



# FIVE ACRE WOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (TERM 3/4):

Thurs 3rd Jan	First day of term 3
Thurs 10th Jan— 2.00pm	Parent group (behaviour)
Weds 6th Feb— 9.30am	Parent group (communication)
Tues 19th & Tues 26th March—9.30am	Parent group (Makaton)
Fri 15th Feb	Last day of term 3
Mon 25th Feb	First day of term 4
Mon 11th, Tues 12th & Weds 13th March	Staff training days (pupils not in school)
Tues 2nd April— 10am	Easter Fair
Fri 5th April	Last day of term 4

WINTER 2018

## A MESSAGE FROM PEGGY...

Christmas has been in full swing since the start of December at Five Acre Wood. Our pupils have been enjoying a term full of festive fun!

In this edition of the newsletter you can read about events that have taken place during term 1 and 2. This includes our Harvest Festival and a multitude of Christmas events.

Since my last letter, we have had more new staff join us; Marcela, Shannen, Lisa, Louise, Sarah, Laura, Caran, Clair, Francesca, Yemi, Alex and Hazel have joined as Teaching Assistants whilst Sophie and Louise are our new Lunchtime Supervisors.

We would like to welcome the following staff who will be starting at Five Acre Wood after Christmas: Kathleen, Vicki, Zaira,

Stefania, Tylie, Hanne, Chloe, Alice, Olivia, Wendy, Chloe, Vicky and Shaunette who will be joining us as Teaching Assistants and Jayne, Cathy and Lisa who will be joining us as Lunchtime Supervisors. We would like to wish them all well in their new roles.

We say goodbye to: Kayleigh, Roz, Rebekkah, Zoe and Kim. We would like to wish them all the very best for the future.

Many of you have noticed our new wall art outside reception and inside the school hall (pictures below). I am sure you will agree that it looks great.

This term we have had a Challenge Partners peer review and Inclusion Quality Mark review. The outcome of both of these reviews has been extremely positive for the school.

I would like to thank all parents, carers and



families for your continued support and for coming along to our events.

Finally, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable Christmas and a very happy 2019! I look forward to welcoming the pupils back in school on Thursday 3rd January.

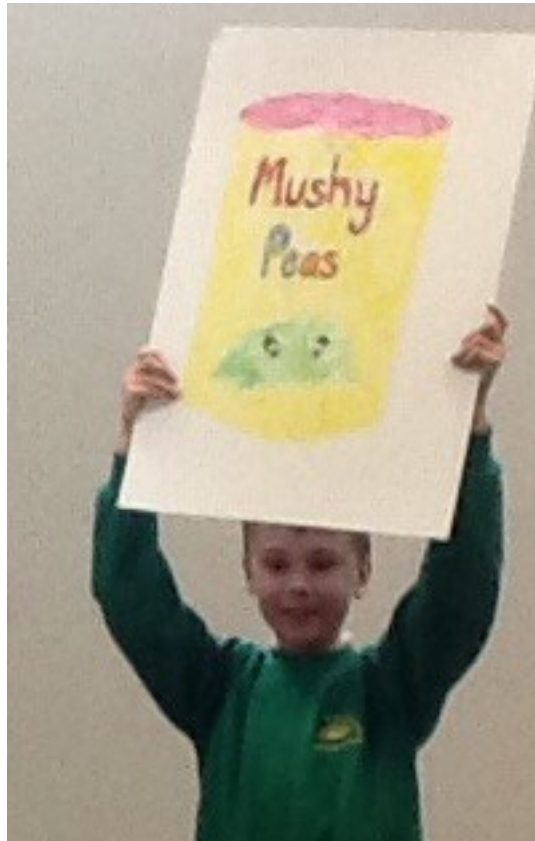
*Peggy*



## HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year our annual Harvest Festival performance took place on Tuesday 2nd October. Pupils sang, danced and performed to the many parents/carers who were able to attend. We would like to thank you for your support.

