



# Fairholme Focus

Volume 7, Issue 2

December 2015

## Christmas Time

Our end of term Nativity and Carol Service epitomised the spirit of hard work and co-operation that we are so proud of at Fairholme - bringing pupils, teachers and parents together to celebrate this important time of year. After a long and busy Autumn

Term we hope that everyone will have some time to relax and enjoy the company of friends and family. As we look forward to the challenges and opportunities of 2016, we would like to wish you all a peaceful and happy Christmas.



## Shine, Star, Shine!

This year's nativity play, 'Shine, Star, Shine!' by Niki Davies, told the traditional Christmas story from the perspective of the stars. The Big Star, played by Willow, was struggling to shine on the all important day when she needed to guide visitors to the stable in Bethlehem. However, when the star met Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus, she was able to shine brightly. This 'all-star' cast gave a very confident performance with excellent narration from Cameron and Rhea - a most enjoyable show to get us into the Christmas Spirit. DVD's are still available to order if you have missed out on this. We are looking forward to seeing much of this emerging talent put to use in our forthcoming Easter production of 'Peter Pan'. Thank you to Mrs. Gains, Mrs. Turner and all the team for their excellent work with the children.



### Inside this issue:

We Will Remember Them	2
Elwy Expedition	2
To Infinity and beyond	3
Exploring the Synagogue	3
Bodelwyddan Castle Adventure	3
Rock 'n Roll Panto	3
Key Dates	4



## Technquest Trip

The children in Form 1 and Kindergarten experienced their very first school trip last week. There was great excitement over travelling in the school minibus and having a packed lunch. When the children arrived at Technquest they were whisked off to watch a wonderful interactive show. They all had to search for Father Christmas in the bakery, toy factory and stable, helping the different elves along the way. They finally discovered Father Christmas stuck up the chimney! After his rescue, he came to chat to the children! The children also enjoyed exploring the many exhibits available and walking through the mirrored corridor!



### Special points of interest:

- Enjoy photos from the hit nativity - 'Shine, Star, Shine', here on page 1
- Read about our Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day, pg 2
- A new puppet show in town - 'Getting Ready for Christmas', on page 3
- Read about the Lovelight Charity Concert on page 4

# Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day

# Christmas Boxes



This term we held our non-uniform day in support of 'Save The Children'. Children wore their own clothes and sported an excellent range of Christmas jumpers. The children enjoyed a marvellous Christmas lunch of roast turkey and all the trimmings. Dancing Santa once again made one of his almost legendary appearances. Thank you to Mrs. Sanders and the kitchen staff for all their hard work! Thank you also everyone for supporting this Christmas charity event.

Thank you everyone who supported our shoebox appeal for Operation Christmas Child this year. The operation collects small boxes filled with everything from toy cars to toothbrushes and coloured pencils and sends them to children around the world, much less fortunate than ourselves. We hope that our shoeboxes will brighten Christmas for all the children who receive them.



# Cathedral Carols

Our Christmas Carol Service in the Cathedral was enhanced this year by the visit of the Member of Parliament for the Vale of Clwyd, Dr James Davies, who kindly joined us for our Christmas celebration. The children's singing really invoked the Christmas Spirit and the lower school's rendition of songs from their wonderful nativity play put us all in a festive mood.

# We Will Remember Them

There was a splendid turnout at St. Asaph Cathedral for the Remembrance Day service. The congregation included many Fairholme parents and children. After the service, the Bishop led a procession down to the war memorial. A two minute silence was

held at 11am, after which wreaths were laid at the cenotaph by various community organisations. Our School Captain and Head Boy laid a wreath on behalf of Fairholme and the school council provided support. It is a privilege for us to be part of this important demonstration of respect and gratitude for those who gave 'their today for our tomorrow'.



We further marked the occasion with an Armistice Day Assembly, where members of Forms VI and VII helped us to revive some of the World War I songs from the Centenary celebration of 2014.

We will remember them.



# Elwy Expedition

As part of their geography studies, Form IV took a trip to the River Elwy this half term. Accompanied by Mrs. Bult, Mr. Perkins, Trix and Shadow, Form IV were inspired by the wooden animal carvings along the river to find out more about the types of wildlife to be found in and around the Elwy. They visited the monument erected to remind us of the devastating flooding in November 2012, learnt about the flood plain and flood defences and undertook experiments to measure the speed of the river.



## Infinity & Beyond

Kindergarten have been in outer Space this half term, finding out about space rocket launches and moon landings. There are some budding astronauts willing to take off into outer space encountering aliens on the way! The space theme continued in our number work, matching numbered rockets to their astronauts. The children also had the chance to explore moon sand whilst practising their letters.



## Exploring the Synagogue

Form V had their study of world religions enriched by a fascinating visit to the Manchester Jewish Museum this term. The museum is housed in a former Synagogue and as well as looking at the exhibits, the children enjoyed a 2 hour workshop with the Rabbi in which they learnt what goes on in a Synagogue and what Jews are allowed and not allowed to do on the Sabbath. They were interested to find out that the synagogue is a meeting house, used for many things in addition to services and had the opportunity to dress up for attendance at prayer. Some

children were a little shocked to learn that playing on an X-Box and Play station was not allowed on the Sabbath!



