



Year 5 investigating sources to find out about the dissolution of the monasteries in Tudor times

@pockprep

9th December 2020

EDITION 146



It is with great pride and admiration for all involved with Pock Prep life that I am able to say that we have successfully reached the end of what has been one of the hardest terms of my teaching career. However, I can also say that it has been one of the most rewarding. Endless COVID-related things aside, I have loved every second of my new job. The children have been delightful, polite, diligent, occasionally hilarious and a real credit to the school. Staff have been endlessly supportive, as have you, as parents. I cannot wait to start again in the new year, when hopefully our lives will start to normalise over the months that follow.

In staffing news, we have heard that Wendy Gilmour will not be returning next half term, and so Karen Spruyt will continue to work as Prep School Matron. We all send our very best thoughts and wishes to Wendy and look forward to her return when she is feeling well.

Yesterday, I had the opportunity of a sneak peak at the school production, showing on Zoom tomorrow evening at 7 p.m. and then available through links on youtube thereafter. The links will be sent tomorrow evening, for you to enjoy over the holidays. The concert looks great, with some memorable performances and the standard 'cute' moments and unexpected mistakes! What is of course missing is the moment when your child will see you in the audience, break rank from the entire performance and give a flamboyant wave (to the annoyance of their teacher...). However, you will hopefully have them next to you as you watch the performance, so can encourage them instead to wave at the camera at the end, when we can all applaud and they can take a bow!

This week has been full of festive moments. From the classroom judging (I cannot yet announce a winner as it is top secret...) to our Christmas lunch, filmed pantomime performance and ice cream to our class parties - we have truly embraced our Christmas celebrations. I would also like to extend my huge thanks to you all for the exceptionally generous donations to the Pock Pantry. Miss Shepherd will be delivering everything on Friday, and I know it will all be gratefully received.

I sincerely hope you all have a wonderful, magical Christmas full of family and laughter. I am so looking forward to spending time with my children, and reflecting on this interesting year.

With my very best wishes,

*Paul*

Ms Ward

## WHAT ARE WE DOING IN PRE-PREP NEXT WEEK?

### Reception

Mrs Davis and I would like to wish all our children and parents a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Thank you so much for all your continued support this term, the children have wowed us with all their wonderful enthusiasm and incredibly hard work.

Next term our topic is called **Animal Antics** and we will kick-start this topic with Pets Week! Please check your child's planner for a little note regarding the first day back. The children will be showing pictures of their pets at home and telling us how they help to look after their pets - this will be followed up with some simple instructional writing about how to look after animals.

Our role play area will be transformed into a Hedgehog Hospital! We will also be doing a mathematical survey to find out which is our favourite pet in Pre-Prep and in French we will be learning vocabulary linked to pet animals.

Once again - have a wonderful Christmas holiday with plenty of rest and see you all in 2021.

Reception Star of the Week is Will for wonderful dedication to his home learning.

Mrs Afford & Mrs Davis

### Year 1

What an incredible week in Year 1 and a super way to end the term. We have had a wonderful time and I am so grateful for the kind words, gifts and well wishes. At the point of writing this, our classroom looks fantastic and we are awaiting the judges. Regardless of the result, we have had huge fun making it festive!

Next term in Year 1 we will begin my FAVOURITE topic... Superheroes! Please can everyone come into school on the first day back wearing a superhero outfit, either one that already exists or one that you have created.

As always please do keep reading, using the Oxford Reading Owl, with your children and record the books in the planner.

I hope you all enjoy a lovely holiday, probably quieter compared to normal times, but that may be a good thing so that we really treasure this very extraordinary year.

Merry Christmas to you all and wishing you huge joy and love for 2021.

1X Star of the Week is Robyn for excelling in reading and making huge progress with her high frequency words.

Mrs Steel

### Year 2

Our exciting first week back will begin with a wonderful surprise visit! We cannot say what or who that will be at the moment, but we will be learning some research skills about dinosaurs.

Over the holiday, we would love the children to find and research their favourite dinosaur, as they will be making a collaborative poster on their return. In maths, we will introduce the Lent term Big Maths postcards to practice at home and exploring missing numbers and sequencing. There will be some measurement linked to our work on dinosaurs too.

We say farewell to Emilia and wish her all the best for her new adventures in Nigeria!

We are really proud of all the hard work the children have put into this term. Thank you for your help and support. Have a fabulous Christmas Holiday. It is well deserved by everyone and we look forward to seeing you all in the new year! Mrs Kay and Mrs Walton

2X Star of the Week is Allene for working hard on her reading and writing this term.

2Y Star of the Week is Scarlett for coming up with the most fascinating and thought-provoking question during our Zoom call with Zainab on Faiths Day.