We would like to thank our pupils for their performance, all those involved in organising the event and families for sending in donations. The Vine Church were very appreciative as they restocked their food bank which enables them to provide monthly emergency food parcels and Christmas hampers. The food bank makes a huge difference to people's lives.





## CHILDREN IN NEED

### MUSIC CONCERT

On Friday 16th November DeeVu Record And Artist Management put on a fantastic 'Children In Need' concert for our pupils in the Loose site hall. They set up a stage with disco lighting, PA equipment and a VIP area, which gave our pupils a real concert experience.



There were performances by Jack Rose, Tommy Langford, Leslie P George, Ziey Kizzy, Nathan Grisdale, Elizmi Haze and Joey James. Pupils and staff enjoyed a variety of music and lots of dancing. We are very grateful to them all for giving up their time.



Pupils were invited to wear their 'own clothes' for a £1 donation to 'Children In Need.' There were some amazing Pudsey outfits.



### VISIT FROM GREGGS & PUDSEY

On 13 November we received a visit from Greggs and Pudsey. They brought along merchandise which was sold in aid of Children in Need including Pudsey and Blush ears, wrist bands and key rings. Sales of these items raised well over £300.





## CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Each year we hold a Christmas card competition where pupils are asked to design a card and the winning designs are then used for our Five Acre Wood Christmas cards.

We received lots of brilliant entries and the winning designs are shown below.

The Christmas cards have been sent to pupils, staff and external contacts.

Thank you to everyone who designed a card for the competition, we really enjoyed looking at them all!

Well done to our winners!

The chosen winners were:

- Kyle—Hawthorn Class
- Emily— Maple Class
- Lilly Rose—Hawthorn Class



## CHRISTMAS FAIR

On 5<sup>th</sup> December parents and carers were invited to join us for our Christmas fair. Pupils and staff had worked really hard to make it a great success. There was a vast array of stalls, including Christmas raffles, reindeer food, pine cone bird feeders, Christmas cards and decorations, marshmallow snowmen, salt dough decorations, Christmas jar and many other competitions and plenty of delicious cakes and treats.

We raised an amazing £756.57, which will be donated to 'Tommy's Baby Charity' and 'Space 2 Be Me'.





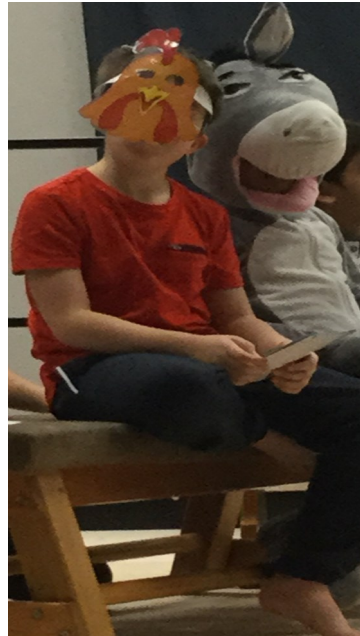
## CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

Our nativity performances were held on 11th and 12th December. There were six performances over the 2 days.

Lots of parents and carers joined us and enjoyed watching as pupils sang and signed along to festive songs. This was the first opportunity for pupils to showcase our brand new stage which has been a fabulous addition to the school hall.

There were some brilliant costumes and some entertaining moments along the way.

We would like to thank everyone involved in the nativity performances and also to everyone who came along to support and encourage our pupils. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as we did!



## CHRISTMAS VISIT FROM GREGGS

On 11th December we were very lucky to receive a visit from our friends at Greggs. They came to the Loose site and brought with them a trolley full of festive treats for our pupils to enjoy. There were mince pies and gingerbread men to choose from. We were extremely grateful to Greggs for their time and generosity!





## CHRISTMAS DINNER AND CHRISTMAS CLOTHES



On 13th December pupils (and staff!) were invited to wear Christmas clothes. Also the kitchen staff provided a delicious Christmas dinner.



