

News & Views



Leckhampton
C of E Primary School

December 2013 Issue 4

A FESTIVE INTERVIEW WITH:

MISS WILDING

By Martha Edden class 11



Q: What is Your favourite Christmas food?

A: I love Christmas dinner but my favourite bits would be stuffing and pigs in blankets. I also love chocolate, of course!

Q: Have you started your Christmas shopping?

A: I went Christmas shopping at the weekend, but only came away with a pair of new boots for myself.

Q: What's your favourite Christmas song?

A: Probably 'Step into Christmas' by Elton John.

Q: What is your favourite Christmas carol?

A: 'We Three Kings of Orient Are'.

Q: When do you usually put your Christmas tree up?

A: Usually the 1st weekend in December, but this year it's still not up.

Q: What's your favourite Christmas decoration?

A: Tinsel... have you seen my classroom?!

Q: Do you wear a Santa's hat or reindeer antlers on Christmas day?

A: I don't, but I do have a rather spectacular Santa jumper which I will be wearing this year!

Q: Does Santa still visit you?

A: I hope so!

Q: What is your favourite Christmas film

A: I have 2—'Elf' and 'Santa Claus'.

Q: Why do you like them?

A: I like Elf because Will Ferrell (Elf) is hilarious! I love Santa Claus because I've watched it every year for as long as I can remember. It makes me feel Christmassy!

Miss Wilding— Thank you for taking time to answer all these questions.

FOLPS Christmas Fair.

On Friday 6th December, everyone got into the Festive spirit at the FOLPS Christmas Fair which raised a staggering £3000! There was lots of fun to be had...



... with festive face painting!

The Year 6 Games raised a mind—boggling total of £112.80. We would like to thank Miss Sullivan and Mr Mackenzie for their support throughout, and FOLPS for providing the games. We all had lots of fun, and congratulations to the winners of our games.



...meeting Father Christmas.



...wrapping presents.



Finally, once everyone had gone home, Santa's little helpers came out to tidy up!

Christmas Stars!



News & Views would like to say a huge 'well done' to the Junior choir, led by Miss Hartley and accompanied by Mrs Sanderson and to the Year 6 choir led by Mrs Thomas and Mrs Bennett, for all their festive performances over the past few weeks— you sang beautifully!



Christmas around the world

By School Council

In School Council, we have been researching how different countries around the world celebrate Christmas. Here are the finished articles...



In Greece, Saint Nicholas is important because he is the patron saint of sailors. To Greek Christians and members of the Eastern Orthodox Church, Christmas is the second most important holiday, the first being Easter. 40 days before Christmas, they fast, and the Christmas feast is really looked forward to. Pigs are slaughtered and they eat loaves of sweet bread called Christopsomo. We like the idea of what they do in Greece, but we would prefer to be in England at Christmas.

By James Pearne and Miles Agg



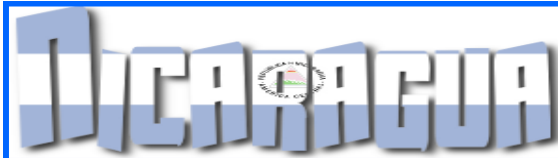
Christmas in Australia is actually in the middle of summer and is usually about 30° Celsius. Because of the heat, Santa sometimes arrives on a surfboard and travels on 6 white Kangaroos. They don't have a roast dinner but instead a picnic or barbecue. Every year they have a festival called carols by candlelight. This includes singing their favourite carols in Melbourne.

I would prefer to have Christmas in England because you have a real Christmas tree and a turkey.

By Ben Gilchrist and Charlie Beardsmore.



Christmas for people in Spain is very festive. On the night before Christmas (Christmas Eve) as the stars appear, little oil lamps are lit in every house. The name of Christmas in Spain is Navidad. Children leave their shoes outside on the window sills and fill them with straw, carrots and barley for the horses of the wise men. Their favourite king is Balthazar, one of the wise men, and is believed to leave the gifts. Spanish children think of the three wise men as the gift givers. There is a tradition that the three wise men come on January 6th, which is the date the three wise men gave gifts to Jesus. **By Joe Devlin**



In Nicaragua Christmas officially begins on December 6th, but actual activities begin on the 16th with the performance of the difficulties of Mary and Joseph. The home where lodging is found, supplies wine and food. Each home contains a manger scene. From December 16th until Christmas Eve, mass prayer is held each evening in the home. This is followed by refreshments and the singing of carols.