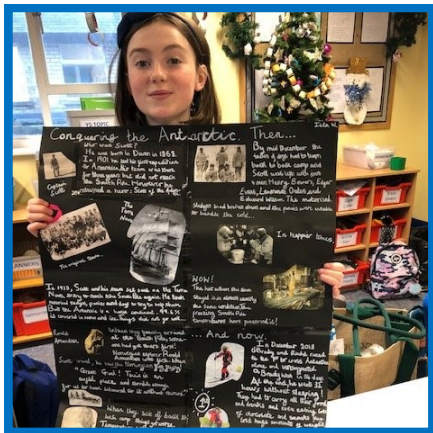
## LEARNING IN PHOTOS



2X wrote some beautiful letters to Father Christmas and using their knowledge of shape, also made presents to go in his sack.



Year 2 learning all about Islam in a Faith's Day Zoom with Zainab.



Just a few of the most amazing projects that Year 6 made whilst learning about Antarctica



2Y's beautiful Islamic windows, they made as part of their Faith's Day on Monday



## WHAT ARE WE DOING IN PREP NEXT WEEK?

### Year 3

Wow! We can't believe that we are already at the end of the term. The children have worked so hard this term and they should all feel really proud of their progress both academically and with their ever-increasing confidence and independence.

They have finished the term in style, creating super fairy tales, Ancient Egyptian style which we have both enjoyed reading. Their completed Canopic Jars (DT work) look fabulous and they will be coming home this week.

Thank you to everybody who has helped make our classrooms so festive! It has really helped everybody get into the Christmas spirit. We hope that the children enjoyed our Christmas party and Panto!

Following what we hope will be a healthy, relaxing and joyful Christmas, we will be beginning a new topic next term of 'Why was York once called the Chocolate City?' We will begin the week with the children trying to unearth why 'a factory' has closed. They will become reporters and use their questioning skills to try to build a story which they will then write for the 'local newspaper.' We will cover newspaper features, map skills and discover what we know about our local area. Mrs Snelling and I are already looking forward to it! In maths we will be practising our division work, using our knowledge of the relationship between multiplication and division.

Thank you for all your support this term. We hope that you have a wonderful Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2021!

Mrs Rogers and Mrs Snelling

### Year 4

After the Christmas break Year 4 will get stuck into our new book 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo. We will be using this to guide us through our learning and start the term by imagining what life would be like on a Dream Island, where anything is possible. We will be working on a piece of descriptive writing.

Our maths focus will be a look at the 11x times table and methods for multiplication of larger numbers. We will also be looking at the relationship between multiplication and division.

Merry Christmas to you all.

Mrs Kennedy and Miss Shepherd

### Year 5

We can't quite believe it is the end of term already! This has been a term like no other, but we are so happy that we have been able to ensure a fun and action-packed few months of learning and laughter for the wonderful Year 5 children. They have all been so hard-working and positive, and school has felt like a sanctuary for us all. A huge thank you to them, and to all of you for your support and enthusiasm.

When we return after Christmas we are looking forward to starting our new class novel, 'The Boy at the Back of the Class', which explores the themes of identity, belonging, friendship and perseverance against all odds. We know the children will love this beautifully written text and we will be linking our English and topic work with this.

In maths the children will be working on formal methods of multiplication and division, whilst science will see them exploring and investigating sound.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas, with family where possible, and a well-earned rest. We can't wait to welcome the children back in January.

With festive wishes from Mrs Peart, Mrs Cliff, Mr Bull and Miss Kendra.

### Year 6

Year 6 will begin Lent term with a new topic all about the USA. We will be following the US inauguration of Joe Biden, discussing this event and comparing to other official ceremonies in Great Britain. We will begin reading our new class text, *Holes*, by Louis Sachar. This book is set in America and tells the story of a boy mistakenly sent to a boys' detention camp. The story is vivid and complex, and it is the perfect springboard for a range of lengthier written pieces of work that will stretch the children's skills. If you would like to purchase your child their own copy of the text so that they could use it at school and home you are very welcome to do so, but we do of course have copies in school for use within the school day.

Homework will be stepped up slightly, particularly in English and science, history or geography (depending on the weekly focus) and another project piece of work will be set after half term.

We are so impressed with the children's efforts this term and we feel there has been a real improvement in the quality and quantity of work produced. Thank you very much for all of your support.

We wish you all a very happy, restful Christmas.

Mrs Sweeting and Mr Parker



# NOTICE BOARD



## **Reverse advent calendar for The People's Pantry, Pocklington**

Thank you very much for the very generous donations towards the Reverse Advent Calendar for the People's Pantry in Pocklington.

Miss Shepherd will be delivering the goods collected at the end of term to the collection point.



