



**ROSSETT ACRE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Pannal Ash Road, Harrogate HG2 9PH  
Telephone: 01423 561579  
e-mail: [office@rap.rklt.co.uk](mailto:office@rap.rklt.co.uk)  
website: [www.rossettacre.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.rossettacre.n-yorks.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Corrine Penhale Deputy Headteacher: Kate Woodcock



*Our school:*  
**'Excellence and happiness for all'**

Charity No.1048680

## NEWSLETTER FOR ROSSETT ACRE – 5 December 2024

### Forthcoming dates for your diary

Tues 10 Dec	EYFS Nativity (9.45am) KS1 Production (2.15pm)
Wed 11 Dec	KS1 Production (9.30am) EYFS Nativity (2.30pm)
Thurs 12 Dec	<b>*NEW*</b> Instrumental Christmas Concert 2.30pm. For parents of instrumentalists only.
Thurs 12 Dec	Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day
Mon 16 Dec	KS2 Christmas Concert St Mark's Church 7pm. Rehearsal in morning.
Mon 16 Dec	EYFS Christmas party
Tues 17 Dec	Christmas parties – Y5 am & Y3 pm
Wed 18 Dec	Christmas parties – Y6 am & Y2 pm
Thurs 19 Dec	Christmas parties – Y1 am & Y4 pm
Fri 20 Dec	Close for Christmas 2.30pm
Mon 6 Jan	Training Day
Tues 7 Jan	School opens
Thurs 16 Jan	<b>*NEW*</b> Y6 SATS Parents' Meeting – Time TBC

Thank you to everyone who visited our Christmas Fair on Saturday. I am sorry that I didn't get to see you all, unfortunately, a family emergency occurred, and I was unable to attend. I do hope you all had a wonderful time and I've been told that Santa did visit Rossett Acre after all. Fantastic!

You will have seen from last week's newsletter that we had a fun packed week, however, we were not able to tell you about the most fabulous opportunity that the children had as it was top secret! However, everything has been collected now, so we can spill the beans! See below.

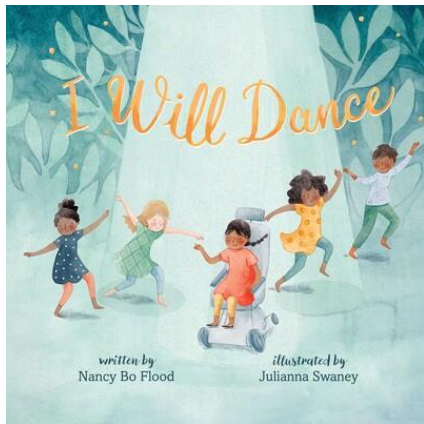


## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**'Happiness resides not in possessions, and not in gold, happiness dwells in the soul.'**

(Democritus, Greek philosopher)

## PICTURE BOOK ASSEMBLY



Yesterday, Mrs Sims read 'I Will Dance' written by author Nancy Bo Flood and illustrated by Julianna Swaney.

Amazon describes this book as: 'This poetic and uplifting picture book illustrated by the #1 *New York Times* bestselling illustrator of *We Are the Gardeners* by Joanna Gaines follows a young girl born with cerebral palsy as she pursues her dream of becoming a dancer.'

This book links to International Day for Persons with Disabilities which was on 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

The music played this week was by Gaelynn Lea.

If you would like to hear the story for yourself, you can do so here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-Cok0CnY1g>

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the children who received a certificate in last week's celebration assembly: Jack B (SK/CN) Daniel S (RB), Emilia L (HH), Kit H (ZM), Otis A (KM/BS), Max D, Katie C (EW), Amelia D (JJ/CR), Claudia P (AI/LS), George P (JW), Freddie D (PA/EH), Shine A (RI), Esmée M (TM).

Congratulations to the children who were on Top Table last week: Violet W (Y1), Zeke O (Y2), Yusuf K (Y3), Hannah S (Y4), Afra C (JW), Logan W (CD).

