fun and interesting things! The children enjoyed exploring all the different zones, reinforcing much of their science learning. Thank you to all the parent helpers for offering your time. These trips wouldn't be possible without your help and support.



Pupil's Parliament

The Pupil Parliament has been working hard having been tasked with gathering thoughts and ideas of how to make our school more eco-friendly. This term they have focussed on creative ways to reduce the amount of plastic used in the dojo shop. Alongside this, they selected winners from each year group for the mural competition in DUG's garden.

Congratulations to Esme, Chloe and Ella from Y3J, Julian from Y4TH, Ayah from Y5L, and Evie from Y6W. These designs will be used to create the final mural outside the reception area. The team have also led their first assembly, confidently sharing the progress they have made so far in their roles. See the winning entries below!



Assemblies and Visitors

This half term has been full of exciting events and learning opportunities in our assemblies!

We enjoyed a captivating Cello demonstration showcasing the beauty of music – if your child is interested in learning the cello, or another instrument, then sign up to lessons via the Sheffield Music Hub.

Miss Pratt organised a Writing Showcase to give pupils an opportunity to share their creative work, inspiring us all with their talents.



On November 11th, we remembered and honoured our servicemen and women during Remembrance Day, with a focus this year on the poppy, why it's a symbol and the organisation behind the fundraising each year.

We were visited by Katie Bennett, a local author, who visited to share her new book: A Roma Celebration. Sue, the library lady, continued to promote a love of reading through engaging activities and sharing new books that are available at Ecclesall Library..



Every Sunday, junior parkrun takes place at Millhouses Park and encourages children to stay active and healthy. The Park Run Team visited school to share what it's all about in an assembly.



We also celebrated Hanukkah, learning about its traditions and significance.

Lastly, our Pupils' Parliament provided a platform for students to voice their ideas and lead initiatives for our school community.

Thank you to those parents who are booked in for an assembly visit this year – if you have a hobby, career, faith or sport that you would like to share with our school community, please get in contact with Mr Harrison via enquiries@dobcroft-jun.sheffield.sch.uk

Y4- Community Project

Year 4's community project this term was collecting breakfast donations for the S6 Foodbank. We were overwhelmed by everyone's generosity. The children were enthusiastic and eager to help, which was wonderful to see, and the project linked perfectly with our class text *The Great Foodbank Heist*. The Foodbank representatives were fantastic in supporting the collection and organising the donations. The children really valued the experience and were proud to help others in need. We look forward to running a 'lunch' themed collection in the spring term to support more people across Sheffield. A huge thank you to all of our families for their generosity.



Y3J- Community Project

Y3J have completed their set of 3 visits to Broomcroft Care Home. It has been really enjoyable watching the children grow in confidence, resilience and empathy as they have interacted more with the residents. Children who were originally reserved when talking to the residents have come out of their shell and become more forthcoming in talking and playing games. Other children, who were more confident on the first visit, have learnt how to refine their communication skills when talking to a different generation. A highlight of the trips was when the children made crosswords for the residents to solve. They loved using the creative clues to solve puzzles that the children had made. Well done Y3J 😊

Year 4 Performance

We were incredibly proud of the outstanding Year 4 production!

It was fabulous to see so many families attend which added to the lovely atmosphere. The acting, singing, and dancing were just superb. All of the children displayed excellent teamwork and collaboration skills- just brilliant! A special thank you to Mrs Waggott who wrote the play and to Mrs Dawson for her superb photography. Everyone's hard work resulted in a magnificent performance that I am sure will be remembered for a long time!



Christmas Fayre

What an incredible buzz there was at the infant school for this year's Christmas Fair! It was wonderful to see our entire community come together, and the school was truly alive with the Christmas spirit as families enjoyed the stalls, games, and festive treats. We know how busy this time of year can be, which makes the dedication of our helpers all the more remarkable; we simply could not have held such a successful event without your energy and time. The fayre raised an incredible £5176! A big shout out to Jen and Gemma and all of the FODs team- just amazing.



FODs Christmas Gift Stall

Another huge thank you to our amazing FODs helpers for another successful Christmas gift stall! It is always a popular event with children and it was lovely to see them having fun picking out their own special gifts and getting them all wrapped up to take home.

Please take a note of these future fundraising dates for your diary next year:

- 31st Jan – FoDS Quiz
- 13th Feb - Special Person Stall
- 5th March - Y3/4 Disco 5:30pm - 7pm
- 12th March - Y5/6 Disco 5:30pm - 7pm

Climate Change

This year we have made some bold and exciting decisions to improve our school's contribution to managing Climate Change. We have a comprehensive action plan and have created teams in school to drive this and it will now be an area we consistently work on moving forwards. One of our teams relates to further improving our curriculum. We want to educate and empower the children to be climate conscious citizens. Earlier this month we launched Climate Change action in our school which involved a whole day of Climate related activities. Children collected and analysed data, created poems and designed posters.

Other action we have taken this term:

- We have changed our rewards in the DOJO shop and have moved to having reused prizes or prizes that are more sustainable
- We have created more planting beds for vegetables and have started up an additional lunch time club to prepare these for growing.
- We have improved our city-wide connections with food and are working with Food Works
- We have continued to promote active travel and every class now has an active mascot- look out they may come home for the weekend!
- Our premises team have completed a carbon footprint audit which will enable us to measure improvements we make, especially around our gas and electric consumption.

We are very proud of the changes we have made so far and are excited for more to come. Watch this space!



Dobcroft Does Christmas!

The children have enjoyed all of our recent Christmas festivities in school. On Christmas dinner day, the children made hats using recycled materials- they were so creative! There were so many wonderful designs and it showed you don't need fancy materials. Children certainly got into the Christmas spirit eating their lunch and there was some lovely singing in the hall.



This week school came together for a Christmas sing-along assembly. Staff and pupils sang some of the classic favourites. We rounded off the week with Christmas parties. Thank you to everyone who helped make these celebrations special. We wish you all a wonderful Christmas!