



SACRISTON  
ACADEMY

# WINTER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022



## Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of the Autumn term already! As always, the rooms and corridors in our school have been filled with happy children who, on a daily basis, show resilience, manners and a positive attitude to their learning.

This term has been a busy one! Our new starters settled well into Nursery and Reception, we have welcomed new pupils to our school and we have taken part in numerous activities. I am really proud of the support we have given charities – Macmillan Nurses, the local Durham Foodbank and Children in Need. In difficult times for us all, we have still managed to raise crucial funds to help the incredibly important work that these charities do.

We've had so much fun in the lead up to Christmas, but not only that, we have enjoyed celebrating numerous national events like Anti-Bullying Week, Roald Dahl Day and Parliament Week.

All of these opportunities and activities are planned by our amazing staff and I know you will want to join me in saying a huge thank you for their dedication, efforts and hard work, they truly are an amazing team!

They join me in wishing you all a peaceful, happy Christmas and all the best for the new year. We look forward to seeing you all in 2023!

*Louise Parks*

**Louise Parks**  
Headteacher



## Sacriston remembers

**A huge thank you to our three wonderful Year 6 pupils who represented our school for the Sacriston service of remembrance.**

The trio showed the utmost respect during the service and were true Sacriston Stars. The group performed their reading beautifully before laying a wreath from all of the staff and pupils of our school.



# Thank you

We'd like to say a big thank you to parents and carers for supporting the various charity events we've hosted in school.

Everyone came to school looking very spotty to support Children in Need last month. Pupils looked superb in their spotty outfits and we are all very proud to say as a school, we raised a magnificent £134.51 for this great cause.

This term we also collected for our local foodbank. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations as we were able to provide 52 meals for families in need this Christmas.

Finally, in September we hosted our annual Macmillan coffee morning. The tasty treats and cuppas were flowing and we raised a brilliant £319.01!



## Roald Dahl Day

We began the term celebrating the much-loved children's author Roald Dahl.

We joined in the nationwide celebrations by having a special assembly where pupils found out about the many stories he wrote, his many achievements and what made his stories so special.

In classes, each class studied a chosen Roald Dahl book and completed some fun-filled tasks including poetry writing, creating crocodiles and advertising chocolate bars.



## Dates for your diary

**20 DEC** Break up for Christmas

**05 JAN** Back to school

**31 MAR** Break up for Easter

**18 APR** Back to school

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

[www.sacristonacademy.co.uk](http://www.sacristonacademy.co.uk)



## Local heroes

This half term, Year 6 children welcomed local heroes to Sacriston Academy!

Three local firemen came to visit the children prior to bonfire night. The firemen discussed the importance of staying safe around fireworks, including rules such as never going back to a lit firework, keeping a safe distance between yourself and the firework and wearing gloves when handling sparklers. As a final treat to end the session, our children were lucky enough to explore the fire engine where they were even allowed to spray water!



# Mental health and anti-bullying week

This term our children marked Anti-Bullying Week and World Mental Health Week with some special activities.

During Mental Health Week classes promoted the notion of championing each other towards better mental health through a range of activities. This included welcoming Eve into school from the councils 'Piece of Mind' mental health support team, who discussed ways to help children spot a worry and deal with it quickly, leaning on those around them to feel better and pinpointing what to do next.

During Anti-Bullying Week our children looked at the theme of reaching out. Our children looked at different scenarios where they identified what they would do if they occurred in our school.

# Back of the net

What an amazing time for football it has been at Sacriston!

In September and October, our boys' football team finished in an impressive second place in their league, losing only one game and conceding just two goals in the process.

We also launched our first girls' football team which they thoroughly enjoyed. The girls worked hard as team and did very well despite it being their debut. We hope for more success as the year progresses.



# Food glorious food

This term, food technology has been the focus in some year groups - yummy work!

As part of our Remarkable Recipes project, Year 2 practised how to use tools safely, in order to create their own Eton Mess. They mashed meringue, sliced fruit, measured out yoghurt and grated chocolate to make a delicious treat! This linked to their science learning where they explored healthier choices, so they decided to keep out the sugar and opt for a vanilla flavoured yoghurt and grated low fat chocolate.