## YOUTH BOARD

Miss Dodgson took Arlo-Jack C and Erin D from Year 6 to represent Rossett Acre at the Red Kite Youth Board last week. They spoke with other children from the Trust about what is working well in their school and things which they would like for the future. This will help shape the future of the Red Kite Learning Trust for 2030. A music event across the Trust was suggested and the children had many ideas about how this might happen, including a Red Kite Music Festival. It would be great if that could happen! As the meeting was held at Austhorpe School, Leeds, Arlo and Erin also had a tour of the school, and it was interesting to see the similarities and differences between Austhorpe and Rossett Acre. Our Youth Board members are looking forward to the next meeting in January.

## SPACE WEEK AT ROSSETT ACRE

The excitement had been building for months and a few of the staff were beside themselves waiting for our special delivery...

Yes, the Moon actually came to Rossett Acre and it didn't disappoint!

Many thanks to UKRI (UK Research and Innovation) for loaning our school the samples.

The week kick started with an assembly about Apollo 11 landing on the Moon. The children gave thoughtful answers and really put themselves into the boots of Neil Armstrong.

The planetarium was another wow moment and gave the children chance to learn more about our solar system in a fascinating way. It really showed them how small our galaxy actually is and how vast space is! They were so engaged and asked some amazing questions. The planetarium speaker said how much she had enjoyed visiting our school.

Excitement built throughout the week as each class waited for their chance to explore the space rock kits, which included meteorites from space and lunar samples. Many other activities took place during the week with Moon art, space research and crater investigations.

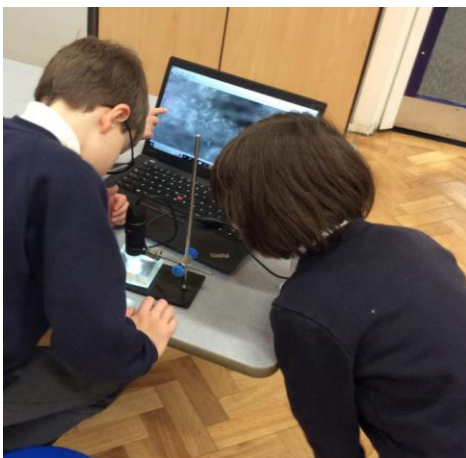
Early Years have been exploring the Moon by sorting and describing rocks.



Here are Y1 and Y5 investigating crater size.



Y3 used the digital microscopes to take a closer look at the lunar samples and researched about the race to land on the Moon.



## Y5 Learning about meteorites and classifying rock samples



I had the pleasure of entering the Planetarium with Y4, Mrs Aslam/Mrs Haslam's class where we visited Venus, Jupiter (and one of its moons – Europa) and Uranus, as well as Earth. At one point, I laughed out loud when the children found themselves in the galaxy. When the words 'the galaxy' came up on the screen, they all said in chorus and amazement 'the galaxy' which really reminded me of the film – Minions, when they repeat things together. It certainly was a lovely moment.





## CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION

On Tuesday, 22 pupils from Years 2, 4, 5 and 6 attended a cross-country competition at Ashville against Pannal, Western, Willow Tree and St Joseph's Primary Schools. Despite the cold conditions, everyone tried their very best to stay near the front of the running pack. Special certificates were awarded to the following for their determination, resilience and have-a-go attitude: Martha C, Aston W, Skye M, Martha P, George W and Seamus S. We achieved 'race winners' in the Y4 boys and Y2 boys' races! Overall, Rossett Acre came in 3<sup>rd</sup> place scoring 190 points! Well done to everyone who took part.

"On Tuesday we went to cross country. When we got there, we realised there were five other schools. First year 6 and year 5 were racing. Second was the years 1 and 2. Third were years 3 and 4. In year 4, all the races were close, we had to run two laps of the rugby pitch. Year 4 came 1st, 3rd, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> all in one race!

