



# The Botwell Bulletin

Friday 15th December 2023

Dear Families,

It has been fun packed week with all the productions, 'Friends' cinema events, choir events etc, but the children have been loving it. Next week will undoubtedly be busy again so please can you help us out by dropping/collecting on time and reading any communications that come out of the school. It was a heart-warming thing to behold over two hundred children singing along to 'Elf' the other night without any prompt from staff. What is even more amazing is the fact that the Friends of Botwell (our new PTA,) managed in collaboration with many volunteering staff, to raise in excess of £1200!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We do desperately need more 'Friends' to help out with future events. So if you can, email [friendsofbotwell@botwellhouse.school](mailto:friendsofbotwell@botwellhouse.school) and pass on your details to be added to the FOB WhatsApp group and get involved. I think next up will be CRAZY hair day in January.

Kind regards

*K. Oakley*

## **iRock Concert**



Congratulations to our young iRockers, who performed a brilliant concert to their parents and the school last week. The children did amazingly well and entertained us all with their talent on the keyboards, drums, electric guitars and vocals.

If your child is interested in taking part in the iRock sessions, please let your class teacher or the office know and they can send you the details.

## **Reception and Infant Productions**

Well done to all of the children who took part in the Reception and KS1 Christmas productions. It was wonderful to see them dressed up in their costumes and performing so beautifully. Thank you to all the Reception and KS1 staff for all their hard work in making these performances happen and to parents for supporting your child.

## Upcoming

- Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Dec – Children's Christmas dinner
- Tue 19<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas party day
- Tue 19<sup>th</sup> Dec – Last day for Nursery children
- Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Dec – End of term 12.50pm (Rec & KS1) 1pm (KS2)
- Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024 – INSET day (staff only)
- Tue 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023 – Children return to school

## **Carol Concert**

It was such a blessing to see our junior children perform their annual Christmas Carol Concert. The singing was absolutely magical and the soloists and choir were incredible. This was a shared experience that will remain in our memories for Christmases to come.

We would like to give a massive thank you to Miss Cuthbertson for all her hard work in organising and leading this event.



## **Botwell Choir**



Our school choir have been extremely busy this week. In addition to them singing in the KS2 carol concert, the children also performed at a care home for Age Concern last week.

Today, they have been providing some festive cheer to passengers at Heathrow Airport.

Well done choir, and thank you to Miss Cuthbertson for all her hard work.

## **Term dates**

Please note that the last day for our Nursery children is **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**. Our infant and junior children will finish on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** at the following times:

- Reception/Year 1-2: 12.50pm
- Years 3-6: 1.00pm

The children will return to school after Christmas on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024**.

## **Prayer and Reflection**

The coming Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent, Known as Gaudette Sunday. The term is derived from the Latin opening words of the introit antiphon, “Rejoice (Gaudete) in the Lord always.”

The third candle on the Advent wreath is pink and represents joy and anticipation as the birth of Our Lord draws nearer.

Isaiah 35:10

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing,

crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

We pray together:

*God above, do good and avoid evil is so easy to say,  
yet so hard to put into practice.*

*Be with us in each and every moment  
of each and every day  
so that we remain blameless  
and worthy of your coming.*

*Help us, Lord, not to dampen the joy of others.*

*Remind us this week to rejoice always  
and to pray without ceasing. Amen*

