

9 December 2011



Dear Parents

Reports, rehearsals, plays, productions and more reports! I am not aware where the days go but life at Taverham Hall School is never dull.

The children, as ever, have covered themselves in glory this week, despite illness and fatigue, all the shows went on with full casts in all cases.

'Romeo and Juliet' performed by the prep school over three nights was so well received by the audience and rightly so. A comprehensive report with photographs will appear on the website in due course but special mention must be made to Mr Drew-Batty and Mrs Foulkes-Arnold, who should be justifiably proud of the cast and musicians who performed superbly. Well done to all involved.

The Christmas party for pupils and parents was a huge success last Sunday, complete with entertainers and a disco which allowed parents time to enjoy a fantastic Christmas dinner cooked by Alan the Chef and his team. My thanks go to Alex Crossley who organised the event and to all those who joined us for the afternoon.

'Radiator of the Week' this week was Oliver L in Year 5. Oliver received his award for his commitment to the rugby team's welfare despite his own injury.

Harry D was awarded a Headmaster's Commendation for a wonderful piece of technology which is now viewable on You Tube. Harry directed and commentated on his own film which involved Lego figures at war! Well done Harry.

### **Sport**

Wednesday's sporting fixtures threw up some titanic battles and the U13 girls' performance in our indoor hockey tournament was a pleasure to witness. As ever all sports reports can be found on the website.

Hannah B came away from a recent club swimming event with no fewer than 18 awards which really goes to show her strength and ability in the water.

Girls

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/category/children-news/girls-sport/>

Boys

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/category/children-news/boys-sport/>

More Sport

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/category/children-news/more-sport/>

### **Pre Prep**

The Pre Prep Christmas production of 'The Bossy Christmas Fairy' has been playing to packed houses this week. Enthusiastic audiences were delighted by the superb singing, wonderful dancing and brilliant costumes. Every word could be heard clearly as our young performers spoke their lines with immense composure. The leading role of the Bossy Christmas Fairy was played magnificently by Charlie R. The Year 2 children took on the other major roles and gave fantastic performances. In Year 1 the chocolate Santas looked good enough to eat and the exuberant tinsel girls made everyone want to get up and shimmy! The baubles and fairy lights sparkled and twinkled. Reception snowflakes and shimmering angels completed the show. This wonderful production was again directed by Mrs Fry and the winner of the competition to design the front cover of the programme was Tabitha in Year 1. Afterwards Mary and Joseph - Beatrice and Edward - collected the sum of £466.30. This will go to the Pre Prep's Christmas charity - Quidenham Hospice - and we do thank parents for their amazing generosity.

Next week twenty six children who are in the Pre Prep choir will be going to Carleton House Care Home in Norwich to sing carols and festive songs to the elderly residents.

The Pre Prep are beginning to get very excited about their Christmas party next Thursday where we hope to receive a visit from Father Christmas.

Finally the term ends with our very popular carols round the Christmas tree to which parents and friends are warmly invited.

### **Nursery**

This week the children in Nursery 2 have been making festive treats, cooking up lots of yummy fudge as Christmas presents for their families. They have been using Christmas items and photographs to learn numbers, patterns and sequencing. Mrs. Chamberlain, the dance teacher, has taught us some festive dance moves and Mr. Dodd has been helping us to learn our Christmas Nativity songs all ready for a busy week with parties and plays next week.

The children and staff in Nursery 1 have been very busy preparing for 'Christmas' this week. This has included helping to decorate the tree, listening to lots of Christmas stories, singing songs and nursery rhymes and of course making lots of lovely gifts and cards for their families. This included making chocolate truffles, which needed lots of tasting, to ensure they were just 'perfect' to give as a present! The children have also been preparing their letters to Santa, which has involved lots of cutting and scissor skills, which they all mastered very well, with lots of practise.....

### **Boarding News**

Last week was a varied one in the boarding community. Reverend Seabrook came to listen in to the Boarders' Forum as our 'independent listener' and we hope that with further regular visits the boarders will get to know him better. The children came up with a good variety of issues for discussion and the feedback is now pinned up in the dorms and on the Boarding Notice Board outside surgery. Tuesday and Wednesday were our evenings for decorating the dorms. The boarders really enjoyed this time working together and the dorms look very pretty. Thanks to Mrs Drane for the fabulous silver decorations which are hanging in the Girls' House. The children also enjoyed making Christmas treats – marshmallow snowmen and decorated Christmas biscuits.

