

# NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING ALL TO SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS

CHALLENGE - CREATIVITY- CRITICAL THINKING-  
COLLABORATION - COURAGE



## Edition 12: 28th November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wow! What an absolutely fantastic day we had last Saturday at our annual Christmas Fete! The school hall was buzzing with festive spirit, laughter, and cheer, making it a truly magical start to Christmas. There really was something for everyone, and it was wonderful to see so many families from our school community having fun together. This event could not have happened without the incredible support and generosity of so many people. We want to extend our sincere thanks to:

- Our amazing PTA: For the countless hours of planning, organising, setting up, and packing away.
- Our fantastic volunteers: Thank you to every parent, teacher, and friend who ran a stall, donated prizes, baked cakes, or helped on the day. Your energy and effort made the fete run smoothly and successfully.
- All our families: Thank you for coming out, spending time with us, and showing such enthusiastic support. We will shortly be able to announce how much was raised!

On Monday, 30 of our children went to the Royal Albert Hall to take part in the Barnado's Concert, accompanied by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. The children's behaviour was exemplary and it made us so proud to see them singing so enthusiastically. We are truly sorry that we weren't able to take everyone this year but will apply again for next year, in the hope that we can take even more pupils. Watch this space!

On Thursday, we had our SIAMS inspection. Our inspector had a great day meeting with our pupils, hearing them sing, visiting their lessons, looking at the work in their books and listening to their views about our school. We look forward to sharing his report once it is published in the next few weeks. Thank you to all of the parents who took the time to come to meet with him. Also on Thursday, 31 of our pupils from KS2 returned to Hylands Park for race 2 of the season. Well done to all of the children who took part. A special well done goes to Aida, who came first in the Year 3 girls' race! Aida also spoke confidently to Natasha Kaplinsky, OBE, in front of 5,000 people at The Royal Albert Hall! For these reasons, I am delighted to give her the Headteacher's Award for this week.

### Finally, couple of reminders:

Please take the time to read the three candidate statements for the Parent Governor election and vote, following the instructions you will have received via your child today. All votes must be received by 4.30pm on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> December.

Secondly, if you took books from the Book Fair, please make payment via <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay> as soon as possible.

The end of term is looking extremely busy, so please check the dates section overleaf, and look out for any messages or reminders on Dojo!

We wish you all a lovely weekend.

Ms Walker, Executive Headteacher & Miss Bailey, Executive Deputy Headteacher

## ATTENDANCE:

Here is the attendance for each class for this week:

Ducklings - 97.7%

Robins - 95.0%

Nightingales - 96.1%

Woodpeckers - 94.7%

Kingfishers - 97.5%

Owls - 94.6%

Eagles - 93.6%

Whole School - 95.5%

**Well done Ducklings!**



## IMPORTANT DATES:

1 Dec: Christmas postbox opens

1 Dec: 2.00pm Blessing of the Christmas tree

2 Dec: 1.30-3.00pm Choir to sing at Village Hall

3 Dec: Whole school panto trip (am)

3 Dec: 1.15-3.15pm PTA Christmas activities

5 Dec: Deadline for Parent Governor votes

8 Dec: 9.30-10.30am EYFS Nativity

9 & 10 Dec: 9.30-10.30am KS1 Nativity

9 Dec: Worship Group to go to Belfry Care Home

11 Dec: 10.00am Tour for EYFS intake for Sept. 26

12 Dec: 3.15-5.15pm PTA Christmas Magical Movie Night **NO CLUBS**

14 Dec: 4.00pm Choir singing at Baptist Church

15 Dec: 5.00pm Y6 Christingle Service at St Margaret's Church

16 Dec: 11.00am Year 6 singing at The Belfry

16 Dec: 2.30pm Choir singing in Village Hall

16 & 17 Dec: 4.30-5.30pm KS2 Christmas Concert

17 Dec: Christmas Jumper Day

17 Dec: Christmas Dinner Day

17 Dec: 2.15pm Front Row Music performance to parents

19 Dec: Last day of term

5 Jan: First day of Spring 1



## OUR DOWNHAM 5C AWARD WINNERS FOR THIS WEEK:

EYFS - for

Year 1 - Zaya for collaboration

Year 2 - the whole class for creativity

Year 3 - Billy for creativity and challenge

Year 4 - Oscar for challenge

Year 5 - Grace for courage

Year 6 - Holly for courage and challenge



## CHURCH NEWS

The Downham Christmas Bazaar takes place in the Village Hall on 6th December from 11.00am-3.00pm.

Don't forget that the next Downham Family Service is on Sunday 7th December at 11.00am!

## A PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the season of Advent.

Help us to wait patiently for Jesus' birthday.

Like the candles we light, help us remember that Jesus is the light of the world.

Fill our hearts with hope and peace as we get ready for Christmas.

Help us to be kind and helpful to everyone we meet.

We are so excited for the special gift of your Son, Jesus. **Amen.**