

# CHRISTMAS TIMES

AT STEPGATES COMMUNITY SCHOOL

DECEMBER

NORTH POLE

EXTRA

## FOSS newsletter December



Ho ho ho,

We hope you are all hanging in there during these final days of Christmas!

Thank you all so much for sticking with us and supporting all the wonderful festive activities that have taken place throughout December. We realise it is a bit overwhelming during the busiest time of year, particularly when combined with the school-organised fun too! Rest assured, the children have had a fantastic time and with your help, we have raised considerable funds to put towards; next year's school trips, classroom equipment, annual big spend, school clubs, leavers hoodies and other ad-hoc small and big spends.

### Yuletide Ball

This term, instead of a Christmas Fair, we decided to host a festive disco that captured the two main things the children seem to love at the discos.... Music and sweets. It's always a little chaotic when they have their own spending money, which is why we will likely go back to the 'all inclusive' option at the next disco. They had a fantastic time playing party games, dancing and generally being high on life. Thank you to everyone who helped to set up!

### Chertsey Goose Fair

Huge thanks to Sue Buttaci and all the parents who helped at the Stepgates stall at the beginning of this month. The stall raised £160! What a great effort, especially seeing Stepgates represented at this fantastic local event. A highlight included members of the school choir singing!



### Secret Santa Stall

Once again this year, we gave the children the option of whether they wanted to make a gift or buy a pre-bought gift for a loved one. Thank you to everyone who sent money in for their little ones. It gave them a wonderful opportunity to personally choose a gift for someone and then experience the gift of giving! Next year, we will be bringing this back as usual for Mothers Day and Father's Day.

### Santa's Grotto

Starting with a surprise visit at the end of the well done assembly last week, Santa drummed up a LOT of excitement for his visit to Chertsey this week. No less than 178 children passed through his grotto doors and sat beautifully next to Santa, discussing all their wishes and thoughts ahead of the big day next week. Massive thanks to all involved – especially Santa.



### Meeting reminder:

Due to the fact FOSS has charity status, every year, we are required to hold an

annual AGM. During this meeting, we recap what has taken place during the year, the money raised, the money spent and finally discuss and vote a new team. If anyone would attend or put themselves forward for any roles, please do let us know and/or come along. *Meeting date: 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 at 7:00pm.*

### Easyfundraising

Thank you to all those who have used easyfundraising portal for your online shopping this Christmas. Next year, we will be holding a little friendly competition to see who can knock the leader off the top of the table! As a reminder – head to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) to 'start' all your online purchases (even car insurance quotes!) to earn money for the school. It costs you absolutely nothing!

**Finally**, thank you to all the teaching staff at Stepgates. You make the school wonderful for our children and we are all very grateful for everything you do. The nativity and production are no mean feat to organise and rehearse and it was something everyone should be incredibly proud of.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all in 2018. Eat ALL, drink ALL the mulled wine and watch ALL the films you possibly can.

Thank you!

FOSS

Like our Facebook page to stay up-to-date on all the events

