

Roseberry Primary and Nursery School

19th December 2023



What a busy term we have had! December has been fun for the children. Lots of things have been happening in school including a Santa visit, the pantomime trip, Christmas performances and parties!

Thank you for your continued support this term. We all appreciate it. We'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Achievers of the Half-Term

Reception Chestnut — **Chloe** for her positive attitude towards learning.

Reception / Y1 Cherry — **Ellie** for trying really hard with her reading.

Year 1 Hazel — **Matthew F** for his amazingly positive attitude.

Year 2 Sycamore — **Jorgie** for her super attitude in all Christmas play rehearsals.

Year 2 Poplar — **Angus** for his resilience over the past few weeks of rehearsals and quizzes we have done in class.

Year 3 Yew — **Imogen** for being a fantastic role model.

Year 4 Elm — **Honey** for her positive attitude.

Year 4 Maple — **Bobby** for his amazing progress in reading.

Year 5/6 Alder — Alex for working hard and constantly challenging himself.

Y6 Oak — **Harvey** for making excellent progress this term.

Attendance

We started using a new system in September to track attendance. Thank you to everyone who has given us some feedback about letters received. We will have a review of this system in January. However, we still expect pupils to have high attendance and our expectation is that pupil attendance should be at least 95%. Of course, there will be occasions where your child is too poorly to come to school and we do not expect you to send an unwell child into school.

Please remember to contact the school office before 9am if your child is going to be absent. Welfare phone calls will be made for any child whose is absent without a reason.

Share a Christmas Story

We were thrilled to welcome so many parents into school for our annual Share a Christmas Story event. It was a lovely opportunity for everyone to listen to a story together and make a Christmas craft afterwards. Thank you to the 41 people who completed the survey afterwards. I have included some of the feedback here.



My son loves being at school and seeing how comfortable he is in the setting just makes me so much happier and seeing the excitement as he shows me around his class and his work, as well as talking about his friends and teachers. I love it.

Lovely to be able to come in and spend time with the kids. Very nicely run, teachers are amazing and lovely to see everyone having fun.



I've really enjoyed doing crafts with my children the staff are all lovely and make you feel welcome.



This is such a lovely thing to do together, I hope it continues to happen. The children have had a jam packed Christmas calendar and it's brilliant.

You said it would have been better if ...	School response
It started a little later just so parents don't have to leave work so early. It started at 2pm but that's just because it would've suited me better because of work commitments.	Next year, we will start the event at 2.15pm.
Smaller group sizes. Classroom was very busy with parents as well as the children.	Next year we will have an overspill area in the hall for classrooms that are very busy.

Christmas Performances

Thank you to everyone who attended any of our Christmas performances. Following on from parental feedback after last year's survey, we offered refreshments afterwards. We also bought microphones but unfortunately, due to technical issues, these were unavailable which was a shame. We also introduced a ticket system where families could request additional tickets for other family members. We appreciate that this system may need some adjustments for next time. Thank you to the 85 people who completed the survey about the performances. I have included some responses.

Acorn and Willow Nursery



The show was lovely. Well done to everyone in the show, it was very inclusive.

Just a huge thank you to the staff for the time and effort they put into making the performance happen.

All of the staff were fantastic, thank you so much for all of the effort that was put in to make it such a special performance. You can see how much the staff team love working at roseberry. It was a beautiful start to the Christmas festivities ♡

Having our own table was really good and made it feel really personal and organised.



Reception and KS1

I thought the whole performance was brilliant, the children seemed to really enjoy performing and it was really well organised.

It was lovely, nice to see all the children at some point had their role to play.

Another brilliant performance put together by hard working staff.

Lovely show. All new songs. Would have been nice to have had some of the classic songs.

Was an excellent performance. Lovely how all children were involved.



Year 5 and 6



It was lovely to spend some quality time with my daughter afterward. The tea/coffee and biscuits was a fabulous idea.

All the kids were fantastic! Well done to everyone involved.

Really enjoyed being able to spend some time with the children in the dining hall after the performance. Well done to all children and staff involved was a great show.

The performance was absolutely fantastic! Well done to all children and the staff.

You said it would have been better if ...	School response
<p>Maybe more performances and attendee numbers limited so the hall isn't as full</p> <p>Also due to the amount of people wanting to attend could have put on maybe three performances.</p>	<p>We will consider having additional performances and / or change the seating arrangements next time.</p>
<p>It was difficult to see the children, possibly look at getting the children to set on benches instead of the floor.</p> <p>Seating, we couldn't really see the children, school could benefit for retractable tiered seating.</p> <p>The children always look so squashed together and it can be hard to see them clearly - I know you're limited on space though!</p>	<p>Unfortunately, a higher stage or tiered seating would be way beyond our budget and we also don't have storage space for this. We will consider the positions of children more carefully next time and appreciate it can be difficult to see everyone.</p>
<p>Would there be any way to have a video of the performance for personal use/memories etc</p> <p>You could record the performance to be purchased as we had family members who would have loved to be there.</p>	<p>This is definitely something we will investigate for next time.</p>



A message from Mr Jonathan Anderson, our Chair of Governors.



What a fast first term of the year this has been, it feels like last only last week that the children were returning from the summer holidays. It's been great to hear all of the fantastic efforts the children have made to their learning this term. A callout to celebrate is feedback shared with governors of how well behaved all children are in school. It's fantastic to hear that they have such respect for learning, this is noticed by the staff and visitors to school also.