We really enjoyed our day. We're looking forward to hearing if we make it to the final.

Reuben and Jonah."



## RED KITE LEARNING TRUST CHRISTMAS DOOR COMPETITION

Some of our children had the privilege of judging our Trust's Central Team's Christmas decorated doors. They were met by our CEO, Richard Sheriff, and other members of the Central Team. The winners were the HR Department who had made a fabulous Polar Express experience! After judging the doors, our children were treated to some well earned hot chocolate. Thank you to all at the Trust Office who made our children so welcome! Thank you to Miss Woodcock and Miss Pearson for taking the children over to the Trust Office.



## ECO INFORMATION

**Wash your clothes less often**

### ATTENDANCE

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

**Attendance: Friday 28 November 2024 to 5 December 2024  
96.06%**

Number of pupils late at least once this week: 9

Remember: The gates open at 8.40am and school starts promptly at 8.50am.

#### Stay on Track

It is difficult to "catch up" when time is missed. Starting the day late can impact your child's entire day and affects the whole classroom



#### Reduce Anxiety

Your child will feel connected academically and socially when they have good attendance



#### Build Confidence

Good school attendance helps to build habits that will last a lifetime and transfer to life beyond public school



### PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR AND RAFFLE

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our Christmas Fair, the first since 2019 - we had a great afternoon.

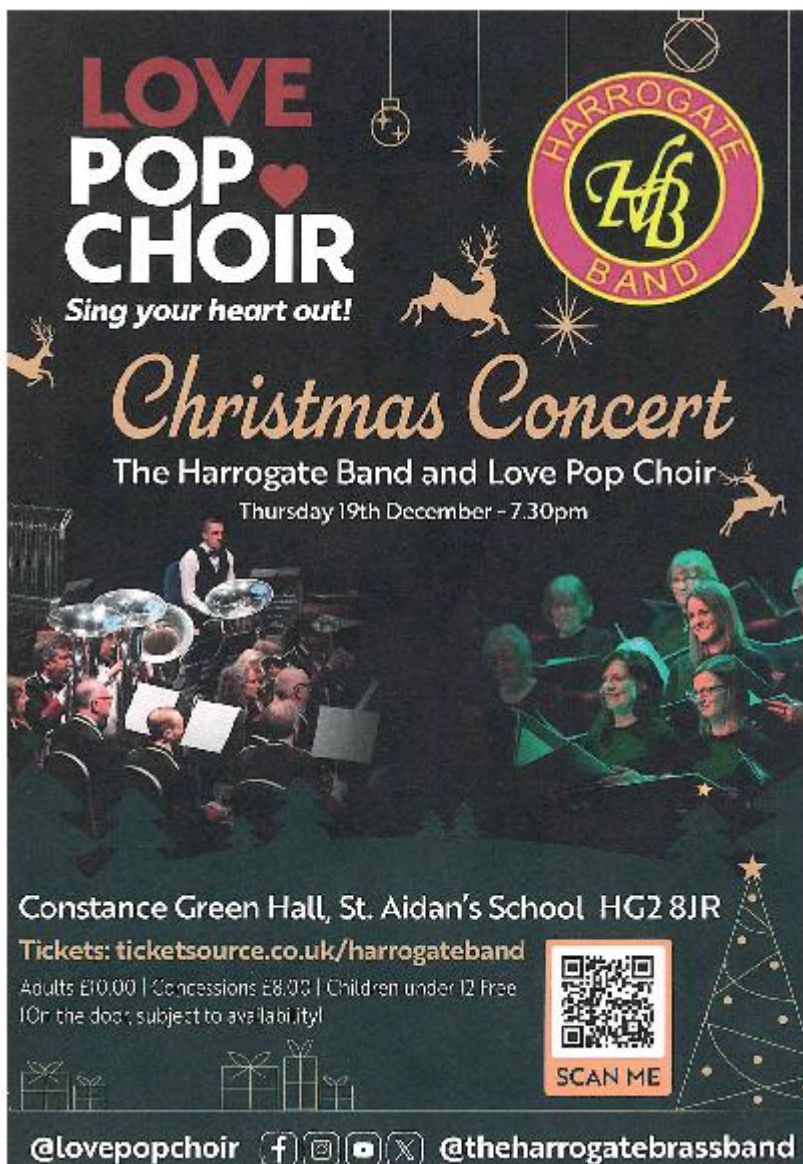
Thanks to our volunteer teachers and parents, and of course Paul and everyone in the school office who gave so generously of their time to help with the Fair.

