



Kennet Valley School

December 2015 Update

The children have worked hard this term and we are enjoying the improvements we see across the wide range of the school curriculum areas. Another busy calendar year comes to an end for us with a lovely selection of Christmas-focused activities for the children and parents to enjoy. We have tried to pace ourselves a little more this year to try and avoid pre-Christmas exhaustion!

School Nativity

This year we arranged two performances of our popular nativity at the Kennet Valley Hall, which worked well and avoided the mass crowds in the evening, making it more comfortable and safer for us all. The modern musical score this year had some very catchy tunes and fun lyrics, together with the Christmas message. All the children took part with great enthusiasm, singing, dancing and acting, with the grand finale moving many to tears!

School Carol Service at West Overton Church

This was a lovely way for parents, children and teachers to come together at the end of term to remember the real meaning of Christmas and also to say goodbye and a big thankyou to Mrs Osborn for all she's done for music in the school over recent years. We are pleased that she'll be able to continue the orchestra jointly with Oare School for the children. It was lovely that Mrs Williams and Mrs Roughan came back to share this service with us! The walk back to school together was a great sight and sound with a buzz of chatter in the air with our older children helping to take care of the little ones.

Lockeridge Traffic Calming

As a school we are only too aware of the risks of traffic in and around the village, and over many years have worked hard to keep our children safe. Our current initiatives include traffic calming measures such as tinsel and lights on the railings, and the children being 'rewarded' for wearing their fluorescent jackets to school. We continue to advise parents about safe places to park encourage the kind use of the Who'da Thought It's car park. Making more substantial changes requires a variety of community interests to work together, which is why we are

contributing to the work of the Lockeridge Traffic Group and Parish Council to ensure our village roads become safer places.

Pantomime rehearsals

Excitement is building as we now look forward to the Kennet Valley Community Pantomime in January with our very own Mrs France, Mrs Till Vattier and a good number of children taking part from our school - we expect great things!

Christmas Fair

A record breaking number of villagers, friends and family joined us for mulled wine, a most delicious hog roast, beautiful songs from the school choir, a selection of fine table top treats to buy and games designed by the children! We were especially delighted that Father Christmas was able to take time out of his busy schedule to join us for the evening in his beautifully decorated grotto. A big thankyou to everyone who supported the school, bought raffle tickets or in some way contributed - The Friends arranged some super prizes and a great evening for us all to enjoy, as well as raising an amazing £2000 towards our school developments.

And finally, a big thankyou

We are so very grateful to the parent helpers and villagers who come into school to volunteer with a variety of activities during school hours and to help provide after school clubs. Their presence in school really helps to make Kennet Valley School a school embedded in the community which is very important for us and the children. We value the skills and enthusiasm they bring and they tell us how rewarding they find it. Please call into the school office or phone us if you would like to get involved....we can never have too many people to listen to the children read!

Wishing you all a very peaceful and happy 2016.

Headteacher

Mrs Karen Venner,