

16th December 2022

Dear All

Once again thank you for all your support this term. As always we appreciate your role in giving the message about how important school is. A strong partnership between

home and school gives children the security they need to thrive, and they certainly have. Your children have worked incredibly hard this term and a rest over the next two weeks will help them recharge for the Spring Term. We hope you have a restful and happy Christmas holiday and look forward to seeing you again on the 5th January.

We are also saying goodbye to a number of staff. Fiona Webb, who has worked in the school for 30 years, is retiring and I know you will join me in thanking her for her great service and wishing her all the best in the future. Maisie Wheeler-Holes is also leaving us. She is moving to Yorkshire and has secured a job in a school near York. Both will be greatly missed by the children, parents and staff. Kitty Thomson begins her maternity leave shortly and we wish her all the very best and look forward to seeing her and her new baby next year. *Paul Clayton*



Christmas Events

The children have had a wonderful time over the last week with a variety of Christmas activities. Many thanks to our PTA for organising the two Christmas shopping days and Santa's Grotto in Infants. Here is a selection of some of the things the children have been doing.



St Augustine's Visits

Last week children from Years 3 and 4 visited St Augustine's Church in Whitton. These visits tied in with their RE topics, looking at how Christians worship.



Nathan and Joseph explained, "We walked to the church and were able to look all around, even where the choir sit at the back. There were lots of crosses but not too much stained glass. Father John answered all our questions, for example, what does INRI mean. It's Latin."

Dance and Gymnastics Club Showcase

On Monday our gymnasts and dancers, who attend lunchtime clubs in Juniors, performed in their end of term showcase.

Libbie said, "We practised for several weeks. I like doing the routines, you learn different moves and have to remember them. Having your parents there is really fun because they get to see what you have been learning."





Sports Round Up

We have had a busy end of term with a variety of sports competitions and events. On Monday 28th November, we took part in a Sportshall Athletics Competition at Kingsley Academy. We competed in six field and six track events against ten Hounslow schools and won with a total of 444 points. On Wednesday 30th November, our boys' football team took part in the Richmond Borough Tournament in Teddington. They conceded only one goal throughout the competition reaching the quarter finals stage. The



following day saw our Year 4 girls' football team play in their first tournament.

Incredibly, they got all the way to the semi final stage. The week ended with the challenging Richmond Borough Cross Country Event in Richmond Park.

We finished the term with a bang when our boys' football team took on Nelson School in their first league match. They won comfortably 11-0, with goals from Eisa, Taha, Riley and Jayden.

Well done to all our sportspeople for a fantastic term.

Rocksteady Concerts

Our Rocksteady bands entertained their families and friends during their end of term concerts last Friday (Infants) and the previous Thursday (Juniors). There was great enthusiasm and confidence demonstrated throughout with both the



bands and audiences having a wonderful time. Sammy, from Birch said, "I play the keyboard. I have a piano at home and practise every day. I really liked the concert because the parents came to see us!"



If your child is interested in joining a Rocksteady band where they have the opportunity to sing vocals or play keyboard, guitar or drums, please visit the Rocksteady website by clicking <u>here</u>.

Dates for your diary Friday 16th December - Last day of term Thursday 5th January 2023 - Children return to school for the new term