Our thanks also go to the children who gave their time to help:

Alice B, Alfie L, Annabelle E, Charlotte P, Chloe H, Cora E, Daniel L, Edward S, Edward W, Elsa, Emily G, Emily P, Esmée, Freddie, Harry W, Harvey R, Henry W, Jake D, Lois S, Louisa S, Martha C, Oscar B, Spike T.

We are pleased to report that the Christmas Fair made a profit of £2145. As always, all money raised by the PTA will go towards supporting the pupils of Rossett Acre and enriching their educational experience.

Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets! New prizes are being added all the time so please keep an eye out for updates on Tapestry and Class Dojo. Please get your ticket stubs and money back to school before 13th December. The raffle will be drawn on 14th December and prizes will be available for collection from school during the last week of term.

A festive poster for a Christmas concert. The background is dark with gold and red Christmas decorations, including stars, reindeer, and hanging ornaments. At the top left, the text 'LOVE POP CHOIR' is written in large, bold letters, with a red heart replacing the 'O' in 'POP'. Below it, the tagline 'Sing your heart out!' is written in a smaller font. To the right, the Harrogate Band logo is a circular emblem with 'HARROGATE' at the top, 'BAND' at the bottom, and a stylized 'H&B' in the center. The main title 'Christmas Concert' is written in a large, elegant, gold script font. Below it, the text 'The Harrogate Band and Love Pop Choir' is written in a smaller, white sans-serif font, followed by 'Thursday 19th December - 7.30pm'. The central image shows a group of people, including a brass band and a choir, performing on stage. At the bottom left, the venue 'Constance Green Hall, St. Aidan's School HG2 8JR' is listed. To the right of the venue, the ticket information is provided: 'Tickets: [ticketsource.co.uk/harrogateband](https://ticketsource.co.uk/harrogateband)', 'Adults £10.00 | Concessions £8.00 | Children under 12 Free', and '(Or the door, subject to availability)'. A QR code is located to the right of the ticket information, with the text 'SCAN ME' below it. At the bottom, the social media handles '@lovepopchoir' and '@theharrogatebrassband' are listed, separated by icons for Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter. A small Christmas tree and gift icons are also visible at the bottom.

**LOVE  
POP  
CHOIR**  
*Sing your heart out!*

**HARROGATE  
BAND**

*Christmas Concert*  
The Harrogate Band and Love Pop Choir  
Thursday 19th December - 7.30pm

Constance Green Hall, St. Aidan's School HG2 8JR

**Tickets:** [ticketsource.co.uk/harrogateband](https://ticketsource.co.uk/harrogateband)  
Adults £10.00 | Concessions £8.00 | Children under 12 Free  
(Or the door, subject to availability)

SCAN ME

@lovepopchoir @theharrogatebrassband



**Do your little ones love to get creative?**

**Our festive drawing competition is for them!**

**WIN A SANTA'S HOME PLAYMOBIL SET & £500 WORTH OF ART SUPPLIES FOR YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL**

- Simply submit a photo of their drawing or painting of a home dressed for the holiday season.
- Come and see shortlisted works of art proudly displayed in our window after the competition closes on **Sunday 15 December**. Winners will be announced on **Wednesday 18 December**.

