

Governor News Letter December 2019

As we come to the end of the autumn term and the end of 2019, we would like to take a moment to look back over the term and say some thank you's.

The main event for our school this term was the Ofsted visit at the beginning of December. It was the culmination of 2 years hard work of teachers, staff, governors and the children. We were ready to show them how fantastic Bartons is and how hard we are working to improve the school. The children were amazing and took the two days in their stride - well done, you are just awesome! Thank you to all the teachers and staff - and to you the parents and carers for taking the time to speak to the inspectors and fill in the questionnaires. We hope to be able to share the results with you soon.

Other things have also happened over the term; as governors we have had our regular two full governor meetings and our committee meetings, along with learning walks, meetings with leads of different subjects and with West Sussex County Council. We have also met many of you at a number of events at the school, including the two parents' evenings where we supplied cups of tea and biscuits.

It is great that our school thinks of others through raising money for Children in Need and wearing Christmas Jumpers for Save the Children - but we also think locally too, by bringing in food and other items for the food bank. We love taking part in these and to support those in and out of the local community and further afield - well done everyone.

Most of us have been lucky enough to attend assemblies to see examples of the work the children have been doing - we are amazed at the wide range of topics they have studied, how much they have learnt and how much they enjoy learning. This is a testament to them, you, the teachers and TAs - thank you.

The end of the autumn term is always very busy, but also very festive. The Christmas Market was very busy and made lots of money for the new library. Well done Friends of Bartons - and all those who helped; a fantastic job! The Christmas Production of SuperStar was a brilliant performance, which included fabulous singing, acting and dancing from all the children who really gave it their all, and a special mention for Maicey who was such a shining star. Our thanks go to the staff who put this show together, well done to you all for your hard work and such a fantastic show.

The Carol Afternoon on such a wet and cold day really did get us all in the festive spirit with great readers, wonderful singing from the soloists and all the children sang beautifully and it was all excellently compered by Vikaris. Congratulations to everyone involved: it was a lovely Christmassy afternoon. Thank you also to Tom Hodge who played for us, live music (including all the twiddly bits) added so much to the festive atmosphere. The Community Carol Concert was a fantastic festive afternoon - the children were amazing they did themselves and the school so proud. Thank you to everyone who supported them - teachers, TAs and all those who attended and sang with the wonderful Southdowns Concert Band conducted by Tom Hodge. We really hope this could be a regular event, and we look forward to hearing how much money we raised for the new school library.

We have not mentioned everything, but as you can see it was a very busy but fulfilling term. Thank you to Mrs Powell and her team for their hard work, to the children for theirs and to you the parents and carers for continuing to support the work of the school and the children.

So, on behalf of all the governors, we wish you and your families a very happy and restful Christmas and we wish you a happy New Year. May 2020 be a great year for us all.