

News from KETTLEWELL SCHOOL – December 2011

Hello everyone and a Happy December to you all. This last half term we have been very busy yet again.

Firstly though, we would like to thank everyone who came to our special harvest assembly/concert at the church. We enjoyed performing and reciting our work on harvest songs and poetry and in particular enjoyed all of you that joined in our Harvest Rock! Thanks also for the donations to our harvest food as we were able to produce quite a number of food parcels to take around to our community. The pupils were excited about receiving thank you letters from some of you for their hard work and these were read out in assemblies and used as an example of how rewarding it can be to work hard and receive praise.

Now we are working hard to start planning our Christmas Service/ concert which is also going to be in the church on **Wednesday 14th December at 2.15 pm.** We so hope that many of you will be able to come along and join us and get into the festive spirit singing along with our songs and enjoying our take on the Christmas spirit.

As I write to you, I am able to observe the pupils working on some fabulous large crocodiles and a magnificent backdrop for an Art display. A small group of 7/8 yr olds are talking about fertilizer poo (!) and two boys are tidying the library area because they've decided it's not good to be disorganised and messy!! I can't help but feel how privileged we are to work amongst such bright young children who are developing into young adults that show a caring and responsible attitude towards others.

Our collaboration work with Upper Wharfedale School has been phenomenal and we now have specialist staff that come up to Kettlewell to share their expertise from their subject with our pupils. The positive impact on the work covered by the children is amazing to see and has helped our children to make excellent progress in their learning. The initiative has also impacted on the staff involved; with teachers learning from one another and improving skills within their own professional development.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. I hope some of you are able to come on the 14th December to our service and as always we would love to welcome you into our school so please feel free to visit us.

Lesley Taylor Headteacher