It's been a jam packed term with lessons, clubs and activities. Governors have heard great stories about the children taking part in Robinwood, Break The Rules Day, The Great Big Roseberry Sleepover, Santa in a Van, Christmas performances and most recently a trip to the Pantomime! I've also enjoyed keeping up to date with the weekly OPAL golden wellie awards on Dojo. I want to offer a great big thank you to all of the team at Roseberry who make these things happen on top of delivering a great education for the children.

I want to thank all of the great parents and carers who are a great support to the Roseberry, this term saw the launch of our new parent's group, also a reminder that we currently have a vacancy for a parent or carer to join the governing board. It's a great opportunity to support the strategic direction of the school, if you would like any more information, please contact me through the school office!

Finally on behalf of all of the governors I would like to wish all of our children and staff along with their families a very merry Christmas and all the best for 2024!

Mr Jonathan Anderson

Friends of Roseberry Raffle

Thank you to our new group, Friends of Roseberry, who organised a fundraising raffle in December along with the Santa in a Van event with Chester-le-Street Police. In total, they have raised an amazing **£1,100** which will go towards OPAL resources. The list of winners is on the following page. Prizes will be available to collect from the school office from Thursday 4th January. Thank you also to everyone who donated a prize.

PRIZE	NUMBER	NAME
Food shopping voucher £50	Pink 121	Bobby Winter
Tesco £20 voucher	Beige 31	Ruby Huson
Beamish day pass	Green 28	Diane Johnson
4 weeks unlimited classes with Get Fit NE	Beige 61	Emma Talbot
Photography voucher	Green 122	Edianna Taylor (Gran)
Music lesson voucher	Orange 188	Amiee Dinning
Alcohol hamper	Green 218	Lola Lamb
Alcohol hamper	Green 39	Harry Walsh
Toiletry hamper	Green 471	Isla Small
Toiletry hamper	Green 235	Alex Grimwood
Dream bakery (box of 12 cupcakes)	Green 62	Dylan Farrell
Sweet hamper from Alan's shop	Pink 83	Lucy Cheung
Food hamper	Green 375	Ellie Maiepeace
Bayliss and Harding set	Pink 39	Barry Little
Bayliss and Harding set	Green 226	Sophie Wright
Gin, biscuits and chocolate buttons	Pink 120	Mollie Pottinger
Body shop gift set	Pink 25	Mason Robb

Please choose your prize from the following list.

Wax met kit
 Dinosaur operation
 Cozy feet
 Cozy feet
 Champneys set
 Facemask set
 Facemask set
 Nutella hot chocolate set
 Avon care set
 Avon men care set
 So? gift set
 Christmas pudding chocolate orange
 Royal jelly gift set
 Cranberry collection gift set
 Pink heart cosmetic gift set
 Nordic lights candle shade
 Oil burner set
 Toy lion and Minecraft game
 Coal bath fizzes
 Dinosaur toy and dinosaur operation
 Minion bag and games
 Sleep well travel set
 Reindeer toy

Beige 37	Jack Grimwood
Orange 227	Georgie Hanson
Green 413	Harvey Scott
Green 189	Georgia Ainsley
Green 87	Lola Tipping
Green 381	Hannah Childs
Pink 46	Hannah Liddle
Green 388	Olivia Mulvey
Green 106	Primrose Thompson
Orange 30	Kasha Wilkinson
Green 136	Matthew Moore
Green 174	Olivia Gawman
Orange 118	Mollie Pottinger
Pink 41	Barry Liddle
Green 285	Poppy Leightell
Orange 68	Shyanne Little
Green 361	Ellie Makepeace
Pink 57	Alana Hetherington
Green 324	Maddison Dixon
Orange 252	Christine Aird
Orange 245	Freddie Leadale
Green 255	William Forster
Orange 108	Georgie Loughran

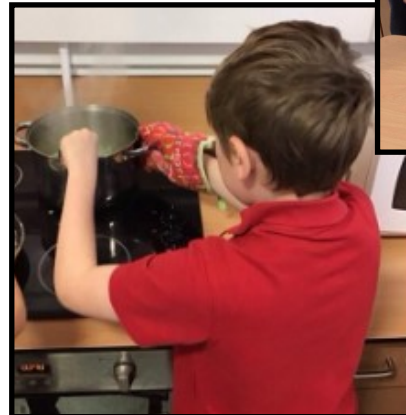
Cookery at Roseberry

This half-term, all children from Y1-Y6 have learnt how to make a pasta dish. They took the recipes home to add to their Roseberry Cookbooks.

Year 5 and 6 made spaghetti bolognaise.



Year 3 and 4 made easy fusilli pasta.

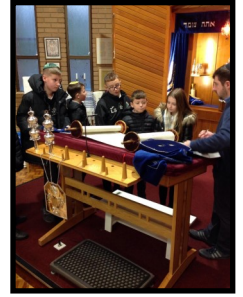


Year 1 and 2 made zingy tomato pasta.



Educational Visits and Visitors

Year 5 and 6 had a brilliant afternoon at the Newcastle Reform Synagogue learning about and experiencing Jewish religious practices. They looked at the 200 year old Torah scrolls, learned about how Jewish people celebrate Shabbat and even learned some Jewish dances. They also learned about Jewish marriage and why it is important to lift the bride's veil before the ceremony. The Synagogue staff were so complimentary of how knowledgeable, respectful and well behaved children were.



Year 3 and 4 had an amazing experience in school, learning about the history of the Vikings. They had time to learn about Viking costumes and what they used their weapons for. They enjoyed creating a Viking headband to wear before listening to a Viking tale. After lunch they competed in battle, were very competitive and would have been amazing Viking warriors.



Year 1 and 2 visited Beamish Museum. The children explored what life was like in the past and how the houses have changed over time.