Scan the QR code for easy entry and add their picture later

Terms and conditions: open to all primary school children in the UK. One submission per child. Prizes will be awarded in two categories.

**Carter Jonas**

To enter, simply fill out this [entry form](#) and submit a photo of their drawing or painting of a home dressed for the holiday season. If you're not ready to upload a picture yet, you can upload one later via the confirmation email you will be sent upon submitting this form. The competition closes on **Sunday 15 December** and shortlisted works of art will then be proudly displayed in your local Carter Jonas office from Wednesday 18 December. Here are the [terms and conditions](#) for the competition.

### Information for School Families

#### **FEAST Free holiday activities and meals for families this Christmas**

Free places and a free meal for eligible families, thanks to funding from the Department for Education. Families with children eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals and those made eligible by exception (see the [FEAST FAQs](#) for details) will have received a voucher from their school on 25 November. This enables them to book school holiday activities listed on the [FEAST website](#) for free, using the online platform Holiday Activities. This [step-by-step guide](#) explains how to redeem your FEAST voucher and book free activities.

#### **Knaresborough Christmas Day dinner**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069979765701>

A free Christmas Day dinner held at Two Brothers in Knaresborough for people in need. They can also deliver meals to those who can't join on the day.



## **FREE events this Christmas**

- Christmas Tree Festivals – you'll find lovely displays at [St John's in Knaresborough](#), [St Peter's Church in Harrogate](#) and [St John's in Bilton](#)
- Ride the Candy Cane Express in Harrogate town centre (Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays until 15<sup>th</sup> December) <https://visitharrogate.co.uk/events/harrogate-christmas-fayre>
- Check out your local church for family friendly services including Christingles
- Take a festive walk around Harrogate town centre during the Christmas Fayre, taking in the sparkly lights at The Yorkshire Hotel, the festive photo frame on Montpellier and Betty's shop window!
- A little further afield – Otley Snowman Trail, 1 to 18<sup>th</sup> December <https://www.otleysnowmantrail.co.uk/>

## **Christmas Kindness**

<https://hadca.org.uk/christmas-kindness-2024>

Ways to spread a little local Christmas kindness this year!

## **Resurrected Bites Community Groceries**

*A weekly shop from as little as £3* <https://resurrectedbites.co.uk/>

The community groceries are run through a subscription scheme and are for people who are in financial hardship. It costs just a fraction of a normal supermarket shop and it saves thousands of tonnes of food from going to landfill every week. You can join for £5 then have access to a weekly shop for just a few pounds (a 4+ family can get their shop for £6). They run at New Park School and Gracious Street Methodist Church in Knaresborough twice weekly <https://resurrectedbites.co.uk/#groceries> They also run pay as you feel cafes in Harrogate at St Wilfrid's (Weds 10am-2pm), Killinghall Methodist Church (Thurs 10am-2pm) and at the Centre on Gracious Street in Knaresborough (Fri 10am-2pm) <https://resurrectedbites.co.uk/#cafes>

## **Foodbank – free emergency food parcels for those experiencing hardship**

If your school isn't a referrer to the Foodbank then Harrogate and District Community Action (HADCA) can arrange foodbank voucher for families – just call Jen on 01423 813090 or email [help@hadca.org.uk](mailto:help@hadca.org.uk) We would just need a few bits of info including name, contact details, ethnic group, number of people voucher is for including ages, dietary info, any specifics (e.g. cat food), reason for referral (e.g. benefits related, health).

## **NHS Healthy Start**

<https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Help for eligible families with the cost of fruit, vegetables, pulses, milk and infant formula.

## **Cost of Living support in North Yorkshire**

Check out HADCA's list of local support with the cost of living crisis <https://hadca.org.uk/CostOfLiving>

There is also information about emergency support with everyday living costs, benefits, Pension Credit, energy bills, food and managing debt at <http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/costofliving> The page also links to free adult learning courses and advice on staying safe and well.

