



Newsletter  
December 15<sup>th</sup>

Nearly there...



Well, what a term!! It is truly a pleasure to be part of Horn's Mill and after my first term in Helsby I have absolutely no regrets about making the move. Our children and families are tremendous and I am privileged to work with such a hard-working and committed staff and governor team. We have really enjoyed celebrating Christmas over the last week or two and hope you have taken pleasure in your talented children too! We have a week of parties and pantos planned this week along with the more serious jobs of Pupil Progress Meetings to check everyone is learning as quickly as they should be!!



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## Music lessons

If you were impressed with the quality of the work produced by our guitar group at the Christmas Fayre and during "Carry on Cinders" please read on...

"There are likely to be some new lesson places available for children who wish to try a taster course of lessons on a musical instrument through Music for Life at school starting in January. Across our area there are currently more than three thousand students having lessons through the not-for-profit school programme which has twice been rated "Outstanding" in reports produced by the Department for Education and the Federation of Music Services. If you think your child may be interested, please register your interest with Music for Life as soon as possible before Wednesday December 17th. They will contact you with further information about costs to let you know if a place is available and if you then decide to go ahead they will arrange for a short "taster" course to be provided in January. Course fees are reduced by at least half for children entitled to free school meals, and Music for Life may take other circumstances into account when charging for taster courses. You can register interest via the website [www.musicforlife.org.uk](http://www.musicforlife.org.uk) or by email to [admin@musicforlife.org.uk](mailto:admin@musicforlife.org.uk) or by calling 01978 761162

## Christmas Productions



Performances last week were incredible!! I am so impressed by our amazing actors, singers and musicians. Can I give a big thanks to Jo and Stuart Williams for their musical support.

We still have the following this week:

15<sup>th</sup> December - Reception Christmas Morning and Year 1 and 2 Christmas Nativity at St Pauls Church 6pm

18<sup>th</sup> December – Horn's Mill Choir singing at Tesco's in Helsby -



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## OFSTED

I hope by now you will have all read our recent report. Obviously, I am very proud to have supported the team to achieve a GOOD judgement in such a short time, but my main emotion is excitement, about what happens next! Please support us by spreading the word in the local community about our school's achievements so that we can fill up and continue our journey!



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## Friends of Horn's Mill



I want to offer an enormous Thank you to our friends who put on a fantastic Christmas Fayre. They continue to raise funds with "Guess the weight of the Cake, the Teddy's name and sweets in the jar" all of these will be drawn, along with the Christmas Hamper Raffle, at the COFFE & MINCE PIES event on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 3.15pm. I hope to see you there!! So far they have raised in excess of £1200 this Christmas. Well done!



## Manga High

Thank you to all of you who have responded to the survey Mr Lawrie has organised on our school website. We intend to make this a permanent way of improving our provision for home learning. Look out for more information in the New Year. Thanks to Mr Lawrie for leading on this.



## Fruit Break



Our children in the juniors continue to enjoy their daily fruit break – this was even mentioned to the OFSTED inspector when the children were interviewed. I have to say, I am very disappointed with the response to my request for contributions from families to help fund this. My suggestion of £10 per term per family did not seem unreasonable to me, but so far we have total donations of only £40. I hope some more of you could donate before the end of term?



## And finally...

As I said at the start of this letter, I have had an amazing first term at Horn's Mill. I love my job and can't wait for January when we will all be back full of energy and turkey (and probably on a diet!!) ready for the next stage of the Horn's Mill journey in 2015!

I wish you all a restful, happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Thanks Everyone,

Sharon Wyatt

(Head Teacher)

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