

Only 5 days until Christmas! Can you believe it? We really hope you enjoyed all of our Christmas celebrations and thank you to those who attended. The Christmas concerts and the Minster celebrations were excellent.

On behalf of myself and all of the team, thank you for all of your support this term. We are already looking forward to seeing the children on the 3rd January.

Merry Christmas to you all.

**Mrs Steward - Principal**

### **Christmas celebrations**

All year groups have enjoyed celebrating Christmas over the last few weeks with either a party, Christmas play or a performance. Nursery enjoyed their parties with lots of dancing.



A huge well done to all the children in Year 1 for putting on an amazing performance for their 'Boogie Woogie Nativity'. You have all worked so hard and blew us all away!

Parents and children came together for our annual Christmas celebration at the Grimsby Minster. Pupils from years 3,4,5 and 6 told the Christmas story, recited poetry and the choir entertained us with a selection of uplifting Christmas songs and carols. Reverend Suzanna welcomed us into the Minster and congratulated the school on such an amazing turn out and beautiful service.



### **Shining stars**

Well done to all of our amazing shining stars. Enjoy your reading books.



### **Guinness World Record Holders**

We are Guinness World Record holders!! – OAT arranged a world record attempt in the week before half term of the “Largest Baking Lesson” and multiple schools across the Trust, including two Year 5 classes from OSPA (Kenya and Latvia) participated by joining a live Teams Meeting and baking alongside hundreds of others. All the evidence was submitted and reviewed by the Guinness World Record adjudicators and we have officially been awarded record holder status, beating the previous record by over 200 participants!



### Atlas music

Atlas have been having music lessons with Miss Baker this term, they have been learning to read music notes and performed at the Minster. Abbie played a fabulous solo part as Godfrey Humps, she sang and danced her heart out.



### Pre-school

Pre-school made biscuits following the instructions of a recipe. The children mixed the ingredients together and rolled out the dough to cut the biscuits out. After baking, the children were able to decorate their biscuits using icing and Smarties, making polka dot patterns.

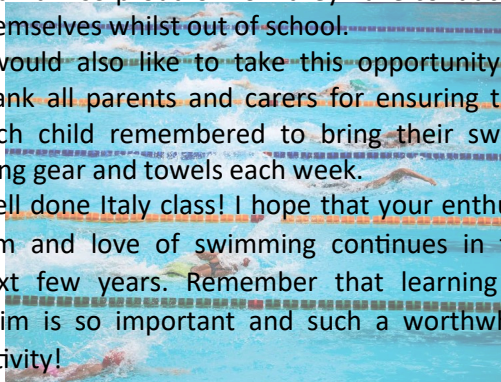


### Swimming

Italy class have had a fantastic few weeks swimming every Tuesday afternoon at Cleethorpes Leisure Centre. All of the children have shown great resilience and have worked hard at improving their skills in the water. The team at the centre have been very impressed with the pupils' attitudes and approach to learning these very important life skills. I know that all of the children have absolutely loved the experience and I am so proud of how they have conducted themselves whilst out of school.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for ensuring that each child remembered to bring their swimming gear and towels each week.

Well done Italy class! I hope that your enthusiasm and love of swimming continues in the next few years. Remember that learning to swim is so important and such a worthwhile activity!



### Rocks, soils and fossils



Years 3 & 4 had the opportunity to listen to and work with a real-life geologist, Mr Richard Butcher. Richard is an expert in the field of rocks, soils and fossils. He shared his enthusiasm for collecting, identifying and classifying a rich variety of items. He explained how he first became interested as a child when he found a fossil buried in the sand on a beach. This inspired a life-long interest and career in the study of paleontology.

The children enjoyed discovering which rock category that his samples belonged to.

For example, we learnt that sandstone is a form of sedimentary rock and sometimes contains fossils from plants and animals. The pupils were mesmerised when Richard shared his fossilised shark's tooth!

### Upcoming events



### 2023-2024 term dates

20.12.23 Children finish at 2.30pm for Christmas  
03.01.24 Children return after the Christmas break  
09.02.24 Children finish for half term  
19.02.24 Children return after half term  
28.03.24 Children finish at 2.30pm for Easter  
15.04.24 Children return after the Easter break  
06.05.24 May day bank holiday  
24.05.24 Children finish for half term  
03.06.24 Children return after half term  
19.07.24 Children finish for Summer break at 2.30pm



### Attendance

Our whole school target for attendance is **96%**. Currently we are at **94%**.

That is an improvement on last half term so well done to all parents for making an extra effort to get pupils in school.

**A reminder that children are back on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January.**

### Reminder

Please remember that early morning aches often pass, so don't keep your child at home "just in case" when he or she could be learning in class. If you are not sure, you could talk to a member of the school staff or your GP.

### Is my child well enough for school?

#### Coughs and colds

A slight cold or cough does not stop a child from attending school. However, children with heavy colds or persistent coughs should stay at home. A child whose cough is disappearing and who is feeling better should return to school.



#### Minor aches and pains

A child whose only complaint is a minor headache or tummy ache does not usually need to be kept at home. A child with persistent toothache or earache should see a dentist/doctor without delay.

#### Vomiting and diarrhoea

If vomiting or diarrhoea occurs, your child should stay at home for no longer than 48 hours.

#### Medication

If your child has a headache or has signs of a fever, you can administer Calpol before school. Let a member of staff know and we will monitor them closely. If your child needs medication during the school day, you can complete a consent form for staff to administer any necessary treatment. The forms are available at the front office.

#### Appointments

We encourage parents to make appointments out of school times. Sometimes it is unavoidable, if your child's hospital appointment is in the morning, we ask that you send your child back to school at the earliest opportunity.

#### Your contact details

Reminder – It is ***your responsibility*** to inform school when your child is absent from school every day. It is important that school staff can contact you or someone you have identified on your contact list. Please keep school updated if you have a new number.

Any problems or concerns please speak to;  
Mrs Jackie Allington or Attendance Officer; Mrs Sharon Unwin.