



# School Newsletter

FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Headteacher:  
**Mr N Lamorte**

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## MESSAGE FROM MR LAMORTE - HEADTEACHER

This time of year in schools can be truly magical and it has certainly been the case over the last few weeks here at Wychall. The children have been practicing for their nativity show or carol concert and enthusiastic singing has been heard throughout the school. It has certainly helped to put a big smile on people's faces.

Children got into the festive spirit by designing Christmas cards for the Balfour Christmas Card Competition. We were delighted with both the quality and number of entries. Children in each class demonstrated British Values and in particular, democracy, by voting for their favourite design. The winners for each class can be seen on page 2, along with some of the designs. We are proud to announce that Hash

from (5JK) was chosen as the overall runner up for the competition as whole, and his design can be seen below. Well done to Hash who is a talented artist. He has done himself, his family and the school proud.



What an amazing Christmas Fair we held last night in school. It has taken a great deal of hard work over recent weeks to prepare for and it resulted in a wonderfully festive event. It was great to see so many children and family members enjoying a range of festive activities such as the tombola, the raffle, hook a bauble, the snowball game, Elfridges and lucky dip. The popcorn went down a storm, as did all the cookies and baking completed by Mrs Parry in the kitchen. We even had a visit from Santa, who made himself right at home in his grotto in KS1. It was a truly fantastic event that could not have taken place without the support

of Ms King (and Bethany), Miss Francis, Ms Bradley, Ms Johnson, Miss Brush (and Emily) and Ms Basnett. They were led brilliantly by both Miss Hatch and Miss Cope, who gave up significant additional time. A HUGE THANK YOU to them all. A special mention and thank you also to Mrs Jones, who has also played a big role in facilitating this event. We will be looking for more volunteers next year to support the preparation for this event, so if you are interested please let your class teacher know. Helping at the Summer Fayre is a good warm up event! See photos of Santa's Grotto and the entrance to the fayre below. As we



draw to the end of the calendar year 2023, I would like to thank parents for their involvement in school, particularly over the last term. We have held more workshops already this academic year than last year, with phonics / reading workshops in Reception and Y1, and Multiplication workshops in Y3 and Y4. We have plans for Y2 and Y5, before the end of the academic year, and Y6 workshops in preparation for SATs will be held in the Spring term. It's great to see so many parents in school supporting their children's learning. Long may it continue. It just leaves me to wish you all a very peaceful Christmas holiday and a wonderful New Year. We look forward to seeing you back on Tuesday 9th January 2024.

# Well Done to all the children took part in our Christmas Card Competition



Elias 1AB



Ravleen 3SD



Lilly-Beau 6JF



Amoya Reception



Georgia 5FK



5AD



Emie 2LT



Daniel 1RL



Graycie 3AT



Taye 4DN



India 2PW



Nelly 4JK



Isaac Nursery

## Key Dates and Information

- Monday 18th December at 2pm - EYFS/KS1 Christmas Production
- Tuesday 19th December at 9:30am - EYFS/KS1 Christmas Production
- Wednesday 20th December at 9:15am and 2pm - KS2 Carol Concert
- Thursday 19th December - Party Day! Please send your child in their party clothes (they must wear appropriate footwear and a coat)
- **Monday 8th January 2024 - SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN - TEACHER TRAINING DAY**
- Tuesday 16th January 2024 - Y6 Parent Meeting - SATS
- Friday 9th February - Break up for half term
- Monday 19th February - Return to school
- Tuesday 27th February - Parents' Evening 16:00 - 18:30 - Uniform SwapShop
- Thursday 29th February - Parents Evening 15:30 - 17:30 - Uniform SwapShop
- Tuesday 5th March - 6ST Parent Meetings
- Thursday 7th March - 6JF Parent Meetings
- Friday 15th March - Red Nose Day - Wear something red and bring a donation.
- Tuesday 2nd April - Autism Awareness Day - 'Light it up blue' - Wear something blue day.
- Bring it on Brum - Holiday Clubs is back! [CLICK HERE for more information](#)
- DRB Ignite is consulting on its Admissions Policy to take effect from September 2024. Find more information [HERE](#).



### Christmas Fair Raffle Winners

1st prize - Dinique - 3AT

2nd prize - Bethany - 3SD

3rd prize - Hope - 3AT

4th prize - Shania - 6ST

5th prize - Willow - 6JF

6th prize - Leonardo - 2LT

7th prize - Matthew - 4JK

8th prize - Renesmee - 3AT

9th prize - Mrs Parry - School Chef

10th prize - Lexi - 6JF

11th prize - Kiryae - 3SD

Well done. Please collect your prizes from the school office.

**LET'S TACKLE  
ILLEGAL  
PARKING  
TOGETHER**

Parking continues to be a concern around school at the drop off and collection time. We have received a number of complaints from local residents about inconsiderate, illegal and dangerous parking, along with further concerns from parents. The public is now being encouraged to contact Birmingham City Council directly at the link below, to report vehicles that are parked illegally. Please see the link below.

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20109/parking/1983/report\\_an\\_illegally\\_parked\\_vehicle](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20109/parking/1983/report_an_illegally_parked_vehicle)

## Information for Parents / Carers

- **Keeping Children Safe Online:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Winter Holiday Food and Activities Information:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Information for parents / carers concerning a new TIKTOK CHALLENGE**

### What is 'chroming'?

The term "chroming" refers to a recent drug trend in which individuals inhale the fumes of intoxicants such as aerosols, paint, or solvents to experience a high. The name came from the original act of sniffing chrome-based paint.

Although using inhalants isn't new, recent social media trends are adding a new dimension of peer pressure through the 'TikTok Challenge'. The challenge, also known as 'WhipTok' has sparked renewed interest, especially among teenagers, who are being encouraged to try this dangerous practice.

### Why is it dangerous?

As well as the short term effects typical of substance abuse, experts have warned that 'chroming' can lead to long term brain damage and damage to internal organs.

We have already seen stories of teenage deaths in Australia and Ireland resulting from chroming.

- **Birmingham's 'Dream Team' Project**

Birmingham City Council (BCC) has partnered with Birmingham Voluntary Service Council (BVSC) supported by Barnardo's to ringfence some of the Round 4 Household Support Fund money to provide support to families suffering from Bed Poverty. This funding is currently available until 31st March 2024.

Bed poverty is affecting outcomes for children across the UK, it has a severe impact on their educational attainment, development, and family life. At the most fundamental level, a bed is a safe space for a child, it offers warmth, independence, privacy and comfort, and it is especially important in high stress households.

Please email schools enquiry email with your contact details and a member of the Pastoral team will contact you to discuss further.

## What to do if you are worried about a child

We are very lucky that we have such a supportive community, whereby families often contact us directly if they have seen or know something of concern relating to any of our pupils. We appreciate that families and the community are the eyes and ears for vulnerable children so please see below organisations that you can contact directly if you have genuine concerns about the safety and wellbeing of any child.

**West Midlands Police - 999 (if the child is in immediate danger)**

**NSPCC - 0808 800 5000 - Report child abuse | NSPCC**

**Children's Advice and Support Service (CASS) - 0121 303 1888 or [cass@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk](mailto:cass@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk)**

[#YouveBeenMissed resources for young people | Birmingham Women's and Children's \(outlook.com\)](#)

## Resources

- **ADHD Resources:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Autism Resources:** [CLICK HERE](#)