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GATEHOUSE SCHOOL WEEKLY BULLETIN

Monday, December 13th 2019

Issue number 45

HEAD'S WELCOME

Dear Parents

I hope that you have all had a wonderfully festive week. Even in the busy approach to the Christmas holiday we have been working as hard as ever at Gatehouse.

Last week was an action-packed one with many areas of the school showcasing their exceptional talents. The week started with the Nursery Nativity, and it was a pleasure to see a packed house and many tear-filled smiles as our wonderful Nursery children sang and performed beautifully. A particular thanks to Ms Reidy and her Nursery team for such

a wonderful production.

After this magical performance from the Nursery, on Tuesday we had the treat that was the Reception Christmas Concert, and again we were enthralled with the children's enthusiasm and some very entertaining songs. A big thank you to the Reception Team for working so hard to get the children ready for such a lovely event.

This magical week of Christmas shows was completed on Thursday to a packed, standing-room only Lower Junior Christmas Assembly, where the Christmas jumpers, the decorations and the angelic singing had parents smiling and

tapping their feet to the music, with everyone leaving thoroughly entertained.

In between all of the festivities, Mr MacKinnon hosted the ABRSM music exams on Wednesday, with many of our wonderful musicians demonstrating their musical talents.

The Upper Junior Christmas Concert on Monday was definitely worth waiting for, with a wide range of instruments being played and harmonious singing that pulled at all of our heart-strings. Thank you to Mr MacKinnon for orchestrating this fabulous musical filled event, supported by our excellent peripatetic, teaching

and support staff who all helped to facilitate the smooth running. It has been a very proud fortnight for Gatehouse!

However, Christmas fun does not stop there. Our excellent sports department carried on throughout all of the musical performances, and our Year 4 girls attended a football event at Forest School and our Year 6 girls visited Norfolk House last Friday for more football. In addition to this the cross country trials took place, ensuring that we are as ready as ever for the competitive season ahead.

Years 4, 5 and Year 6 decided not to be outdone with all of the Christmas activities, and enjoyed a brilliant pantomime at the Hackney Empire; and Year 2 and 3 enjoyed some panto of their own at the Theatre Royal Stratford. Oh yes they did!

Lastly, I would like to thank you all for making this half term the most amazing half term ever. The school is busy, the children are making progress in so many areas, the staff are working

hard(as usual - they fully deserve their end-of-term Christmas meal and well-earned break!).

Thank you to you, the parents of Gatehouse School who have supported us in all of our musical, artistic, sporting and academic ventures this half term. I wish you all a wonderful Christmas break and a peaceful and healthy New Year with your loved ones, and I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday, 7th January 2020.

Mrs Korbay

Upper Junior Christmas Concert

A huge congratulations to Years 3-6 for the wonderful Upper Junior Christmas Concert on Monday. The parents were wowed by amazing performances by the school orchestras, ensembles, choirs, solos and duets. It all came together on the day after weeks of preparation and rehearsals, and I am very proud of each and every child. Many thanks also to the peripatetic instrumental staff for

all their support and help with the concert. I am so happy to be back in the Gatehouse music department after seeing the standard of performances on Monday!

Mr MacKinnon

Pen Licences

In our final week, we were delighted to award provisional licences to:

Lark Birkbeck, 4G

Charlie Casarosa, 4D

Amba Coleman, 4G

Hugo Elek, 4D

Ela Liddell, 4D

Iris Watt, 4D

Suleiman Webber, 5M

And full licences to:

Evanna, Eze, 5R

Zak Fellows, 5M

Liliana Nanthabalan,
5M

Kitty Sinclair, 5R

Congratulations, all!

Miss Ballah & Mrs
Roper

House Carols

After a brief break, this year we revived the House Carol

Competition. We were so entertained with the brilliant renditions of so many wonderful festive favourites. Huge congratulations to the **Dragon** on their victory.

1st: Dragon

2nd: Sphinx

3rd: Phoenix

4th: Unicorns

After the children had sang so beautifully, the teachers serenaded the hall with a carol of their own!



House Competition

It has been such a busy term and children in every house have been working hard to collect house points. After the carol competition this morning, the winners were revealed.

Congratulations to **Unicorn**, our winners for the Autumn term!

1st: Unicorn (2573)

2nd: Phoenix (2514)

3rd: Dragon (2510)

4th: Sphinx (2500)

Dates for your diary:

We look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday, January 7th for the new term. Have a lovely break!

“May you never be too grown up to search the skies on Christmas Eve.”

Anon

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