Anyone struggling can also go into any North Yorkshire library or North Yorkshire Council office, or call North Yorkshire Council's customer service centre on 0300 131 2 131 Monday to Friday from 9:30am to 4:30pm asking for 'cost of living help' when prompted.

## **The Village**

[www.thevillageharrogate.co.uk](http://www.thevillageharrogate.co.uk)

Baby bank, children's clothing bank and uniform swap shop. Based at 282 Skipton Road, the next uniform shop is on Tuesday 7 January.

## **Free mental health helpline**

With Just B's Hear to Help service you can send a text message or email, or call to request support, and you'll receive a phone call from a trained specialist within one to five working hours (9am-5pm Monday-Friday). Whether you're feeling isolated, experiencing anxiety, of low mood, experiencing bereavement, or struggling with any aspect of your emotional wellbeing or mental health, this helpline can support you or signpost to specialist support. By phone (leaving a voicemail): 01423 856 799\*, by text (sending a text message): 01423 200118\*, by email: [helplines@justb.org.uk](mailto:helplines@justb.org.uk) \*Standard call/text charges apply

### **Free mental health self-help course**

[www.northyorks.gov.uk/healthy-living/mental-health/local-mental-health#:~:text=Try%20our%20free%20mental%20health,tips%20and%20self%2Dhelp%20solutions](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/healthy-living/mental-health/local-mental-health#:~:text=Try%20our%20free%20mental%20health,tips%20and%20self%2Dhelp%20solutions)

As part of the North Yorkshire Community Learning Partnership, this free online course covers various aspects of mental health. From helping your own wellbeing to supporting a friend, family member or colleague that may be struggling. It includes information on spotting the warning signs of stress, anxiety and depression and also tips and self-help solutions.

### **Where to go for support when you have an eating disorder**

<https://www.healthwatchnorthyorkshire.co.uk/advice-and-information/2024-11-27/where-go-support-when-you-have-eating-disorder>

Eating disorders are complex mental illnesses that anyone can develop, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or background. Healthwatch North Yorkshire have shared an article with some of the common signs of eating disorders and where to go for support if you need help.

### **Money Helper budget planner**

<https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/everyday-money/budgeting/budget-planner>

A free online tool to help keep track of your money, and suggest ways to improve your finances:

- a place to record all your spending so you won't forget anything
- a breakdown of your finances by category
- personalised tips to make the most of your money.

It takes about 5 to 10 minutes to complete.

### **Mamas Matter CIC**

<https://www.mamasmatter.co.uk/>

Mamas Matter is now based at Ripon Community House, but still serves the Harrogate area and is extending to include Knaresborough, Nidderdale and Boroughbridge.

### **Mamas Move**

An inclusive, small group, exercise class with post-natal-safe adaptations, weekly in term time in Harrogate and Ripon for mums at any stage of motherhood. Pre-crawling babes can attend with mum

### **Mama & Me**

A course of 5 mindfulness-based classes for mums and babies to enjoy together, taking place each half term in Ripon, and returning to Harrogate in early 2025. Suitable for babies from birth to approx. 9 months (pre-crawling)

### **Mama, You Matter**

A 5-week mindfulness course, designed for mums at any stage of motherhood relaunching online in early 2025

### **Mamas Meet-Ups**

A drop-in peer-led peer-support group, where mums can pop along with, or without, their babes and children for a supportive chat over a cuppa, monthly at Ripon Community House plus regular dates in Knaresborough, Boroughbridge and Nidderdale

There is a [Community Referral programme](#) for any mums you work with, who are in need, to access a place on a free, funded courses.

### **Be Bright, Be Seen, Be Safe**

With winter well and truly with us, increased care due to dark nights and mornings needs to be taken when cycling on North Yorkshire roads. Be Bright, Be Seen, Be Safe encourages awareness of the importance of children wearing cycle helmets, bright clothing and putting on their bike lights. [The Roadwise website](#) has additional information concerning all road users.



Corrine Penhale  
Headteacher