



St John's College



Early Years & Infants School

Newsletter February 2010

Dear parents,

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Nursery and Infant department to wish you all a belated Happy New Year. Following the extreme weather conditions in early January, the term eventually got underway, and I am pleased to say that the children have been working very hard on half yearly assessments, and this term's planned topics. Mrs. J. Walton

Remembrance Day



As part of their History topic studying Remembrance Day, R7 visited the local Old St Mellons war memorial. The children behaved with great respect and were very interested in the inscriptions on the memorial. Back at school, some children were moved to make their own representation

of 'Flanders Field' with their poppies in the school garden.

Brecon Mountain Railway

Our journey on the Brecon Mountain Railway in December was a lot of fun, Christmas carols being played en route, and everyone



singing along with much enthusiasm. The children met and received gifts from Father Christmas, and the staff were treated to a mince pie and sherry! As it was a bitterly cold day, our hot lunch in the restaurant was much appreciated.



Christmas Tree

The children in the nursery department went to the Thornhill farm to buy their Christmas tree. The children really enjoyed visiting the animals at the farm and were thrilled to see Father Christmas's reindeer keeping warm in the barn. We chose a lovely tree which we decorated and put outside our classroom for all the children to enjoy!

Dates for the Diary

Mon 1 st March	Nursery & Infant Eisteddfod.
Tues 2 nd March	Sponsored silence and walk.
Thurs 25 th March	Easter bonnet parade (R6 & R7)

Sister Colette's Visit & Christmas Tableau

Sister Colette from the order of the Sisters of St Joseph of Annecy recently came to talk to the children about her work as a teacher in Gambia. She brought photographs and items of interest to show the children. Sister Colette was very impressed by the standard and quality of the children's questions. Sister Colette now resides at Llantarnam Abbey and works at the Retreat Centre there. She has invited the Nursery and Infant children to the Abbey in the Spring/Summer term. We are all looking forward to this visit very much.

The Christmas tableau at St Cadoc's Church was very well attended by parents and families of the children in the Department. Staff and children from R6 and R7 read from the Old and New Testament, Bidding Prayers, and all sang traditional hymns and carols. Father Brian Gray spoke to the children about the importance of preparing for the birthday of Jesus at Christmas and the Nursery and R5 re-enacted the Christmas Story both during the service and later at the whole-school end of term Assembly. This year's Lenten Project proceeds will be shared between Haiti Disaster Fund and H.C.P.T. Pilgrimage Trust (73).

Sherman Theatre visits

December's visit by the Nursery, R5 and R6 to see the 'Plum and me Will' was immensely enjoyable. The experience of live theatre is a special one for the children. R7 joined R8 and thoroughly enjoyed the production of A Christmas Carol.

Christmas Production - 'The Bossy King'

This year's production was a great success. The children worked very hard in all our rehearsals, and as Dr. Neville commented on the evening, only one of the children on the stage was actually 7 years old. Well done everyone.



The Christmas Party

The Christmas party rounded off the term. Father Christmas surprised us with a visit, games were played and party food was delivered and enjoyed.

Final Note

Please could the children in the Nursery class remember to bring their Wellington boots and black raincoats to school every day, as they will be required for outdoor learning sessions. Thank you for your continued support.