



Education News December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We can't believe it is December already! This term has flown by.

It has been a pleasure to see many of you this term either in person or on Teams and thank you to all of you who have attended your son or daughter's annual review. It has been wonderful to have some of you on the school site for these meetings, but we do appreciate and understand that for now virtual meetings continue to be your preference. We continue to engage our local authorities in this process and work hard to ensure we get the right people to these important meetings. We relish all the opportunities we have to celebrate our student's achievements and to talk with you about the best ways to support and nurture your precious children.

December has obviously been a time to begin the festivities for those who celebrate Christmas. We had a very successful day at The Swanage Town Christmas Market where we made a colossal £460. The young people have worked hard all year creating some beautiful seascapes, Christmas plaques, decorations and wreaths to sell to the public. We had such positive feedback from the local community. The money will be reinvested back into our 'Pallet-Ability' Enterprise project. This is a hugely successful element of our curriculum which provides all our young people with the opportunity to develop their practical and creative skills, as well as learning about how a mini enterprise business operates.

A special thank you goes to Lou (Senior TA) and Ben (Teacher) for supporting the young people to participate in this project and for having the creative ideas and organisational skills to make this happen.



Thank you so much to all of you who have participated in the eco themed Christmas tree competition this month. There has been a very positive and eager response to this! The trees really do look beautiful and the young people have worked really hard to come up with some fabulous upcycled and recycled ideas for decorations. Endeavour Bespoke class won the competition- tree number 1. The prize for the competition echoes our eco theme as we are planting a tree each for our winners through a National trust project.



After Christmas the young people will be planting out their Christmas trees and continuing to nurture their growth ready for next year. Our eco schools project will continue on into 2022.

Last night we all gathered (safely outside) for our annual Christmas sing-a-long and turning on of the Christmas tree lights. The young people have been practising their songs all week and definitely mastered their Makaton signing this year.

The tree looks beautiful and can be seen right across the town.



Our final Christmas event this week has been our Christmas window competition. Classes, house and offices have decorated their windows to make them look festive and fun. There has been some fierce competition this year and some staff members have

taken this very seriously in the hope of winning one of our awards!! Here's a little sample of some of the windows so far. We will let you know the outcome in January.



Amidst all our wonderful festivities our young people have continued to make some fantastic progress with their learning this term. The teachers have delivered some exciting lessons within their learning strands. Our Key Stage 5 students have loved the Myths and Legends module and have enjoyed visiting places around Dorset learning about some of our local legends. Our Key Stage 2 and 3 pupils have engaged beautifully in their World Faiths topic. We have seen some brilliant art work linked to a range of religious festival and traditions.



May we take this opportunity to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and healthy 2022. We look forward to seeing all our young people back in school in January and hope that you have opportunities to spend time with them and the rest of your family this holiday period.

Best wishes

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