



# The Devonshire Hill Times

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[www.devonshirehill.com](http://www.devonshirehill.com)

A huge congratulations is due to all of our staff, pupils and their families. We have had to work so hard together, as a community, to implement many changes towards the success of Autumn Term. Enjoy a well deserved rest with your families and we look forward to welcoming you back in January!



## Mrs Simmons

This month we have had to say a very difficult goodbye to Mrs Simmons as she moves on to the next chapter in her life. In her 21 years of service to Devonshire Hill Primary School she has touched the hearts and educated the minds of so many. She will always be remembered as the mathematical mastermind, award winning 'Best Teacher in the UK', always positive and supportive; especially in times of need. We are all so very fortunate to have worked with such an inspiring person. On behalf of all colleagues, pupils, families, friends and governors we would like to wish Mrs Simmons the best in her journey ahead and to say a huge thankyou for all that you have given to our community. You will always be remembered here.

## The Show Must Go On!

To mark the end of Autumn Term it is an annual tradition that the Reception children host a production about 'Celebrations'. This year, due to the pandemic restrictions, the production was held with a twist of technology. As we are unable to invite parents into the school to watch the production in person Mr Engberg and Ms Dávila have decided to record each class performance so that it can be shared with the families via Google Classroom. We hope those families enjoy watching the production over and over from the comfort of their own homes. What a great performance the children put on after many sessions of rehearsing the show most certainly did go on!

## Advent Calendar

What a brilliant addition to the festive fun in the run up to the Christmas holiday. Year 6 worked so very hard to create this incredible artistic advent calendar for the whole school to enjoy. Each day a different class has had a turn to open a door to reveal the Christmassy creativity which hides behind. We hope that everyone has enjoyed this addition to our seasonal activities and look forward to seeing what hides behind the final doors. A huge thankyou is owed to Year 6 and especially Mr Ellis and Ms Baker for creating such a wonderful project for the whole school to enjoy.



## Important Dates:

**Mon 21st Dec - Fri 1st Jan**  
Christmas Holidays

**Monday 4th January**  
Inset Day - School Closed

**Tuesday 5th January**  
Spring 2 Term Begins

**Friday 8th January**  
Virtual Coffee Morning 10am



Wishing you  
blessings and joy  
this season.

Happy  
Hanukkah

merry  
Christmas  
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

## Festive Jumper Fundraiser

What a fabulously festive fundraising day we had for our annual Save the Children campaign. The children and staff came to school dressed the part and made some very generous donations raising a total of:

**£390.65**

Great work everyone!



# Reading Wish List

Our KS2 pupils have been busy creating a reading wish list for their new school library.

To donate a book from one of the wish lists please use the links below:

[Year 3 Wish List](#)

[Year 4 Wish List](#)

[Year 5 Wish List](#)

[Year 6 Wish List](#)

We thank you for your generosity.



## Felix Project

Each Wednesday our Year 6 volunteers create food parcels using produce from the Felix project. The parcels are then sent home to a different year group on rotation throughout the term.

If you require a weekly food parcel then please contact the school office who will happily add you to our weekly food parcel list.



## A Tree is for Life

Our Year 3 group have planted a variety of saplings this term as part of their forest school adventures. These tiny trees are safely in the ground ready to be nurtured over the winter months. We hope to see lots of green foliage appearing on our new saplings as the warmer weather arrives, we will keep you posted. Great work to our pupils for their care over our planet. Forest school is so diverse, not only are the children learning about the value of outdoor activities but they are also learning about the impact of caring for the environment - eco warriors in the making.

## Bike Ability

The CycleConfident team ran another successful Bikeability course this month for groups of children from Year 5 and Year 6. The children spent time learning how to ride safely in the playground before making short journeys on local quiet roads. After a week of training all children were awarded a Level 2 Bikeability certificate and badge - well done! We hope the team can visit us again next year so that more of our children can be cycle confident on the roads.



## Contacting the School Office

In these difficult times, we ask that visits to the School Office are kept to a minimum. To speak to a member of the Admin Team please telephone or email the school office. Please note that, if required to enter the building, we can only allow one parent into the office at a time.

**A mask or visor must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times during your visit.**

Office opening hours are: 8:00-9:30am and 3:15-3:45pm.



## Classroom Crafts

The children had to work even harder due to parents/carers being unable to join us this year. Our little helpers have done a brilliant job turning their classrooms into a whimsical wonderlands for the festive season. Keep a look out for photos of their creations on the website and twitter feed.

