

Red Kite's Bird Watch



Dear Families,

From all the staff at Red Kite we would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

We have had a great two weeks in school enjoying a range of festive activities and everyone is ready for a well deserved rest.

Our secondary pupils had a fantastic Christmas Fayre last week. We saw a great array of different items for sale which the pupils had made including Christmas decorations, stockings, wrapping paper, notice boards, chocolate bars and many more. It was lovely to see so many of our families attending this event. The staff and pupils worked very hard in the run up to it making their wares to sell and it was great to see this event so well supported.

Our music provision continues to go from strength to strength and a huge thank you to Jason for organising the events in the local community last week. Cornflowers Class visited local care homes and wowed the residents with their beautiful music and singing. Several classes also visited the local church to take part in Christmas songs. Thank you for supporting us by coming along to the church.

Here is what Jason said about the events:

'What a fantastic lead up to Christmas we had in the music department, we kicked off last week with a mini care home tour with Cornflowers class, the class were magical, they worked extremely hard to learn 4 songs to sing at Seagrave care home and Glenmoor Care home on Tuesday. We had fun and laughter and shared lots of Christmas cheer, the residents and staff at the care homes were over the moon with the students' performance, it was an absolute delight to work with the class and share the fun, well done!

On to Thursday, and WOW! This is the only word to describe it! The classes were split into 4 groups, we had 7 classes take a trip to St Ninians Church to sing to family and friends and what a truly incredible sing along that was, singing, dancing and signing along to some Christmas songs. In the Vicar's own words 'Red Kite is an absolute pleasure to work with, your young people are amazing' so a huge well done to those classes that made that transition and enjoyed the moment with families. In the afternoon we had 6 classes singing, dancing and signing along to their Christmas songs, sharing the joy of Christmas with their families in school—so amazing to see, such a beautiful performance and the smiles on the families faces was adorable so well done! 4 of our classes remained in the classroom to sing with their families, a huge well done to those teams for taking this on and doing such an amazing job. Over the course of that day we celebrated with over 130 family members and 120 of our young people, the Christmas spirit has been shared! Well done to each and everyone of you, and a huge hats off to the class teams for supporting these amazing events!'

Here's what the teachers said about the events:

'Purple Foxgloves welcomed parents into class to join in some festive celebrations. We listened to Christmas songs and played musical instruments. We also shared some Christmas craft activities and had some tasty mince pies. It was a lovely afternoon, enjoyed by all, and the parents said that it was good to step inside their child's world for a while'.

Lucy





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'Yellow Foxgloves class had a delightful Christmas sing-along event in their classroom. Many parents were excited to join, and the event received a highly positive response from all of them. All the families who attended had a fantastic time. They got to spend quality time with the students and enjoy singing well-known Christmas songs, and the atmosphere was relaxed and playful. It was evident that everyone present was thoroughly enjoying themselves. The most amazing thing was how happy the children were to have their families in class, sharing hot chocolate and mince pies. To say I am very proud is an understatement!' **Linda**

'Squirrels had so much fun when their parents came to make Christmas cards and sing along to Christmas music with us. It was lovely to see the young people not only accept their parents being in their school environment but for them to participate in different activities with their parents. Squirrels also experienced lovely communication between students and adults other than their parents. It was great to see just how confident the learners are within themselves and their ability to communicate in different ways.' **Rebecca**

On Friday 15th December, Kestrels class hosted a festive afternoon tea for parents and carers. Everyone enjoyed Christmas snacks, hot drinks and a Christmas atmosphere in our RK Cafe.

We hope to see families joining us on **Tuesday 19th December** from 9am to 10.30am as we say goodbye to Tom before he takes a well earned and deserved retirement from Kingsley Learning Foundation. Tom has been the CEO of KLF since Red Kite opened in 2018 and was the Headteacher for Kingsley Special Academy for over 20 years. It won't be the same without him but we will certainly never forget him and he left his mark with all of us.

Our new term starts on **Thursday 4th January** and we look forward to welcoming everyone back then.

That just leaves me to say, Have a great festive break everyone and make the most of spending time with your loved ones.

Karen



Highlights of our fortnight!





