



## Rockcliffe Newsletter 13 – Autumn Term

Dear Rockcliffe Families,

December is here and the Christmas spirit has been in full flow at Rockcliffe this week. Our Learning Superpower focus has been “Empathy” which has been shown across school by children and staff supporting each other with the range of activities and learning going on.

### Christmas Dinner

On Wednesday, our brilliant Catering team made and served 205 delicious Christmas Dinners for the school (plus over 100 for another school). A huge thank you to them. I was very lucky to be a guest server – I can now add this to my CV! The children looked brilliant in their Christmas jumpers and there was such a lovely atmosphere in the hall.

I got to enjoy my lunch with Sandpipers who kept me very amused with their own Christmas Cracker jokes. I’m still laughing at Seth’s monkey joke – get him to tell you it and it will have you giggling until the Big Day.



### A Splash of Colour

Our Year 4 Creative Sparks and Wellbeing Gurus took part in a wonderful visit to local independent living accommodation, Victoria Court in Cullercoats, on Children’s Takeover Day. The visit was an initial introduction to an international art project facilitated by the North Tyneside Learning Trust. The children spent time getting to know their new older friends, sharing stories with lots of laughter. The children and residents completed initial designs and today returned to make their art come to life on canvas.



### Headteacher: Tom Jones

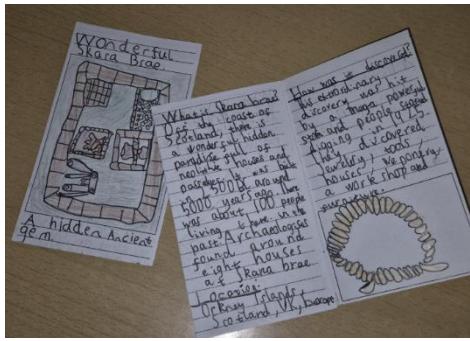
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## Work on Show



Priory class have been hard at work this half term, creating brilliant Stone Age leaflets with a special focus on the ancient settlement of Skara Brae. After emailing the visitor centre to share their work, the children were delighted to receive an exciting reply. Staff were so impressed that they asked to display the leaflets in one of their workshop rooms! The work is proudly being sent off this weekend, and the leaflets will soon be making their way all the way to Orkney!

## Christmas Parties

In the last week of term, each class will have their class parties on one afternoon. On their party day, children can come to school in non-uniform (Christmas jumpers are very much encouraged!). Please can each child bring in an individual snack plate with a few items to eat with their classmates. This way we can make sure we don't have lots of food waste and can manage allergies and preferences. Please remember we are a nut free school. Please send in a covered plastic or paper plate on the day labelled with your child's name. School will provide drinks and entertainment!



## Christmas Fair

A big thank you to everyone who came and supported the School Christmas Fair on Thursday evening. It was a wonderful community event and it was great to see so many families there. We'd like to thank everyone for the donations of stall and raffle prizes. A particular thanks to Mrs Marr and her husband Paul (our Co-Vice Chair of Governors) for co-ordinating the event and all the parents who volunteered too. We will let you know how much we raised in next week's newsletter.

## Christmas Performances

Finally, thank you to everyone who has signed up for their virtual performance tickets. More information about the events will be coming out via School Gateway on Monday.



### Community Christmas Tree Event

Rockcliffe will have a Christmas tree exhibited at the Community Christmas Tree event at St Paul's Church on Park View in Whitley Bay. Our entry has been created by our Year 4 Creative Sparks and children in Nursery and Reception. If families would like to visit, the official opening is at 4pm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December. There will be a choir and live entertainment over the weekend which will finish with a Community Carol Service at 4pm.

Opening times are: Friday: 3pm – 5pm, Saturday: 10am – 5pm and Sunday 11am – 6pm.



I look forward to seeing you at the performances next week,

*Tom Jones*

### Dates for Your Diary

December	
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup>	10am: Beacon, Lighthouse & Priory Performance 1
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	10am: Beacon, Lighthouse & Priory Performance 2
Thu 11 <sup>th</sup>	10am: Lapwings, Puffins & Sandpipers Performance 1
Fri 12th	10am: Lapwings, Puffins & Sandpipers Performance 2
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	10am: Seahorses & Starfish Performance
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	PM: Lapwings & Sandpipers Christmas Parties
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup>	10am: Sandcastles Nursery Performance
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup>	PM: Puffins & Priory Christmas Parties
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	PM: Beacon and Lighthouse Christmas Parties
Thu 18 <sup>th</sup>	AM: Sandcastles Nursery Christmas Party
Thu 18 <sup>th</sup>	PM: Seahorses and Starfish Christmas Parties
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	End of Autumn Term
January	
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	Teacher Training Day
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Spring Term