Year 3 were delighted to work with Nick the Chef. They developed their cooking skills and worked in small groups across the day, making either a burrito or curry. They chopped, weighed, grated, boiled and fried ingredients with adult support. Finally, they enjoyed eating the results of their hard work - some were even surprised to find how much they liked it! The smells in the hall that day were amazing!

# We're social



@SacristonAcad



facebook.com/  
SacristonAcademy

Did you know that our school regularly posts exciting updates on Facebook and Twitter?

Our social media pages are a great way to connect to our online Sacriston Academy community. You can find photos, videos and important updates on our pages and see what your little ones are up to in the classroom. If you don't follow our pages already, please give us a like or a follow to stay in the loop!





## School ambassadors

This term saw our new team of school ambassadors be appointed - and they're off to a flying start!

So far the group have carried out surveys in their classes to find out which new playground equipment they would like, given input for displays on our British Values, and discussed opportunities for fundraising events in the new year.

We look forward to developing their roles across the school year.



## Art attack!

Our art leaders received their first exciting brief this term.

Their mission, if they chose to accept it..was to spread a little love around school and promote an air of positive wellbeing during Anti-Bullying Week.

They each created small cards of kindness that were turned into a large poster that was unveiled on the Friday during assembly. It was a reminder that no matter your mood, a few words of kindness can sometimes be just what you need to put a smile back on your face. Well done team!

## Christmas quiz

1. There are 365 days in a year. What numbered day is Christmas Day?
2. Stollen is a cake with fruit and marzipan, traditionally eaten at Christmas and originating from which country?
3. Which TV family has a dog named Santa's Little Helper?

3. The Simpsons

2. Germany

1. 359



# IT'S CHRISTMAAAAAS!



We welcomed December with open arms this year as we could once again celebrate Christmas by inviting families into school to enjoy activities together like stay and play sessions and Christmas crafts.

Buddy the Elf even made a return to celebrate the festivities with us again. We hope you tracked his daily antics on our social media feeds.

We enjoyed the entire Christmas period including our Christmas fair, parties, fun run and an extra special treat of a pantomime... Oh no we didn't...oh yes we did!

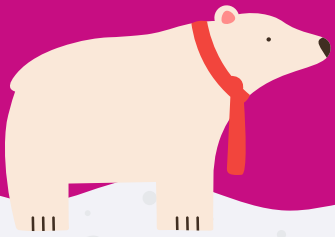
Our Christmas lunch is always popular and it feels like one huge family eating together. Christmas crackers, jumpers and music make this one an extra special event. Thank you to all of the kitchen staff who work tirelessly to ensure it's a day to remember every year.

Our wonderful choir also had the chance to sing at the Sacriston Christmas Extravaganza, a much anticipated light switch-on that we look forward to attending every year.

A huge well done to our singers who had a taste of stardom by performing 'Do you see what I see?', 'Santa Claus is coming to town' and 'Sparkle and Shine'.

We were exceptionally impressed with your contributions and think you did yourself proud.

The lead up to Christmas also meant lots of preparation for our 'Night at the Nativity'. Children got their costumes ready, learned their lines and perfected the dance moves. The performance definitely captured our children's energy, humour, and hard work. Well done everyone!





North East  
SCITT

# Train to be a teacher in 2023

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Find out more at: [www.northeastscitt.co.uk](http://www.northeastscitt.co.uk)

## Making the move to teaching is easier than you think...

Did you know you can train to be a teacher in our school? Training to teach in our school with North East SCITT takes less time and is more affordable than many people realise. Our nine-month courses begin every September meaning you could be starting out on a new career before you know it. Many people worry they don't have what

it takes to make the move into teaching, but with training and support from our team of experienced, outstanding teachers who are right beside you from day one, we always prove them wrong. If you have a good degree and the desire to learn new skills and make a difference, then we'd love to talk to you.

## Thinking about training to teach?

Come and spend the morning at The Academy at Shotton Hall in Peterlee or Browney Academy in Durham to get a taste of what teacher training is like with North East SCITT.

19 <sup>th</sup>	January	2023
8 <sup>th</sup>	February	2023
10 <sup>th</sup>	March	2023
18 <sup>th</sup>	April	2023
19 <sup>th</sup>	May	2023
8 <sup>th</sup>	June	2023
27 <sup>th</sup>	June	2023

Virtual taster days also available. Please check our website for more details.



Newcastle  
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