By Emma Curtis



One tradition in Brazil is to create a nativity scene or '*presepio*', this originates from the Hebrew word *presépiam* which means bed of straw. A huge Christmas dinner, unusual in the hot summertime, includes turkey, ham, coloured rice and wonderful vegetables and fruit dishes. Papai Noel (Father Christmas) is the gift bringer in Brazil. In Brazil there is folk dancing and singing, and festivities until January 6th, which Brazilians refer to as 'Three Kings Day'. I would prefer to spend Christmas in England because the food is nice and you can go sledding. **By Will Morrison**

In Sweden, presents are normally exchanged on Christmas Eve. People often go to church early on Christmas morning. Families sometimes have goats made of straw in their house to guard the Christmas tree. Straw is used as a decoration in homes, to remind them that Jesus was born in a manger. Christmas tree decorations that are made of straw are also very popular. In Sweden, presents might be brought by Santa called '*Jultomten*' or by gnomes/elves called '*Nissar*' or '*Tomte*'. In Swedish, happy or merry Christmas is '*God Jul*'. We would prefer to have Christmas in Sweden because St Lucia's day sounds fun and the Christmas dinner is delicious.

By Martha Edden and Eleanor Whalley

In Canada Christmas became a community festival. Customs begin by making plaster figures to decorate the Christmas tree, which became a family tradition. They end Christmas on 6th January. We would like have Christmas in Canada because we would like to try going somewhere different.

By Maddie Jones and Charlie Jones.

Pepparkakor—Submitted by Ben Gilchrist

These are spicy Scandinavian biscuits. This makes a large quantity-maybe 20 -30 biscuits. You can freeze half the dough and use it another time.

Ingredients

100g brown sugar, 100g white sugar, 100g golden syrup, 75ml water, 150g butter, 1tbsp cinnamon, 1tbsp ground ginger, Half a tbsp of ground cloves, Half a tbsp of bicarbonate of soda, 500g plain flour

Method

Pre-heat oven to 175 degrees C
Heat the sugars, syrup and water in a pan
Add the butter and let it melt
Stir thoroughly and leave to cool slightly
Blend in spices and bicarbonate of soda and add the flour
Stir to a smooth consistency
Take the dough out of the pan and knead until smooth
Add more flour if it is a bit sticky and roll out thinly
Cut into Christmas shapes and decorate with icing (made with icing sugar and water) and silver balls etc.



MARSHMALLOW SNOWMEN— Submitted by James Pearne

Makes: 10

Preparation Time: 20 mins

INGREDIENTS

Icing sugar, 20 marshmallows, Giant Chocolate Buttons, Jelly Tots

METHOD:

~Mix a little icing sugar to a smooth, thick paste with a few drops of water.

~Sandwich together 2 marshmallows.

~Use a chocolate button for the hat, and a quarter of a jelly tot for eyes and buttons.

~Allow the icing to set.



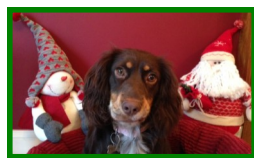
'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, they had been worn all week and needed the air!

By James Pearne Class 13

Q: Why do reindeer wear fur coats?

A: Because they look silly in polyester!

By Ryan McBane, Class 6



Peppa the Cockerspaniel—
Heather Smith, Class 6



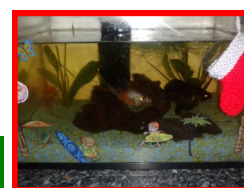
Snoopy the rabbit—
Erin Harris, Class 7



Ginny the rabbit—
Louise Johnson, Class 13



Kikibee the cat—
Jack & Katy Beard



Annie, Minnie & Ziggy
the fish— Bethan &
Evie Addison-Evans



Custard the
hamster— Evie Giles,
Class 6

Snowy the hamster enjoy-
ing a Christmas walk!
Emma & John Curtis

Q: Why does Santa
have 3 gardens?
A: So he can ho ho ho!
By Ben Gilchrist, Class
14

Q: Where did the reindeers choose their
Christmas presents for Santa?

A: On the Winternet!

By Rosie Nixon, Class 7

Teachers' Pets!