## Bodelwyddan Castle Adventure

Earlier this term, Forms II and III went on an educational visit to Bodelwyddan Castle. Form II had an informative tour of the castle with the housekeeper, Mrs. Humphreys. This supported their learning in their recent history topic, The Victorians. The children got to dress up as ladies, gentlemen, maids and servants and took part in several workshops, including: washday, afternoon tea and games in the billiard room.

Form III took part in an outdoor workshop entitled 'Minibeasts', supporting their learning about plants and animals. They had the opportunity to search for creatures, in a specially adapted area, purpose built to encourage a variety of mini beasts, in the castle grounds. After lunch both classes joined to take a tour of the grounds, including: the maize, bird hide and adventure playground. It was a fantastic day, thoroughly enjoyed by all!



## Sussex Street Puppet Show

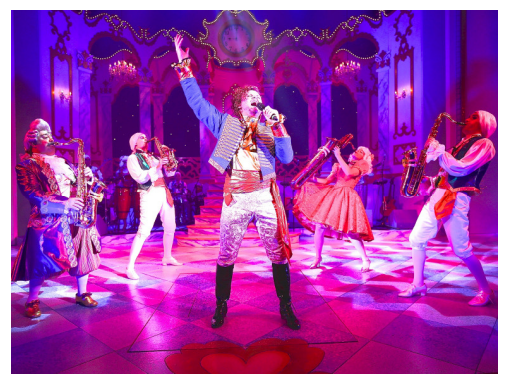
We were delighted to welcome the Sussex Street Christian Centre to Fairholme this week for their puppet show, 'Preparing for Christmas'. The story centred around some puppet school children who were practising for their School Nativity play and wondering why the story had to be the same each year! The show was much enjoyed by staff and children alike who took away the message that the whole point of Christmas is Jesus.



## Rock 'n' Roll Panto

As the end of term approached, excitement was at fever pitch! Never more so than on Christmas Party day when children from KG to Form III came to school in party clothes ready to meet Santa Claus, eat party food and play party games.

Meanwhile, Forms IV to VII enjoyed another trip to Theatr Clwyd to see the 'Rock 'n' Roll' Panto. This year we were treated to 'Cinderella – the Panto with Soul!' – a cocktail of traditional panto, laced with a string of rock 'n' roll, soul and pop favourites including 'Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?', 'It's Raining Men' and 'Try a Little Tenderness', all played live by a multi-talented cast of 10 actor/musicians. The Wicked Stepmother, Ugly Sisters, Prince Charming and a beautiful slipper provided a bundle of laughs and festive fun for all.



## Some important dates for your diary

Date	Forms	Event
Thursday 17 December	ABRSM Exam Candidates	ABRSM Exams
Monday 11 January – Friday 15 January	Form III upwards	Revision Week
Monday 18 January – Friday 22 January	Form III – VI	Exam Week
<b>Saturday 5 March 10am – 3pm</b>	<b>Forms VI &amp; VII Visitors/Parents</b>	<b>OPEN DAY</b>
Tuesday 15 March am	ALL	'Peter Pan' – Dress Rehearsal
Thursday 17 March 1.30pm	ALL Parents welcome	'Peter Pan' Whole School Musical Production
Friday 18 March 1.30pm	ALL Parents welcome	'Peter Pan' Whole School Musical Production

## Lovelight

We were delighted to take part, for the second year running, in the Lovelight Concert at St. Asaph Cathedral last week.

Rupert Moon, Wales Rugby Legend, hosted proceedings in an evening in which our choir joined the Flint Male Voice Choir, Sing with Us Llandudno and Acquire in a hugely entertaining evening. The proceeds from the concert went to the Tenovus

charity which raises vital funds for cancer research, Mobile Cancer Support Units and the Tenovus Cancer Support Line.

We were very pleased to be able to support this worthwhile charity event, to be part of such an enjoyable evening and to see the talent and enthusiasm of all our singers. Thanks to all who attended and to Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Cotterill for their wonderful efforts in preparation.



## Dashing White Sergeant

Early birds arriving at school early on 1 December, nearly St. Andrew's Day, found themselves scooped into the Scottish Dancing Troop, rehearsed and ready for performance by 9am. As part of our St. Andrew's Day assembly, our troop demonstrated 'The Dashing White Sergeant'.



**Well done,  
guitarists –  
keep  
strumming!**



**Fairholme Preparatory School  
Mount Road  
St. Asaph  
Denbshire LL17 0DH**

Phone: 01745 583 505  
Fax: 01745 584 332  
E-mail: [admin@fairholmeschool.com](mailto:admin@fairholmeschool.com)  
[www.fairholmeschool.com](http://www.fairholmeschool.com)