

Newsletter 13 – Friday 19th December 2025

What a truly fabulous Christmas week we have had - there really is no Christmas like a Holly Hill Christmas! It's become a tradition now in my house for my children to ask me every morning during Christmas week "what's happening at your school today Mum?" – they just can't believe how lucky we are!

A summary – 4 Christingle services, 3 dress rehearsals, 6 amazing shows, 600 parent visitors, 310 Christmas jumpers, 310 pairs of pyjamas, 310 hot chocolates, 310 visits to Santa, 310 selection boxes, one inflatable grotto, one fabulous Santa, 5 discos, 13 pass the parcels, 200 Christmas dinners and 1 whole school panto visit with 5 coaches! Easy!!!

A huge thank you to everyone involved who makes this happen.

- The most amazing teaching team of all time. They work tirelessly all year round but always dig deep to provide a fabulous Christmas week for the children. They go above and beyond to make sure every child has a Christmas week to remember and we are extremely lucky to have each and every one of them.
- Paula, our cook, and her catering team, Jo and Lisa, who served a delicious Christmas dinner for 200 on Tuesday.
- Parents, for keeping up with 'what's happening when' at the busiest time of the year and supporting us unwaveringly. It's always an absolute honour to welcome you all into school for our performances. Your support of FOHH throughout the year enables FOHH to provide everything they do for Christmas – thank you! And thank you for being so patient last night waiting for the buses to come back. When we are stressing, your kindness means the world.
- Mrs. Watson and Mrs. Seery who organised the whole school panto ensuring that it ran smoothly. We all look forward to Mrs. Watson's annually shouty staff meeting to ensure everyone gets on the right bus and understands exactly what she's organised! It was a highlight for her this year as well as she finally got front row seats for us – she's being organising panto for 20 years and this is the first year it's happened!
- Mrs. Seery and Mrs. Garland who have been incredible. Ordering the little extras, helping set the tables on Christmas dinner day, organising the snacks for panto, sorting out tickets, opening their office door so they can hear the singing practice in the hall and adding a festive touch to the entrance hall.
- Sam from Rainbow discos who DJs ALL DAY for our Christmas party day!
- Mrs. Ward, Mr. Close and pupil council for making and delivering Christmas cards to our neighbours.
- Our fabulous Friends of Holly Hill who help us to get organised and provide the finances for the week to happen – it would be impossible without them! They subsidised the panto, paid for and bought the selection boxes, paid for and organised the inflatable grotto, paid for the Christmas parties (disco and food) and ran all of the tea bars and raffles – they are truly wonderful and Christmas at Holly Hill wouldn't look like it does if it wasn't for them.

- And finally, our gorgeous children! Who always embrace Christmas week and throw themselves into it wholeheartedly. Massive smiles, beautiful singing, brilliant behaviour – we've had the best week ever.

Your child's end of term assessment sheet should have come home today if they are in KS1 or KS2.

We look forward to welcoming children back to school on Tuesday 6th January – remember that Monday 5th January is an INSET day this year.

So finally, the staff and governors at Holly Hill would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. We look forward to seeing you all in 2026!

Mrs. Leanne Steed, Headteacher