All the tables in the hall were decorated with Christmas tablecloths, napkins and crackers which created a very festive atmosphere.

Thank you very much to the kitchen staff and also to all staff who helped serve the dinners.



## BADGER CLASS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Pupils from Badger class enjoyed their Christmas party which was a pony party. Parents/carers contributed to the cost and the pupils were able to have a pony ride around the MUGA. They were then able to help decorate the pony. The pony looked very festive and a good time was had by all!



## CHRISTMAS TREE



The beautiful Christmas tree in our reception area was donated by 'Stevens Christmas Trees' who have kindly provided us with a tree for several years. One of our pupils helped us to decorate it.



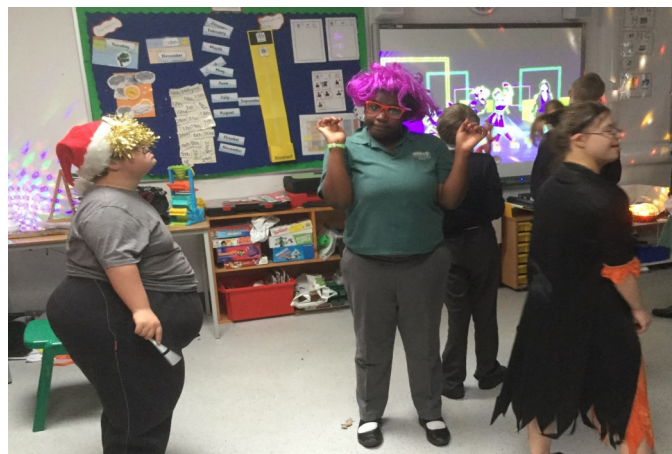
## CHRISTMAS PARTIES AND A VISIT FROM SANTA

On 18th December our class Christmas parties were held. This involved lots of festive fun and games along with plenty of party food to enjoy!

Our primary pupils had the

opportunity to meet Father Christmas and his elves in the school grotto!

Each pupil in the school was given a Christmas present which had been donated by Heart's Giving Tree.



## LAST DAY OF TERM



On the last day of term, when the pupils arrived at school, there was a surprise waiting for them. It was snowing as they approached the school building.

Once the pupils entered the hall, Santa and Rudolph were there to greet them. There was Christmas music playing and some of our pupils took the opportunity to dance before heading into class.



## FUNDRAISING UPDATE

### LATE SUMMER FAIR



in your calendars now for next year's fair.



We raised just under £2,500.00 at the event!

We started back in September with our late summer fair. We were thrilled with the day and the support from everyone who attended.

The weather helped to make it superb and we have decided to run with the same format for next year, so put Saturday 28 September 2019



### WISHING WELL

You will hopefully see our wishing well sitting outside reception with its sign "Create a ripple...MAKE A WISH!" – do throw your coins into it – we hope your wishes come true!



### STAGE

At the start of December Panache Audio Systems delivered and set up our amazing new stage. This was made possible by the generosity of the grandparents of one of our pupils, and has therefore been named 'Stanley's Stage'.

We are really excited to have this facility for our pupils to use for the many performances which take place throughout the year.



### FUNDRAISING WEBSITE

As promised, I launched our new Fundraising Website. Please visit [www.FoFAWS.co.uk](http://www.FoFAWS.co.uk). Many thanks to Michael Watts of Burning Leaf Creative for his time and patience in building this for us. It is a really great marketing tool as well as being a great place to be able to thank all our supporters. Please keep an eye on it for news of all our projects and events.



Registered Charity Number 1153151.

### HELP FOF AW

You can help our profile-raising endeavours by continuing to "like", "share" and "retweet" whenever you see us on social media.

