



# HELME HEADLINES 01.12.2017



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## HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

Advent Sunday this weekend! Excitement is mounting in school with performance practices each day. I've had the pleasure of hearing KS2 singing their carols beautifully and we were inundated with pupils wanting to do a solo-great enthusiasm. It was gorgeous to see Class 1 and Class 2 in the hall practising their performance, it's going to wow you! We'll be going over the church next week to start our practises in situ. By the end of the week we will have a better idea of the timing for each performance so I'll let you know how long they last next week. Class 2 worked with Hand to Mouth ministries this week to go on an Advent journey, I hope they told you all about what they learnt.

On the Christmas theme, our school Christmas post-box will be set up next week. Children can post their friend's Christmas cards in this. Please make sure your child writes the name and first letter of surname and their class on the front of the envelope so it gets to the correct person. Thank you. Last Christmas reminder, don't forget the Christmas Secret Shop starts on Monday. Monday is surnames A to C, Tuesday surnames D to M, Wednesday surnames N to S and Thursday surnames T to Z.

The Governors will be considering the new 'Online Safety Policy' at their meeting next week. As part of this policy, all pupils will need to sign our new 'Acceptable Use Policy'. These AUPs will be sent home for you to discuss with your child and we would like a parent/carer to sign the policy along with the child. We will talk to the children before the policy is sent home to they can explain to you what they mean.

At our staff meeting this week we discussed marking children's work. There has been a good deal about this in relation to teacher's workload recently. Our policy is based on Professor Dylan William's 25%/25%/25%/25% model.

25% of work in depth marked

25% of work skim marked

25% of work should be self-assessed (by the pupil) and this is monitored by the teacher

25% of work should be peer-assessed

*As Professor Williams says 'We are not going to give detailed feedback on more than 25% of what your child does. The reason for that is not because we're lazy. It's because there are better uses we could make of that time. We could mark everything your child does, but that would lead to lower quality teaching and then your child will learn less.'*

We are having a school book amnesty and stocktake during week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> December. We will be collecting in all school books (including reading books) from the pupils on the Mon 11th and then re-

issuing them on Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. Please look at home, in bedrooms, down the back of the settee, behind the fridge for any school books and return them in that week. Thank you.

Finally, don't forget the Academy drop-in for parents on Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Dec at 5pm in the school hall. Elaine Watson, the CEO of Learning Accord will be in attendance. This is your opportunity to find out what academy conversion means for Helme School.

Have a great Advent weekend and see you all on Monday.

## AWARDS

### Helme Values



**Class 1: Kandinsky:** Respect - Libby Williams for being polite.

**Class 2: Hockney:** Excellence - Bella Robson for being a fantastic role model at all times.

**Class 3: Monet:** Equality - Jeremiah Powell for always ready to share and help others and for considering the needs of others

**Class 4: Miro:** Respect - Ruby Slocombe for always using her manners and listening to instructions and having a positive attitude to her work.

**Class 5 O'Keefe:** Respect - Rosie Casper for being an 'always child'; always polite, always ready to learn, always trying her best.



### Headteacher's Award

**Class 1:** Keane Eastwood for working hard in Phonics.

**Class 2:** Alfie Winteringham for always being super helpful.

**Class 3:** Bella Bissolati, Libby Pace, Jeremiah Powell, Neve Rider, Orla Herbert, Isaac Codling and Scarlett Castle for taking the time and being courageous enough to audition for solo parts in the Christmas Performance.

**Class 4:** Toby Fullwood for always having a positive and hardworking approach.

**Class 5:** Owen Smith for a fantastic attitude to work, across all subjects.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

**Monday** - Board Games and Chess

**Tuesday** - Karate

**Wednesday** - Hockey

**Thursday** - Archery and Trigolf, Choir, Forest School

**Friday** - BodyRockerz. Rhythm and Drum

A reminder that Football After School Club has now finished due to pitch conditions and bad light.

Please note that clubs finish at 4.15pm with the exception of Karate which finishes at 4.30pm. Will parents please ensure that they arrive on time to pick up their children from after school clubs.

We expect your child to attend all sessions where possible as, although some clubs are not charged, the school still pays for professionals to run them. If your child is not able to attend a session, please inform the school office. Club registers are taken and we need to know if your child is not attending.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Carols in the Park

On Sunday 3rd December the children have been invited to sing at "Carols in the Park". This will take place at 4pm in the Robert Ashton Memorial Park in Meltham. If the weather is bad, then it will be held in St. James' church next to the park. This is an enjoyable way to start your Christmas celebrations.

All the children are learning the song we are performing and as a school we think it is important to play our role in the community. The children will need to be accompanied by an adult and we would really appreciate your support at this event.

### Christmas Lunch

A reminder for those children who are usually on sandwiches wanting a Christmas lunch which will be served on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. They must be booked and paid for by Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

### Christmas Performances

A letter has been sent home detailing the arrangements for the performances and a return slip to school with an indication of the number of people coming. Please return the slip to school as soon as possible but by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at the latest. Thank you.

### Parentpay Outstanding Balances.

We still have a number of large outstanding balances on Parentpay. Please check your account and settle the balances as soon as possible. In line with Kirklees policy School Meals and Breakfast Club should be paid for in advance. Thank you.

### School Milk- Spring Term 2018

Letters have been sent home for children wanting School milk for the Spring term starting in January. The cost is £11.50 for the term and can be made via Parentpay.

### Year 6 Castleton Residential May 2018

A reminder to Year 6 parents that the next payment for the trip to Castleton next year is £50 due on the 1 December. This should make a payment to date of £80 out of a total of £144.

## FOHS NEWS

Congratulations to our latest Your School Lottery winner: Erin Herbert.

Secret Shop - We are again running the popular Secret Santa Shop for the children, this year with a slightly different format. Children can visit the shop after school during the first week in December to buy their wrapped gifts. Details have been sent home in book bags so look out for the day that your children have been asked to attend (if they are at an after school club on their designated day they can come along on another day.) Whilst the children are shopping refreshments for parents/carers/grandparents will be available in class 5 along with a cake stall & Christmas cards for sale.

As with all events we need help! Please contact Cara Hanson by text on 07545 965273 if you can volunteer to help in the shop on one or more days (3.15-4.15) bake a cake or serve refreshments, or contact one of the FoHS team or leave a message with the office - there will also be a form coming in book bags.

We are not having Christmas Fairs this year after the school performances but please join us in church after your Childs performance for a drink and mince pie.

If you are doing some Christmas shopping online this year, please consider using the shopping site [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) and selecting Helme School as your cause. Each time you shop do so via the site or set up the donation reminder and retailers such as Amazon, Etsy, John Lewis, EBay, Argos, Boots, Wowcher, M&S, Sainsbury's and many more will donate up to 5% of your purchase to us, it doesn't cost you anything more.

### **Christmas Card Orders**

The company have advised that the orders have been dispatched and should be in school by next week.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### **Christingle Service Helme Church Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

Helme Church are holding a family Christingle service on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm. Will children who have taken a Christingle candle box home, please return them to school by Friday 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

### **Important Dates**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December - Carols in the Park, Robert Ashton Memorial Park from 4pm.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December Secret Shop

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec Academy drop in for parents at 5pm in the school hall. With Elaine Watson, the CEO of Learning Accord

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Christingle Service Helme Church - 4pm

Best wishes

Alex Beaumont  
Headteacher