



WINTER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019



Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Can you believe that we are already at the end of what has been an exciting first term for the pupils and staff of Diamond Hall Junior Academy?

From Year 5s enterprising movie night as part of the PIE project, to our family craft sessions, the 15 days of Christmas and the whole school developing a love of reading with the re-launch of Accelerated Reader it's been a great term. Not to mention the book fair and our Reader in Residence on Friday afternoons which have been a big hit too!

Education outside of the classroom has taken place at Broom House Farm, Lambton Estate, Beamish Museum and various sporting events where the children have thoroughly enjoyed getting out and about.

I am sure you will agree that the children's performances over the final couple of weeks

of the autumn term, leading up to Christmas have been fabulous and we are all very proud of them.

On behalf of our school community, I would like to say thank you to all our parents and carers for the warm welcome you have shown not only myself, but other new members of staff and for your continued support throughout the term.

We would like to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Mrs F Hoare
Headteacher



Pupils support Children in Need

This year our children swapped their usual uniforms for a splash of yellow in support of Children in Need.

Kind donations were made by children and staff to help support the disadvantaged children around the country.

We would like to thank everyone for their generosity as we raised an impressive £356.26 for the brilliant cause!





Pupils tackle the PIE Project

In October, our Year 5 children took part in stage one of the PIE Project, which aims to engage, enlighten and educate young people about the world of enterprise.

In stage one of the competition, the children created glider planes and measured how far they could fly. The group proved to be successful and made it through to the second round!

Stage two of the competition required pupils to channel their inner Lord Sugar and set up their own business to make as much profit as possible.

The children discussed a range of enterprise activities that they could create to make their businesses as successful as possible.

The group then decided who would fill the team roles such as general manager, before splitting into groups to organise their business venture.

The group decided that they would hold a movie night as part of stage two of the project. The children sold tickets to watch *The Grinch* in school and had a great time raising the money.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 20 Dec** Break up for Christmas
- 07 Jan** Return to school
- 14 Feb** Break up for half term
- 24 Feb** Return to school
- 03 Apr** Break up for Easter
- 20 Apr** Return to school
- 08 May** May Day bank holiday

To keep up to date with all news and events please visit:

www.diamondhalljuniors.co.uk



Little leaders!

At the end of November, a group of our Year 5 pupils visited Silksworth Tennis Centre to develop their leadership skills.

The group took part in a carousel of activities which aimed to help broaden the children's knowledge on a range of sports and encourage them to organise and play games back at school.

Kristupas said: "It was great being able to carry out a range of sports, I can't wait to share them with everybody back at school."



Year 3's kind compliments

At the beginning of the new term, our Year 3 pupils had lots of fun sharing kind comments with their classmates to build self-esteem, develop confidence and promote friendship.

Pupils drew round the tallest member of the class to create an outline before filling it with compliments.

The children picked random names from a hat and wrote kind messages to each other. Taking it in turns, the children read out the messages so that every member of the class received a compliment.

Yaseen said: "I felt good in the lesson because everyone was being nice to each other!"

Eleanor said: "This lesson made me feel confident!"



Pupils visit Beamish Museum

This term, our Year 4 classes had their first visits of the year to Beamish Museum. Next term, they will return to the museum to enhance their classroom learning and have lots of fun in the process.

The trips linked perfectly to the classes' science learning when they were tasked with the challenge of solving indigestion and stomach upsets in patients from the Victorian period.

During 4LP's visit, the children had some of their trip recorded by BBC's Songs of Praise, which aired earlier in the month...



Lest we forget

This year, everyone at Diamond Hall commemorated Remembrance Day with a two-minute silence in memory of those who sacrificed their lives during war and for those soldiers who are currently stationed in war zones around the world.

In classes, pupils discussed themes such as; 'why do we have Remembrance Day?', 'what is the Armistice?' and 'why do we wear poppies?'.

In the lead up to Remembrance Day, the children supported the Royal British Legion by buying poppies to wear.

We're on Twitter and Facebook!



@DiamondJuniors



facebook.com/
DiamondJuniors





WORLD FOOTBALL RECORDS

Christmas reading wishlist

Our pupils here at Diamond Hall Junior Academy love to read! Lots of our children are hoping to find books under the tree this year...

This year I would love to receive 'Awful Auntie' by David Walliams for Christmas. I have lots of his books at home so I'm sure this one will be brilliant too! - Ava.

'Football World Records' is my favourite book in school. There is a new edition being released before Christmas. It is great because it gives you lots of facts about football around the world. I would love to receive the new edition this year for Christmas! - Lewis.

CHRISTMAS JOKES

What do elves learn in school?
The Elfabet

Why is it always cold at Christmas?
Because it's Decemburrrrr

What do you call Santa's dog?
Santa Paws!

What do you get when you cross Christmas with a skunk?
Jingle smells

Christmas acoustic

Climbing down your chimney, here comes Santa
Hiding your presents under the tree,
Reindeer on the roof with snowy paws,
Ice covering their feet,
Santa goes and flies away,
To the North Pole where he will sleep,
Moving in the sky on his big sleigh,
And make sure you don't peep at your presents,
Santa's coming everyone!

By Olivia H

Shotton Hall



School Centred Initial Teacher Training

Teacher training opportunities

Did you know that Diamond Hall Junior Academy helps to train the next generation of new teachers and are looking for new recruits to start in September 2020?

Through our membership of The North East Learning Trust, we are a partner of Shotton Hall SCITT, the Trust's very own outstanding teacher training provider.

Trainees start their training at The Academy at Shotton Hall in Peterlee, then undertake placements in schools right across the North East, including here at Diamond Hall Junior Academy.

Applications are now open for primary and secondary courses starting in September 2020 with bursaries of up to £26k available for certain subjects.

To find out about entry requirements and the opportunities available, as well as hearing from people who have taken the leap and changed career visit: www.shottonhallscitt.co.uk