



December 2024: Newsletter

Welcome to the Oxlip Learning Partnership newsletter.

As we approach the end of term, all our schools have prepared festive activities such as Carol Concerts, Nativity plays, Winter Showcases, Festivals and Fayres to showcase the talents of our learners. We hope that you have been able to enjoy some of these events.

We would like to thank our collective families for your support with these activities and wish you a peaceful festive season and happy New Year.

News from our Schools:



Britannia Primary School

Across the school children have donated food and

toiletry items for the Ipswich based charity, FIND. The combined generosity meant that 20 large shopping bags were provided for families in need and the school community received a big thank you from the Charity.

In November, Year 6 enjoyed a trip to Norwich Castle as part of their History curriculum.

Britannia's after school Singing Club recently won a competition ran in collaboration with their local Suffolk Sound Radio. They competed against a number of other schools and their entry was chosen as the joint overall winner of the competition. As a result, their song was broadcast on Suffolk Sound radio at the weekend.

All year groups have been working hard on their festive nativity performances and are eagerly awaiting the arrival of their parents and carers to perform to in the school hall and the local church.

A Year 4 pupil recently organised a local Christmas Fayre to raise money for her favourite donkey sanctuary charity on the Isle of Wight. Through her own ingenuity, she ended up raising an amazing £721 in one morning. Truly inspirational!



Cedars Park Primary School

Cedars Park Primary School
A number of trips have taken place this half term. Year 2 have visited Stowmarket library, where they have strengthened their love of reading and most excitedly become the owners of their very own library cards. Year 6 have immersed themselves in their history learning about World War Two, paying a rather chilly but informative visit to Duxford War Museum. The children loved seeing all of the aircraft, boarding Concorde and exploring the exhibits. Year 1 had a lovely day exploring Bury St Edmunds. They looked for different statues and artwork that helped to tell the story of St Edmund. They also looked at the ruins where St Edmund was initially buried and spent some time drawing the ruins and Cathedral. A wonderful day enriching their geographical knowledge!



Bacton Primary School

Bacton Primary School

The Eco-Team enjoyed learning more about recycling and shared this with the whole school in assembly. They welcomed Mrs Bridges, from Britannia Primary School, who was impressed with the children's story mapping skills and recital of their stories.

Both Bacton and Mendlesham welcomed families into the schools for a DT day. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their projects, where they created pop-up pictures, applied cushions, constructed sling-shot vehicles, cooked a delicious spaghetti bolognese and designed and assembled playgroup apparatus.



Mendlesham Primary School

Mendlesham Primary School

At Mendlesham, Willow, Elm, Oak and Holly Class enjoyed a trip on a double decker bus to Norwich where they visited Norwich

Cathedral. The children first enjoyed some craft activities, and then a trail around the building to find baby Jesus. On the tour they met characters dressed in nativity costumes and were told the Christmas story. After this the children enjoyed a production of The Cat in the Hat at the theatre.



Rose Hill Primary School
At Rose Hill we have had a busy lead up to the Christmas break, including our first ever Festive Fair which consisted of gifts made by the children and outside stalls run by our local community.

We have also run a 'Get into Work' event for our parents and members of the local community, supported by various businesses and outside agencies. Two Nativities and two Carol Concerts were performed by the children and enjoyed by parents and carers.



Copleston High School
Sixth Form maths students completed the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

this term, and between them they achieved 3 x Gold, 1 x Silver and 18 x Bronze awards. An amazing result.

Student Leaders have also been busy with a variety of activities this term. They have helped to organise and distribute the 'thank a Teacher' Christmas cards, helped to organise Christmas jumper day and served refreshments at the Copleston Carol Service.

Following an intense rehearsal schedule, Drama students gave a mesmerising performance of The Winter's Tale at the Shakespeare Schools Festival, where they performed a shortened version of the play, managing to capture the atmosphere through using some simple, but effective special effects.

In sporting news, U16 girls' badminton team have made it to the County final, the trampolining U14 'A' team and U16 'A' team both won recent competitions, making them County champions. In basketball there has been a number of successes in the South Suffolk basketball tournament with U13 girls' runners up, and wins for U13 boys, U14 boys and U16 boys are currently undefeated.

The music department has expanded its orchestra with a number of Year 7 students taking up lessons on violin, cello, clarinet and saxophone. Across the

year groups of students have also trialled the flute, oboe, bassoon and double bass. Students were involved in the recent Year 6 carol concert, joined by an enthusiastic Year 7 choir.



Stowupland High School
Students have had opportunities to reflect on their future progression this half term. Year 9 students visited the Suffolk Skills Show, where they met a wide range of employers and developed their skills in an array of sectors. Our Futures Fair took place at the start of December, and enabled Year 10 and 11 students to talk to staff from different industries, colleges and universities and find out about future opportunities.

Students have participated in netball, futsal, football, swimming and rugby this half term. In football there were notable wins for Year 11 boys, Year 9 girls and Year 8 boys, and in futsal Year 7 girls were also victorious.

19 students from Year 10 undertook a Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition in Thetford Forest, braving the November cold!

We welcomed back last year's Year 11 students for a wonderful evening to celebrate their successes, distribute achievement awards and find out how they have been getting on since they left us in July.

Finally, we are looking forward to hosting our Winter Showcase - a chance for musicians, dancers, actors and technical crew to showcase their talents in front of a live audience in the final week of term.

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