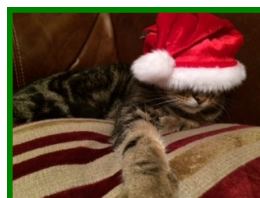


Is this dog the new
Rudolph?!
Matthew & Ruth Le
Maistre

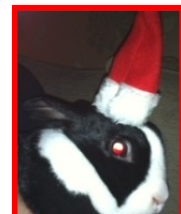
Rockie the horse—
Kitty Wild Class 11



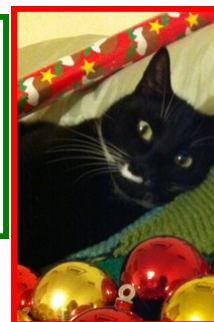
Max the dog, or
is he a
reindeer?!
Mrs Edden



Merlin the
cat thinks
Bah Hum-
bug!
Mrs
O'Riordan



Hoppy
Christmas
from Eva the
rabbit!
Miss Gray



Arnie the cat relaxing at
Christmas!—
Mrs Head

Netball News: Leckhampton v Warden Hill

On Tuesday 26th November, Leckhampton's netball squad played against Warden Hill Primary School. We had the first centre pass, which Kate took. Olivia caught the ball, and we headed up court towards the post. With some fast passing from Kate, Olivia and Danny, we had our first shooting chance. Unfortunately our first shot missed, but luckily Olivia managed to catch the ball and score. In that first quarter we managed to score another goal, as well as Warden Hill. In the next quarter, Warden Hill fought back, though no goals were scored. The score at half time was 2:1 to us.

During the 3rd quarter, we had 4 shooting chances, but we only managed to score 2. Meanwhile Warden Hill had two shooting chances, but only scored one. In the final quarter, we were determined to win. We managed to score another goal, and then the whistle blew.

We won 5:2. We had a great time and this was our first match where we had to 'dig deep' to win!

By Danny Tilley and Kate O'Toole Class 13

***A message from Miss Sullivan...***

A great well done to all my Netball Squad members. We have had a great start to the season. So far, we have played four matches and won all four! A big thank you to all our supporters too; it makes a huge difference to our performance.

House Tug of War

On Wednesday 13th November, determined faces from Key Stage 2 supported their houses in the house tug of war.

The house captains of St Patrick, St George, St Andrew and St David had the hard task of singling out just twenty four people from their house, twelve from year three and four, and twelve from year five and six. The scoring worked like this: 3 points if you win two pulls to nil, 2 points if you win 2 pulls to 1, 1 point if you lose 2 pulls to 1, and 0 points if you lose 2 pulls to nil.

These were the final scores: St Andrew=12 St George=10 St Patrick=8 St David=6

Thank you to everybody for competing and a special thank you to Mr. Mackenzie for organizing this very special event.

By Ben Gilchrist & Megan Marsland, Class 14.

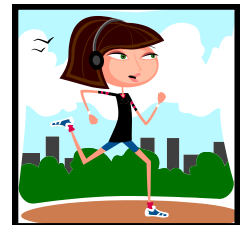
***Cross Country News***

On the 24th October Leckhampton Primary School competed in the cross country race at St. Edwards. The girls were up first and it has to be said, Olivia and Louisa got off to a good start! A few minutes later the girls went up the hill and Olivia started to pull away from the competitors and overtook the hare.

Louisa was close behind and giving it her all. Olivia was well ahead of everyone else and made a great sprint to come first. Louisa Holland and Anna Maddocks raced for the finish, coming in 21st and 22nd place, closely followed by Katie Dutton in 26th place. In the top 100 were Olivia Bentley, positioned in 68th Sophie Hortop came 87th place, Alice Candish came 46th place and Beth Candish still doing very well in 111th place.

Then the boys raced, Oliver Beaney got off to a good start with Sami on his tail. Then they disappeared up the hill and when they came back they were close together. All the boys ran the best they could and to our delight, Oliver came 21st, closely followed by Sami, Edgar, James and Freddie. Well done to everyone who participated and thank you to Mrs Taylor for organising it.

By Louisa Holland and Olivia Rook, Class 13

**Blue Peter Sports Award**

Congratulations to **Lily Marsland in Class 9** who has been awarded a Blue Peter Badge for inspiring some friends to join football club.

**Mangahigh Champions!**

Well done Maths Champions! We have won Mangahigh with 6457 points—a fantastic effort!

***A final note from the editor...***

Thank you to everyone who contributed articles and photos to this edition. I would particularly like to thank School Council for their informative articles about Christmas around the world.

James Pearne and Ben Gilchrist deserve a special mention for being my co-editors for this edition—I am sure you will agree they did a super job!

Happy Christmas everyone.

Miss Gray