On Thursday we had our long awaited trip to Taverham Village Hall to see the village pantomime. The children really enjoyed this superb performance and were thrilled to go up on stage at the end to join in with the usual pantomime song. It was a pleasure to hear thanks from several of the boarders afterwards and we have already provisionally booked for next year!

**Please save the date!**

**Saturday 5th May 2012 - Taverham Hall School 90th Anniversary Ball**

Full details to follow in the New Year

The Ball Committee met on 6th December to initiate planning for the 90th Anniversary Ball scheduled for 5th May 2012. The Committee comprises; Chairman: Arthur Pattison (07918 656108, [ajcpattison@gmail.com](mailto:ajcpattison@gmail.com)), Secretary: Sammy Mann (07526 491307, [manssam@aol.com](mailto:manssam@aol.com)), Treasurer: Alice Francis (07732 666952, [ian.alice@ntlworld.com](mailto:ian.alice@ntlworld.com)). The body of the Committee has been split into sub-teams: Food & Wine, Entertainments, Marquee, Dressing, Bars, Fundraising & Sponsorship and Printing. A further marketing sub-team will be established in the New Year. The Committee is still open to new members and anyone interested in joining or anyone who is able to contribute in whatever way should contact the Ball Committee Chair or Secretary with an indication of their area of interest. As a school community we have a wealth of experience, expertise and contacts from a wide variety of backgrounds and it would be wonderful to think that as many of you as possible would be willing to assist in making this a memorable occasion.

The next Ball Committee meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 17th January 2012 at 8.20 am** in the dining hall.

**Local Carol Services**

You might like to be aware of some of the local church services being held over Christmas

**St Edmund's Church, Taverham**

18 December	10:30	Children's Nativity
	18:30	Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve	15:30 and 17:00	Christingle and Crib Services
	23:30	Midnight Communion
Christmas Day	8:00	Holy Communion
	10:30	All Age Christmas Praise with Communion

**St Margaret's Church, Drayton**

11 December	15:00	3forAll (Family Friendly Worship)
18 December	18:30	Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve	15:00 and 17:00	Crib and Christingle Services
	23:30	Midnight Eucharist of the Nativity
Christmas Day	9:30	Christmas Morning Communion and Carols

**Norwich Family Life Church**

18 December	18:00	Carol Service followed by refreshments
Christmas Day	10:30	Christmas Morning Service

**St Luke's Church Centre**

18 December	18:30	Carol Service
Christmas Day	10:30	Family Service

## St Augustine's Old Church

Christmas Eve 23:30 Candlelit Midnight Mass

There are a number of events and gatherings next week so please look carefully at the end of the newsletter for timings etc.

As this will be the last newsletter of another very productive term, may I take the opportunity to wish everyone a very relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break.



Mike Crossley  
Headmaster

### Calendar

Further advance dates can be found on the school website here:

<http://www.taverhamhall.co.uk/calendar/>

Mo	12/12/2011	10:00:00	Nursery Christmas Play Dress Rehearsal
		14:30:00	Girls House Hockey
		17:00:00	First Team Rugby Dinner
Tu	13/12/2011	08:30:00	<b>Circuits CANCELLED DUE TO CAROL CONCERT PREPARATIONS</b>
		11:00:00	<b>Nursery Christmas Play</b>
		13:00:00	School Christmas Lunch
		19:00:00	<b>Prep School Carol Service</b>
We	14/12/2011	11:00:00	<b>Nursery Christmas Play</b>
		19:00:00	Boarders Christmas Party
Th	15/12/2011	08:30:00	Circuits (Parents)
		14:30:00	Pre-Prep Christmas Party
		18:00:00	Winning House Supper
Fr	16/12/2011		E&A Grades Home
		11:00:00	Final Assembly and Christmas Message
		11:15:00	<b>Pre-Prep Carol Service</b>
<b>END OF TERM</b>			
Christmas Holidays 17 December 2011 to 10 January 2012			
Steed Activity Week 19 to 23 December			
Taverham Tigers Holiday Club 19 to 23 December			
Mo	9/1/2012		INSET
Tu	10/1/2012		INSET
	10/1/2012		Games Kit and Boarder's Equipment Drop Off (16:00 to 18:00)
We	11/01/2012		<b>Term Commences</b>