
WORDS FROM THE HART

15 December 2017



'Do It Together' Workshop



On Saturday 2 December we opened up the school for the second of our 'Do it Together Workshops', an initiative which we have developed around the concept of parents and children learning new skills together.

The idea is for children in Years 5 & 6 from our local primary schools to sign up for craft and to enjoy a hands on experience, experimenting with a variety of materials, expressing ideas and feelings and making discoveries together. The emphasis is on the relationship between thinking and doing, which allows

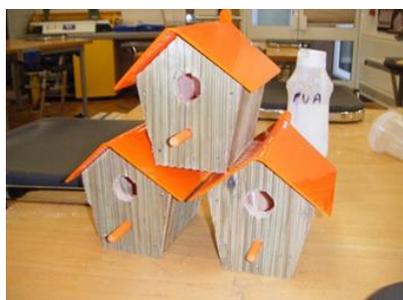
students to develop invaluable tools for every day: imagination, observation and creative problem-solving.

It has been proven that doing things together as a family, learning together and trying something new together, enriches family relationships. Ofsted has recognised that learning alongside parents can help with children's confidence, communication, inter-personal skills and improvement in literacy and numeracy skills for both parents and children.



The theme of the day was Christmas activities and everyone came away with some lovely things for their trees and Christmas tables - and some very nice cookies which may not have even made it home!

We had some great feedback from the parents and children; "The best day I've ever had, and I'm the most glittery I've ever been!"; "It's been so lovely to have the time to do something together"; "It's been really nice to make something we can look at each Christmas and give us memories to cherish." We will be holding another Workshop Day in July.



Christmas Jumper Day - Friday 15 December

Today we have joined in with the National Christmas Jumper Day activities and have split the proceeds between the National Campaign, which is organised by Save the Children, and our own Rugeley Foodbank. Foodbanks often struggle to provide protein-based food and sanitary products to families, as these items are not donated very frequently, so the money raised today will allow them to purchase those items to be able to best support local people in need.

Lichfield Christmas Fayre



On Sunday 3 December we were invited to take part in the Annual Christmas Fayre which is held in Market Square in Lichfield.

Students from Years 7 – 13 took part in what was a wonderful Christmas event and they performed so well that we have been invited to take part next year.

Weekly drop in sessions

Just a reminder that we are holding our weekly drop in sessions on a **Thursday** from **8.30 am to 9.00 am** at **Lower School** (for Years 7-13), where we are welcoming parents and we have addressed any enquiries that you have had on a one to one basis. If parents would like a telephone conversation with any of your child's teachers, or should you have any concerns that you wish to chat through with our pastoral team, please contact the school on 01889 802440.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy and peaceful Christmas, and to thank you for your support over the past year, which is vital to children's academic success and happiness.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Holly Hartley'.

Holly Hartley
Acting Executive Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louise Perry'.

Louise Perry
Acting Principal



Term dates for your diary

Christmas Holiday: Wednesday 20 December 2017 - Tuesday 2 January 2018 inclusive

Inset Day: Wednesday 3 January 2018; students return on Thursday 4 January 2018

Year 10 Parents Evening: Monday 8 January 2018 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm

Foodbank Friday: Friday 12 January 2018 – students may come to school in non-uniform in exchange for a donation to Rugeley Foodbank

February Half Term Holiday: Monday 19 February 2018 – Friday 23 February 2018 inclusive