



Hello from Mrs Hunter

What a fabulous 24 hours it has been, let alone a whole week. Last night two hundred of us joined in carol singing in the hall, enjoying mince pies, mulled wine and a crazy game of Pictionary. Well done to those of you who were on Mrs Massa's winning team! Mrs Nurdin even got us singing in two parts and we had some amazing readings, including Mae who stepped in at the last moment and got up and read a part 'blind'. It was a really special evening. This morning took my breath away. We had no idea what to expect for our first Toy and Gift Giveaway

but five tables were not enough to hold all the donations for local families who would otherwise struggle to get presents under the tree. The photo below shows about half of the gifts that came in. We had two assemblies to share what SCRATCH do and it was wonderful to have so many parents and grandparents come along. From there Judith Rutherford, our Chair of Governors, and I met Steve Brine, our local MP, who was visiting both us and the infants today. Mrs Batten also joined the party as we shared with him our concerns about budget pressures. However, we did have time to showcase the school and managed to visit nearly all the classes. He was so impressed with all that we are doing and how confident our children were and how they were happy to talk to him about their learning. Their behaviour was amazing and he couldn't believe how calm and quiet it was for a Friday morning in the run up to Christmas! I cannot tell you how incredibly proud I am to be the headteacher of our school – what a privilege. I can hardly wait for Monday and the Hiltingbury's Got Christmas Talent auditions. #Loving My Job



Mrs Hunter 😊

Gardening Club's Vegetables Measure Up

Our gardening club grew another bumper crop of carrots and parsnips this year. If you are passing do stop and look in the garden as there is always something growing and if you would like some fresh herbs please help yourself.



Russian Theme Days

Following the success of our China themed days last January, we will have two theme days on Russia at the start of the Spring term. On Thursday 4th and Friday 5th January, the children will learn about various aspects of the country. You may wish to begin to talk about Russia over the Christmas holidays and share any knowledge and thoughts you have. The children may also like to do some research.



We Care Certificates this week



Matthew T (4S) Eager to improve
Daniel S (4P) Keen to contribute



Isobel D (6B) Above and Beyond
Ben E (6W) Cracking Dickens Homework
Ffion M (5B) Inspirational Pastel Planet



Tom S (6C) Unleashing his potential



Freya S (3P) Identifying next steps
Zara A (5CM) Reflects to Improve
Kennedy V-A (5H) Sensational Progress in Journalism



Meilene B (4R) Evaluating Egyptian Evidence
James G (3DN) Brilliant Skara Brae deductions
Usman T (3O) Just can't get enough!

Communications this week (copies of these letters can be found on our website)

Group	Content	Date of Event/Deadline
Whole School	Spring After School Club Information/application Snow Arrangements letter	8 th January
4S	Sharing Assembly	11 th December

Dates for Next Week

11 th December	4S Sharing Assembly 14:15 R&R Lower School Football 15:30 – 16:30 collect from the music room
12 th December	Choir singing at Brambridge Garden Centre 11:00
13 th December	Hiltingbury High Noters concert 09:15 R&R Y4/Y5 Netball 15:30 – 16:30 collect from the music room Parent Helpers Afternoon Tea
14 th December	Christmas Lunch – no pre-booking required R&R Upper School Tag Rugby 15:30 – 16:30 collect from the music room
15 th December	Christmas Jumper Day – no donation required R&R Lower School Netball 15:30 – 16:30 collect from the music room Street Dance whole school 15:30 – 16:30 collect from the hall – parents invited at the end

Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the fair last Saturday! It was a wonderful afternoon and a huge success raising **£4,305!**

A special thank you to everyone who volunteered to help this event take place. Thank you to Clare and the organising team who despite only attending one Christmas Fair themselves, took this on and planned, organised and ran such a fantastic and successful event. Thanks also to all the volunteers who helped on the day, to everyone who baked and donated prizes, bottles and £1's, to the Year 6 helpers who did an amazing job and finally to our sponsors Gair Gas who not only sponsored the event but also ran some of the games. It was a great way to end such a busy term!



School Disco's

The numbers are in and we're very pleased to announce that the school discos raised in the region of **£1,500!**

Online Christmas Shopping

If you're planning on doing some Christmas shopping on line please consider doing this through The Giving Machine and registering "Hiltingbury School" as one of your causes <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/hiltingbury-school/>. Thornden School PTA raise hundreds of pounds through this. It's an easy way to raise money for the school **through no extra effort or cost!** Lots of retailers are available through the Giving Machine (for example Amazon, John Lewis, Tesco Direct, notonthehighstreet.com and many more)

PTA Social

7pm Friday 8th December, Bay Leaves Larder

We have reserved some tables at Bay Leaves Larder on this evening. Come and join us for a much deserved end-of-term (or almost) social evening. Everyone welcome :-)

The Christmas Fair marks the end of a very busy term where we've run lots of events and asked for lots of donations and volunteering hours. We and the schools do very much appreciate the time and support everyone gives.

Helen
(HSPTA Chair)