## **Christmas Jumper Day**

Tomorrow is our Christmas Jumper Day. Children are invited to wear their jumper over their uniform and bring in a donation for Candlelighters.



## **Book donations**

A massive thank-you to all the pupils and parents who have kindly donated lots of wonderful books for the library - we are immensely grateful. We will be announcing exciting news about the development of the Prep School library in the New Year and look forward to sharing our plans with you.

Happy reading over Christmas!

Mrs Cliff and Mrs Peart



## **End of term arrangements**

A reminder that term finishes tomorrow at 3.45pm for all pupils in both the Prep School and Pocklington School. Please find a notice with revised bus departure times for the end of term [here](#).



## **School Uniform Shop**

The school shop has re-opened.

Opening hours are:

Term time, Monday to Friday 1.00pm – 5.00pm.

Last day of term - Thursday 10th December 1.00pm – 5.00pm.

Christmas Holiday opening times: All 1.00pm-5.00pm - Friday 11th December, Monday 14th December, Wednesday 16th December, Friday 18th December.

From Monday 4th January, open weekdays 1.00pm to 5.00pm.

Parents can still order online. Please see the website; [here](#) then Search By School, enter Pocklington School and click Shop Now. The password is York should you need it. Mrs Amanda Smith, School Shop Manager



## **End of Term Newsletter**

The end of term Newsletter is a round-up of everything that happened during this term and is now available [here](#). We hope you enjoy browsing through.

Dr S McNamee, External Relations Director



## **Charity single and music video raises awareness of homelessness in Hull**

Upper Sixth student, George Brignall McDougall, has filmed and edited a music video to promote a Christmas charity single to raise awareness of homelessness in Hull.

The alternative folk /pop Christmas single, entitled 'The Ballad of Jimmie Johnson', was written by Ben Burt to highlight the problem of homelessness in Hull and in the UK generally. All proceeds from sales will be donated to the Hull Homeless Community Project which assists those affected by, at risk of, or who are currently homeless, as well as campaigning to tackle the issue of homelessness at its root causes. The music video, along with details of how to buy the Christmas charity single and donate directly to the Hull Homeless Community Project can be seen [here](#).



# NOTICE BOARD



## Announcement from Department for Education

The School received the following message from the Department for Education yesterday: Public Health England has agreed a 6-day window after the final day of teaching in which schools and further education providers are asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts in the education setting to be traced.

We recommend all schools ensure staff, parents and carers are aware of the following information and relevant arrangements regarding positive cases in the holidays: Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. If a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. Therefore, we ask parents to email here if they develop symptoms within 48 hours of leaving the school at the end of term. Mr T Seth, Headmaster



## Pocklington Rugby in the Community

Pocklington Rugby in the Community has applied for one of the KCOM community grants which gives funding to charities working to make a positive difference to life in our region.

They are one of 6 potential recipients of a donation and require your vote to secure the £700 we need to fund delivery of Christmas lunch for the lonely, elderly, isolated and vulnerable in Pocklington and surrounding area.

The club are aiming to supply and deliver over 100 meals at a total cost £10 per head, prepared and cooked by the Rugby Club caterers and volunteers.

Please click on the link below to vote

<https://www.kcom.com/.../our-re.../in-the-community-voting-open/>

*Mr Wheeler i/c Rugby*



## David Byas Sports Academy

**Winter Cricket Programme** - We are pleased to announce that our Winter Cricket Programme can resume after the Christmas break. Sessions will commence w/b 4th January and we still have spaces for the Thursday session (8-11yrs) and Fridays (12-13yrs). All sessions take place in the school Sports Hall and sessions are limited to 12 players.

**Christmas Hockey Camp** - Our Christmas 2 Day Hockey camp takes place on Mon 21st and Tues 22nd Dec and we currently have 15 places left. We offer a two day and a one day option. Please book online to avoid disappointment. Our February Half Term Camp takes place on the 18th-19th Feb and you can book online now.

**Christmas Hockey and Cricket 1:1 Sessions** - David will be offering 1:1 sessions for Hockey and Cricket on Tues 15th, Wed 16th, Thurs 17th and Fri 18th December. These hourly sessions cost £40. Please email [david@byasacademy.co.uk](mailto:david@byasacademy.co.uk) to arrange a time slot BEFORE booking and paying online.

**Netball** - Unfortunately we are unable to offer the Netball Two Day camp this Christmas due to England Netball restrictions and the school closure however we are taking bookings for our February Half Term Camp on the 16th and 17th February. To book and for more information on all our camp's visit [www.byasacademy.co.uk](http://www.byasacademy.co.uk), email [info@byasacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@byasacademy.co.uk) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram Mr D Byas, Director of Sport