



# News on the Ninth

Gusford Newsletter – Issue 85 – December 2017

## Book Festival.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Book Festival week. It was a fantastic week promoting books and reading.

All classes now have a weekly reading challenge. Have a look in your class and see who is at the top.

The author visits were enjoyed by all. Year 6 were entertained by Andy Briggs at Chantry Academy. Year 5



spent a most enlightening session with our very own Mike Davies. Years 3 and 4 appreciated the wit and humour of author James Campbell, whilst years 1 and 2 listened attentively to Steve Antony.

Many children commented on the things they had learnt about being an author, from “you don’t earn much!”, to “being bored is good for you – it develops your imagination” to “anyone can be an author.”



We had several events happening throughout the week:

A book swap session, share a story with a teacher



from a different class, drop everything and read and the launch of our ‘Extreme Reading Challenge’. Some children attended the author show at Chantry Academy on Saturday.

Lots of children bought books from the Waterstones stall that was set up in the school hall on Tuesday.



## Christmas Jumper Day

Last Friday, Gusford was looking very festive as we took part in Christmas Jumper Day in aid of St Elizabeth hospice .



## Children in Need Day.

Thank you for all of your excellent fundraising efforts



for Children in Need! **We raised £888** – over £200 pounds more than last year's total. It was wonderful to see so many excellent yellow and spotty outfits, and the cake sale was a great success thanks to all of the generous bakers who donated cakes to be sold and all of the people who came along to support the School Council.



## 'Ralph the Reindeer'

Who would have thought that getting Santa off the ground would be such a drama!

Key Stage 1's Christmas production this year told the story of how Santa's festive delivery operation was put in jeopardy by a nasty cold that threatened to ground Rudolf and his flying team. Fortunately, an odd-job reindeer called Ralph was on hand to save the day. After the sleigh had finally taken off, it was then left to the stable elves and a couple of knowledgeable rats to tell the real story of Christmas.

Naturally, the whole musical drama was portrayed by the talented children of Key Stage 1 with great enthusiasm and no little skill. Congratulations to all the

children who learned their lines, sang their songs and performed their dances, including the Lemurs, Meerkats and Koalas who enchantingly performed together as whole classes. Thanks also to the parents who helped their children to rehearse until they were word-perfect (almost).

Shuffling nearly 180 five, six and seven year-olds around a stage in full costume, without losing the plot, is no mean feat, so respect to all the staff who made the magic happen. Thanks also to those who coached the singers, choreographed the dances and edited the script. Finally, we must offer our usual gratitude to Liz and Jeremy who give so generously of their time and expertise to deliver the sound and lighting?

Let's hope, when Christmas Eve comes around, there is no need for another odd-job reindeer this year!

## School Choir

Congratulations to the Gusford School Choir who performed beautifully to a full hall of family and friends. Their performance of "Bells Ring Out", which tells the Christmas story through songs and narration, was very well received – thank you to everyone who came to support the choir. Next term we will be performing alongside the Ipswich Symphony Orchestra. This is a very exciting opportunity for the children – look out for further details in the New Year.