Please like us, follow us and share our stories at [www.facebook.com/Five-Acre-Wood-School-and-Friends-of-Five-Acre-Wood-School-1985199011764670/](https://www.facebook.com/Five-Acre-Wood-School-and-Friends-of-Five-Acre-Wood-School-1985199011764670/)

You can also help our fundraising endeavours by registering with [Easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.com) AND whenever you shop on Amazon, make sure you go through [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.co.uk/?ref=af_psr_a) which gives automatic donations to us (once you select us as your charity to support), both at no cost or expense to you.

facebook

amazon smile

Follow us on Twitter @five\_ace and like, comment retweet!



We have collection boxes at various locations around Maidstone – if you would like one for your organisation / office / shop or business, please let me know.





# FUNDRAISING UPDATE

CREATE A RIPPLE...MAKE A SPLASH



Create a ripple.. MAKE A SPLASH!" is doing brilliantly. You can see from the chart below just how much support we have from the community. The mustard yellow coloured "Individual Donors" segment is made up of over 30 smaller groups or individuals all doing their bit! With some funds coming in as this newsletter is being prepared, we are at just under £70,000.00 raised. I am still having some great

conversations with other large investors – we WILL get our Hydrotherapy Pool.

We have two big events in the planning for early 2019. The first one on March 2, 2019 is a boxing event being organised by one of our parents – Nicola Toms. She is looking for participants with or without any boxing experience to be trained for the event, please do support this whether you

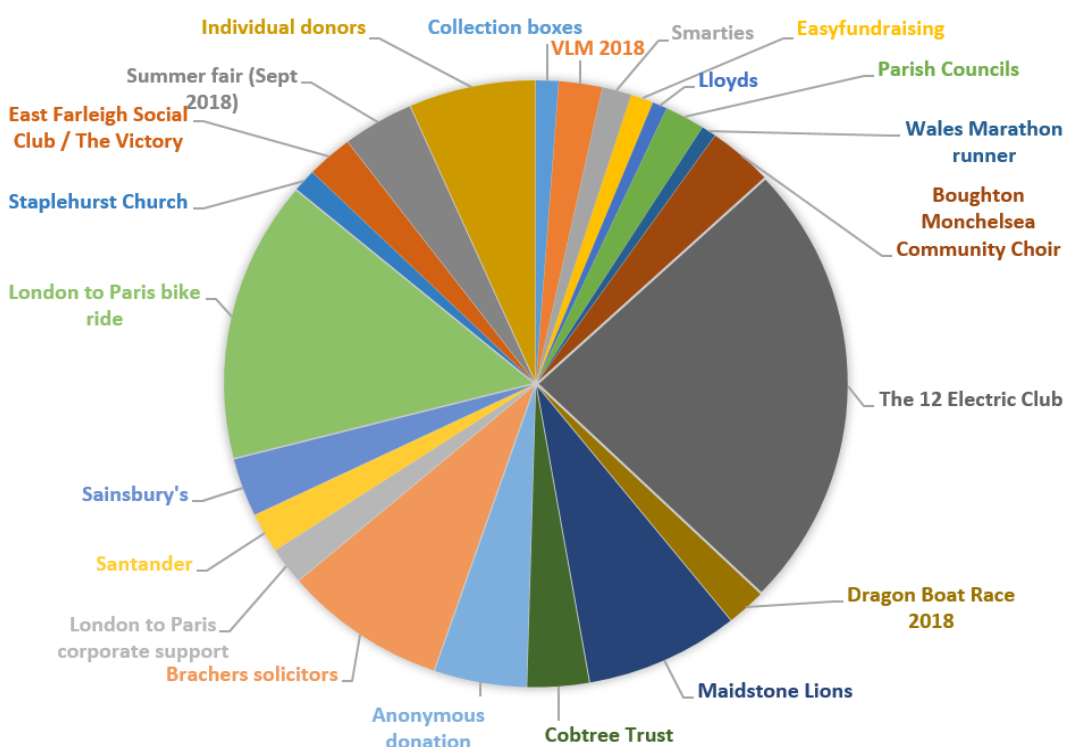
box or spectate. Reminders will be on our Facebook page as well as all the details being on our website.

