



## Hello from Mr Clark



Hello everyone. There's only one place to start this week and that is with the Carols evening on Tuesday. Thank you to all the families who came along and sang carols together; there were around 200 of us enjoying mince pies, mulled wine, orange juice and singing our hearts out. We had such a lovely time! A particular favourite of mine was The Twelve Days of Christmas where the choir showed us the actions for each line. We also tested the children's knowledge of Christmas. If you are having a Christmas quiz this year then I would grab the nearest Hiltingbury child to be on your team, as they knew all the answers! At moments like these, it feels really special to be part of the Hiltingbury Family.

You'll read elsewhere in the highlights about the Hiltingbury Christmas Talent Show that the children have been taking part in. We have been really impressed with the efforts the children have put in and the confidence in their performances. Thank you to all the children who took part and the adults who made it happen.

Mr Clark

## Wishes round the tree – don't forget to apply for tickets

Our Wishes round the tree assemblies are taking place on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December for Upper School at 1:30pm and Lower School at 2:30pm.

If you don't have a ticket and would like to come please contact us.



## Music Lessons next week



These will take place as normal on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday but to ensure that children don't miss any of the Christmas events/celebrations there will no lessons on Thursday or Friday.

## Lost Property

Our lost property is being sorted, next Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December please try to make time before then to check the over-flowing bin. Any unnamed items not reclaimed by then will be given the HSPTA for their second hand uniform sales or to a local charity shop.



## Hiltingbury's Got Christmas Talent

On Monday, this week sounds of Christmas songs could be heard all around school as children took part in Hiltingbury's Got Christmas Talent. Back by popular demand after last year, the day saw hundreds of children audition, either solo or in groups to impress the judges, which included Mrs Cheshire, Mrs Isaac (one of our school governors) and upper school Pupil Forum representatives. As ever we were so amazed by the quality of the performances from magic tricks to comedy, songs to gymnastics and a whole range of dances and musical instruments. For me, the highlight is always seeing how our children excel as individuals and team players, embodying everything our special school family represents. I love watching them help each other when someone forgets a line, seeing them proudly cheering and encouraging one another from the side and witnessing the bravery and resilience they show when they keep going with a smile even when things don't go to plan! These are the skills and qualities that will carry them way beyond their years with us and why we value giving them such opportunities to develop this. It was such a tricky decision to choose just four finalists for each year group, but pupil forum representatives deliberated maturely and thoughtfully to ensure a variety of acts from across the classes went through. On Thursday we had the finals and celebrated the success of our lower school winner, Jack H (4E), who wrote and performed his own poem and our upper school winners, Bethan, Sophie, Mya, Thuzar (5B), Esha and Isla (5W), who performed their own comedy sketch of the Great Christmas Bake Off. Overall, we would like to say a huge congratulations to everyone who took part. You are all winners in our eyes! Special thanks go to Mrs Carroll for all her hard work in organising the event too.

Miss Chambers



## We Care Certificates this week



Duncan C and Edward P (4P) Focused partner work



Sarth M (3P) Super Attitude Always  
Milan V (4S) Demon Defence  
Lilygrace R (3O) Rocking it in red



Jake N (4E) Remarkable, Reflective Recount



Millie F (6H) A true Grammar Giant  
Sofia P (5B) Amazing Apollo Article  
Marcia G (5R) Mastering Mathematical Methods  
Codey R-C (6C) Tackling mocks terrifically



Xander A-E (6W) Tips lead to success  
Ben W (5W) Applying His Feedback  
Henry W (3DN) Confident, detailed retelling



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

Group	Content	Date of Event/Deadline
Y4	Hindu Temple Visit	January 2019
5B	Staffing Update	February 2019

*Dates for Next Week*

17 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>NO AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS OR DANCE CLUBS</b> Mrs Hall's recorder concert 14:45
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Change of school lunch menu - now Roast Chicken and Veggie Sausages 4S Listen2Me concert 14:45
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Parent Helpers Afternoon Tea from 14:00
20 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>No Music Lessons</b> Christmas Jumper/non-uniform day donations for Save the Children School Christmas lunch – book in class on the morning
21 <sup>st</sup> December	<b>No Music Lessons</b> Wishes Round the Tree Upper school 13:30 <b>PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 13:20</b> Wishes Round the Tree Lower school 14:30 <b>PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 14:20</b>

### Christmas Presents

As you may have seen in our private Facebook group, this term the committee voted to give each class teacher at both schools £50 to spend either as a class or combine and spend as a year group on something for their classroom(s) that would enhance the children's learning and have an immediate and direct impact. The committee voted to approve the teachers proposals and the gifts are coming in! We've then wrapped (or are in the process of wrapping) the presents and delivered them back to the schools to be given to the children to unwrap. The juniors have had theirs today! The infants will be having theirs next Friday.



### Online Christmas Shopping

When you're doing your online Christmas Shopping, don't forget to support the HSPTA at no extra cost or effort to yourself! Simply go to The Giving Machine (<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk>), select "Hiltingbury School" as your cause (<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/hiltingbury-school/>) and navigate from here to a wide range of retailers who then donate to your selected cause. The HSPTA is also registered with Amazon Smile.

### Would you like to be Chair, Vice Chair or Treasurer?

As mentioned after the AGM in October this is my last year as Chair of the HSPTA as well as Nicky's last year as Vice Chair and Carol's last year as Treasurer. Whilst it's still only Christmas we do need to start looking for people to take over from us next year since without someone in these roles the HSPTA will need to disband - no Christmas Fair, no discos, no Spooks and Sparks and no much needed money raised for the schools. All three of us have got a lot out of it personally and thoroughly enjoyed (and still enjoying!) our time holding these roles. The committee are a lovely group of people to work with and we're very lucky to have such supportive schools. Please have a think as to whether you can take on one of these roles, some of which can be shared if that suits. We'll be letting you know a bit more in the new year as to what exactly the roles involve and what we've got out of it. If you're interested please get in touch via [info@hspta.co.uk](mailto:info@hspta.co.uk). Rest assured - a show of interest does not mean automatic commitment!!!



For any queries or questions about the events or anything HSPTA related please contact us at [info@hspta.co.uk](mailto:info@hspta.co.uk) or see our Facebook group [facebook.com/groups/hspta](https://www.facebook.com/groups/hspta). Don't forget to also visit the Business Directory <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hspta/index.cfm?event=business-directory> to support local businesses.

Helen  
(HSPTA Chair)