

# Downton Church of England VA Primary School

Gravel Close, Downton, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP5 3LZ

Telephone: 01725 510556

Email: [admin@downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk) Website: [www.downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Paula Carlton BA (Hons) QTS NPQH

Deputy Headteachers: Mrs A Bates BA (Hons) QTS & Mrs M Ford BA (Hons) QTS



Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Families,

As the festive season draws near, joy and excitement increasingly filled the air at Downton, no more so than today as the children leave for Christmas Service at St Laurence's.

Over the last few weeks we have had so much to be proud of and celebrate, from dazzling performances trips and school successes, our students have been busy preparing to make this Christmas season truly unforgettable.

## Christmas lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

Our Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch on Monday was a resounding success. The children enjoyed a delicious lunch, sharing the joy of the season with their teachers and TAs, along with some festive karaoke courtesy of Mr Howell, Miss Emm, Miss Palmer & Mrs Johnson. In the afternoon, we came together for a whole-school singing session, accompanied by a very special visitor - Mr. Bunn. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Allin, the dedicated kitchen staff, and the entire DPS team for orchestrating such a memorable day for our children. Your efforts truly made the festivities extra special. Thank you all.



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## KS1 performances

Please join us in a standing ovation for our talented little actors who brought "The Inn-Spectors" to life with four dazzling performances! Their dedication, enthusiasm, and sheer brilliance on stage truly captured the spirit of the season. A massive round of applause for our amazing cast, crew, and everyone who worked behind the scenes to make this nativity production a resounding success. To our supportive parents, families, and friends, thank you for being the best audience and cheering on our little performers with such warmth and joy. Your encouragement means the world to us! Well done, Foxes, Dormice & Hedgehogs!



## Dyslexia Friendly School

We are delighted to share that we have been officially presented the Dyslexia Friendly School Award by the Dyslexia Association. Receiving this award not only recognises our commitment to creating a supportive learning environment but also reinforces our belief in the power of education to empower and uplift every individual. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey towards inclusivity and excellence. We look forward to continuing this mission together as we strive to make Downton a place where every student can reach their full potential.



## Secret Present Room

A huge thank you to the DPSA and our parent volunteers for setting up and supporting the Secret Present Room again this year. It was a tremendous success. Your dedication, generosity, and enthusiasm have once again transformed this special event into a magical experience for our children. Witnessing the excitement and joy on the faces of the children as they selected and wrapped their gifts was truly heartwarming. Your contributions have not only made Advent a little more special but also exemplified the school's core values of—love, peace, and joy. Thank you.



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## Choir Carol Concert

I would like to send my heartfelt thanks to Mr Howell and the children of our school choir. I was away so unable to attend but understand it was a very special event. One email received from a member of the Church community shared 'The children's singing was superb. We heard every word and the smile on their faces shone out. The soloists were fabulous and did not appear to be nervous in front of so many people.' Well done everyone we are proud of you all.

## Santa Fun Run

Last Sunday, Mrs Bates, Mrs Savage, Miss Emm, Miss Brown and Mr & Mrs Yevko participated in the Salisbury 5km Santa Fun Run on Sunday, along with Albie in Year 3 who took part with his dad and godfather. Clad in Santa suits & hats and holiday spirit, they embraced the joyful atmosphere, running alongside community members to support a great cause. We applaud our staff for their enthusiasm and commendable effort in making a positive impact beyond the school walls, raising over £170.



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas, filled with love, laughter and the cherished moments. We look forward to seeing you all on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Merry Christmas!

*Paula Carlton*



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