



MARY ROSE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Christmas is coming!

Christmas Time: We're all preparing for Christmas here. We've decorated our classrooms and last week we all made Christmas Tree decorations and 'dressed' our enormous school tree! The lights were switched on by Hannah Thompson and Bradley Ryder who were part of the South East Boccia team that won the National Boccia Championship in Sheffield a couple of weeks ago.

Christmas Performances:

This week we have been planning and rehearsing for the Christmas Performances—our Christmas present to you. We do hope you can come along.

And also This week we

have our Christmas lunch and Staff pantomime (strictly children only)!!!

MAG Run (now called South Coast Bikers): we are delighted to have such wonderful support from our Mary Rose South Coast Bikers. 141 bikes visited us on Saturday bringing presents for all our pupils. They also raised £400 which will go towards another adapted bicycle. We are so lucky and thank them very much for all they do for us.

Visitors from New Horizon School !

We were delighted to welcome Mrs Francois to our



school in November. She came at quite short notice on a day when we were unable to arrange to invite you all in, but we did manage to hold a short impromptu assembly when everyone sang together and showed her how we organise our sensory assemblies. She brought us several gifts which are on display around school and we presented her with a digital photo frame with lots of photos of life in Mary Rose School on it.

They were very grateful for our gifts. They are under immense pressure financially and have had to lay staff off recently.

Aliens have landed!

Sharks, Penguins and a few children from Octopus class joined other local schools for the Special Christmas Celebration at Portsmouth Cathedral.

The theme this year was Christmas with the Aliens which meant the Cathedral

was alive with twinkling stars and strange Alien noises, accompanied by rattling from space ship style shakers! Throughout the celebration the traditional Christmas story was explained to the alien visitors who then departed to spread the story through

the universe. Throughout the performance all the children had the chance to help lead some of the songs using a range of instruments, some of them made in class.



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Special points of interest:

- © Parent makaton signing course starting in the spring term 2010
- © Sportsability club open to secondary age pupils, Tuesday evenings at school
- © Portsmouth LA acknowledge that Mary Rose School is underfunded

Important Dates:

Primary Christmas Performance: Tues Dec 15th 1.45pm

Secondary Christmas Performance: Wed Dec 16th 10.00am

Back to school: Mon, Jan 4th

Bejing on Ice Day: Wed, Jan 20th

Staff Development Day: Mon Feb 1st, school closed to pupils



Parent Events

The parents and carers pamper course has been very successful this term. The course offered the opportunity to train in relaxation, meditation and massage techniques over six weeks. Feedback from those who attended included:



“Have found the course so relaxing. Lovely to have time for ME. More please in the new year!”

“I have learned so much from relaxation to massage. I have looked forward to the course each week. It really helped my stress level”

We are hoping to run another course in the Spring Term which is called ‘Calm and Confident’.

This course will also focus on aspects of relaxation and massage as well as activities to increase self esteem and confidence. This course will be open to all parents and carers.

We are currently arranging for a parents and carers Makaton course for the spring term. This will be a beginners workshop which is suitable for anyone who would like to learn Makaton for the first time or for anyone who would like to refresh their signing skills.

The quiz night in November was another successful event run by the Friends of Mary Rose. It helped to raise over £300 for the school and was great fun. We are looking for more people to help run events organised by the Friends and will be recruiting at the Christmas performances!

Coffee morning dates for the spring term are: 15th Jan, 26th Feb and 19th March.

Barn Dance is on Friday 5th Feb

All of you are very welcome.

Sensory Garden



A great team

We continue to make great progress with the sensory garden. Following the great ‘planting day’ we are now raising money to complete the textured pathways, especially around the maze.

We have received a donation from Mr and Mrs Potter to pay for the curved seating around the ‘story’ tree. This is in memory of Rosalind who attended both East Shore and



Mary Rose Schools. A wonderful way to remember her.

We will be arranging another team working day soon after Christmas to move us onto the next stage. Do feel free to come and have a look.

Highlights



Beaulieu: This term Sharks, Penguins and Dolphins have been learning about Transport. As part of our learning we took a trip to Beaulieu motor museum. We were able to look at and touch a variety of cars and buses. We also had the opportunity to dress up and sit in some of the old cars. As you can see from the photograph the children really enjoyed the day out.



Sportsability Club: Come and join us

The Sportsability club which is held at Mary Rose School is for 11-19 yr olds and runs from 5.30pm until 7pm on a Tuesday evening. It starts again on 12th Jan 2010. Young people have the opportunity to take part in 2 sports each session. It is run by school staff who know them well.

6th Form antics—We all “Tues-it” on Tuesdays!

For the first time this year all students in the 6th form are completing different modules towards the “Gateway Bronze Award” during the “Tues It” sessions on Tuesday afternoons. This has offered the students a wide range of activities including Gardening, Craft, Fashion and Textiles and Healthy Lifestyles.