The second event will be on Sunday 28 April 2019. Through our partnership with Sainsbury's and with the support of the fabulous Paul Brett of Senacre Cycles we are organising a Cycling Sportive. A couple of routes, calling in or passing by as

many Sainsbury's stores in Kent as possible, will be available. We are looking to engage all the Sainsbury's local charity partners in the event but we will be the event organiser. Loads more details to follow in the New Year, but please put this date in your diaries too.



We have had many successful charity days in various locations. As well as raising valuable funds for our school, these raise the profile of our school. "If nobody knows you are there, how will they give you money?" I keep this at the forefront of my mind and strive to keep Five Acre Wood School in the limelight as much as possible.



## HAPPY CHRISTMAS

"Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and looking forward to a really exciting year of fundraising in 2019" - Alex.



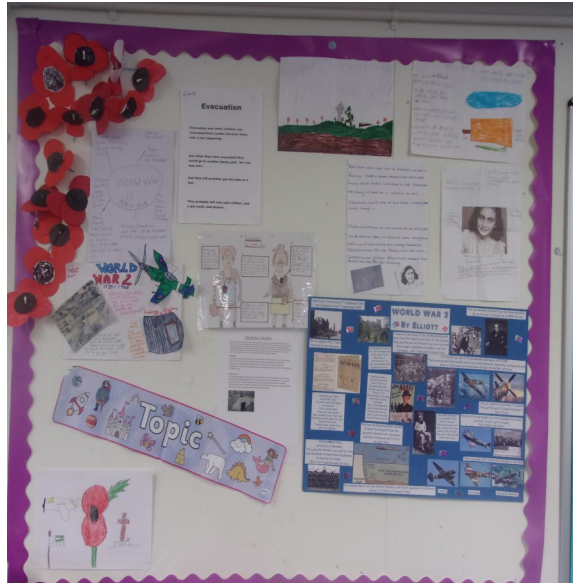


## HOLMESDALE UPDATES

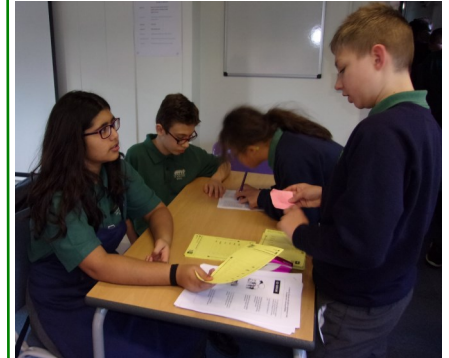
### WORLD WAR I & II—ALDER CLASS

Alder class have been learning lots about World War One and Two, we've created remembrance poems and acted out the Christmas day truce (we even got covered in mud and pretended to be in a trench!)

We created war time newspaper reports and have been studying the book Goodnight Mister Tom. Alder made a display to show all that they've learned.



### KENT YOUTH ELECTIONS BY AMEIRA



We had the Kent Youth Elections on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November, we had to practice our names and addresses. We put a cross in the box of the person we wanted to vote for. Also we chose which issue was the most important to us, there was transport, growing up and being healthy. We had to vote privately so no one could see and then we posted it into the box to be counted.

### SNODLAND RAILWAY PROJECT

Pictured below are some of our students with Andy, Josie and Matt from Snodland railway station and KCRP, discussing the designs our sixth form have made for a project at Snodland Station.

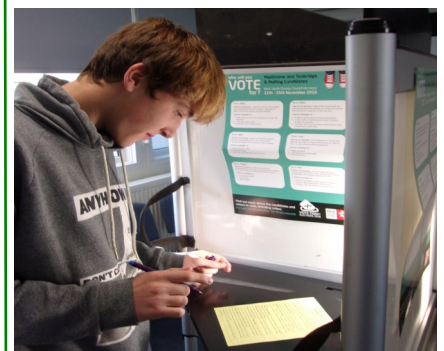
Students presented their ideas (see below) and made lunch for the visitors. Work by our students and the community will start in the spring.



