

# Priory Woods Newsletter

## Brief News

### PTA

We would like to say a big thank you to all the parents who supported our Christmas extravaganza. What an amazing night we had and we made about £560.



### Silver Class

We continued our visits to the beach collecting drift wood to use for Christmas crafts that we sold at the Christmas Fair. We made our own felt which was lots of fun.

After all the hard work of this half term we went on a visit to the Elf Trail at Hardwick Park. The children loved looking for the Elves up in the trees.



## Message from Janis

Here we are approaching Christmas again after a very busy term. As always, over the term our children and young people have had some wonderful opportunities to learn. These have included performing in the Shakespeare Schools' Festival, Lower School's 'Xmas Factor' performance, visits to Italy and Slovakia, lots of visits into our local community, sporting competitions and arts events. It's no wonder that everyone is feeling tired! I am sure you will join me in thanking school staff for all their hard work which makes all of this possible. It has been lovely to welcome so many of you to events arranged by our wonderful PTA. I know that they plan to arrange more in the New Year. Another huge thank you to the PTA team.

May I also take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to you all for all of your support, for example taking part in the sponsored abseil, attending coffee mornings and performances to name but a few. It is always appreciated by your children and us as a school community.

Wishing you all a peaceful and happy Christmas and with very best wishes for 2018.

Kind regards,  
Janis

*Merry Christmas  
from Everyone  
at Priory Woods*

## Lower School



### Pink & Red

Pink and Red class have been very busy on the lead up to Christmas with decorating the classroom and Christmas trees and performing in our Lower School show The Xmas Factor. We have visited Arcadia and Peter Barratts to see all of the Christmas displays and decorations and we especially loved playing outside in the snow!!



### Yellow & Green

We have been very busy in the run up to Christmas in Yellow and Green. We have enjoyed dressing up in Christmas themed fancy dress and doing lots of Christmas crafts. We have made Christmas cards, hats and decorations! We also enjoyed having a fashion parade to show off our gorgeous Christmas jumpers on Christmas Jumper day.



### Nutcracker and Xmas

#### The Nutcracker

Gold, Silver and Blue Classes have had a great time taking part in The National Nutcracker Project. We chose the theme of Faraway Lands and the students came up with lots of imaginative dance moves. We enjoyed our prize which was a trip to Showcase Cinema to watch The Nutcracker.



#### The Xmas Factor

It was that time of year again and once again Lower School put on a fabulous X-Factor show filled with songs, dancing, singing, signing and smiles. We even had the X-Factor judges and Dermot who thought that Priory Woods really does



## Sports News

On Monday the 4th December sixteen of our Upper School Pupils attended a Secondary Schools Indoor Athletics Competition at The Herlingshaw Centre. Pupils took part in a variety of exciting throwing and running events, competing against other schools from across Teesside. The pupils never gave up, showing grit and determination throughout along with cheering every other team on at the top of their voices! Our boys came in in sixth place, beaten by our ambitious girls who all returned to school with impressive bronze medals around their necks!

Well done everyone.



## Upper School



### G3 Exploring Goldilocks

G3 had a vote to choose their favourite story. Goldilocks won by a mile! We made shadow puppets of the characters to help us to understand more about light and shadows. We made different sorts of porridge every week. We then recorded how many people liked or didn't like it and what the difference between the two numbers was. It was very tricky!



### G5 Christmas Cake Decorating G6 Christmas Photo Booth

G5 loved making their Christmas cakes and had a great time creating designs to decorate them.

Kevin chose to decorate his cake with a Christmas tree decoration. Tasnia enjoyed rolling out her icing and making little snowflakes for her bell. Kane and Aftaab also chose to make a bell. Other designs included a Santa Claus by Kwan, Santa's reindeer by Sam and beautiful snowflakes created by Nicole and Korban.

The cakes were completed with a ribbon and wrapped in cellophane. Not only did they look fantastic, they tasted fabulous too!



Here are Nayab, Sherry and Hibbah enjoy our Christmas photo booth. We want to wish you a very Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.



## CREATIVE ARTS

### 11 Million Reasons to Dance

Two groups of students attended the 11 Million Reasons to Dance Photographic exhibition which was followed by a dance workshop run by Teesside University performing Arts students. Everyone learnt some new dance routines based on music from popular films.



### Artsmark Platinum Award

We have just received the fantastic news that we have been awarded the Platinum level in Artsmark, having moved up from Gold!

This award recognises the school's commitment to delivering high quality arts activities and for working alongside a wide range of arts and cultural organisations to ensure that students have access to engaging and authentic experiences to help develop their creative learning.

Well done to all the Priory Woods staff who have worked so hard to achieve this and of course thank you to our amazing pupils who are always so enthusiastic and up for every challenge!



**Artsmark  
Platinum Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

### The Tempest

Key Stage 3 & 4 pupils performed The Tempest at the Shakespeare Schools Festival and were amazing!!! We were all so proud of their achievement! Go Team Shakespeare!



## Post 16

Staff at Café 16 have been working really hard to provide a wonderful Christmas treat to pupils of different schools, the community and pupils of our school. Together they decided to put on breakfast and afternoon tea with Santa. The students put a huge amount of effort into their new roles of Santa and his elves while still serving the customers. We have received some excellent feedback and we are super proud of our students.



Our new young enterprise is up and running. The students of Post 16 have started a new company called Message Makers which creates gifts with a message. The snow didn't stop Orlagh from attending the first outside sales at Normanby Primary School. Keep an eye out on the school website for our products which will be available to buy!

Well done to the students in Post 16 for raising £75 to donate to the homeless and lonely at Christmas time. In PSD the students worked in small teams to create games for the Christmas Fair. All of the money made was donated to the cause. They also asked staff to help by sending in a small gift which they then turned in to presents to send along with the money.



Thank you for your support with the shoe box appeal. The students and staff had a fabulous day and have helped to make some children very happy. We filled 91 shoe boxes and we danced our socks off to raise over £450.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas Fayre and to those who sent in kind donations. Your support was tremendous. The money raised has helped to support Christmas celebrations for the classes.



# Calendar of Events

Dates for your diary

**08/01/2018 - School reopens**

**09/02/2018 - PD day - School is closed for students**

**12/02/2018 - 16/02/2018 - Half Term**