### FLIP OUT BY MOISHA IN ASH



On Thursday Ash and Alder class went to flipout. We all had fun. We all were jumping from the top of the mat. Some of us were seat dropping, standing and jumping. I can not wait to do it again. By Moisha



We would all like to say thank you to Medway Council for their support and for supplying the voting booth and ballot box.



## HOLMESDALE UPDATES

### COOKING LESSONS — ASH CLASS

We cook weekly in Ash class. As it is nearly Christmas we planned to make a Christmas dinner. We went shopping to get our ingredients for a roast. We had a chicken competition between our three groups. We enjoy cooking so we can take these ideas home with us to make.



### FOOTBALL NEWS REPORT BY WILLIAM

Last month we played football at the k sports centre. We played some schools there and we won some of the matches. Everyone had a great time there and everyone was playing as a team. We got there and back by mini bus. And also had lunch there.

### THE BOCCIA COMPETITION BY CAIN



On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November Me and a group of 1`1 other students went to a Boccia competition to compete in. when we all got to school we all got change into the sixth form t-shirts then we got on one of the schools mini buses to go to new line learning school.

When we got to new line learning our staff members had to sigh in. Then we got to the schools main hall were the competition was held in. Then we got slit in to 4 teams my team was the first to go up out of our school teams it was a tied game but we did lose by two points in that game. Then we played four other games and we won all of them games.

Then we went back to Five Acre Wood@Holmesdale site to go home for the day. Then about two weeks after the event we found out that we are going through to the next stage at Canterbury.

### ROWING COMPETITION BY JASON

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of December me and three other members of FAW Holmesdale went to south Kent rowing completion we had myself Jason, Martin, Cain, Leon s and the one of the best Matt!

We only had 2 games it was a single round for 1 minute so we were rowing for a

minute and I came 9<sup>th</sup> place, Martin came 12<sup>th</sup> place, Cain came 7<sup>th</sup> place and Leon s with a lovely 3<sup>rd</sup> place so we are doing very ok. Then it was the relay rowing so in 1 minute for 4 minutes everyone changed it went Cain, Martin, me - Jason and Leon s.

We stared and we were doing very well, then it was Martin he started ok but we were right there around 7 place, after it was me I was rowing like a speed demon now we were 6 place. Then Leon s got on to it he rowed 5 times and broke but we

had 10 seconds left Leon rowed so fast and got us in 3<sup>rd</sup> PLACE!!!!!! We were like Leon, you boss. Then we went.

Let's hope we get through

### VISIT TO THE CINEMA BY LASYA

We visited the cinema on Tuesday the 11th of December. And we watched the Christmas Grinch. We had a lovely time the film was fabulous to see. We also had drinks throughout the film. We also had a meal out as well that was really yummy and tasty too.





Term Dates with Diary Dates 2018/19

Date	Time	Event
<b>Term 3</b>		
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2019	N/A	First day of term 3
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	N/A	Last day of term

<b>Term 4</b>		
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	N/A	First day of term 4
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2019	10-11.30am	Easter Fair
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	N/A	Last day of term

<b>Term 5</b>		
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2019	N/A	First day of term 5
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	N/A	Bank holiday (pupils and staff not in school)
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2019	10-11.30am	Secondary summer performance
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	N/A	Last day of term

<b>Term 6</b>		
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2019	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	N/A	First day of term 6 for pupils
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	TBC	Primary sports day
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	TBC	Secondary sports day
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	All day	Transition day
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	3.45-6.45pm	'Meet the new teacher' parents evening
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2019 - TBC	TBC	Woodstock
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	10.30am	Secondary prize giving
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2019	N/A	Last day of term