

Need Day and the children raised £115 for this worthy cause.

On Children in Need day we raised £115. We brought teddy bears to school and we didn't wear school clothes. We wrote about a bear hunt and we put our teddies in the igloo.

By Joseph

On Friday the 14th November 'The Milton Keynes Art Society' held an exhibition at the village hall. All the children were able to take part in a competition and the Art Society presented the winners with certificates and prizes.

Christmas:

With December just around the corner we have begun rehearsals for our Christmas nativity 'The Gigantic Star'. Performances are in the church on Tuesday 9th December at 2pm and Wednesday 10th December at 6.30pm and the dress rehearsal is on Monday 8th December at 11 am. Please come along if you are able.

Julie Baldwin

Interim Headteacher

News from FOCS

Firstly I would like to say a very BIG thank you to everyone who supported our recent fundraising ventures.

The School Fete was a resounding success, raising just over **£2000!!!** I hope that everyone who came enjoyed the afternoon as much as they appeared to.

Bags2School has yet again been well supported by one and all, we raised a total of **£272.72**, so those who emptied out the old stuff..... It was well worth it. Please do keep collecting as we will be repeating the collection in May, a date for which has yet to be arranged.

Our Spooky Disco for the children was a very scary affair, with a lot of effort put into the costumes, as well as the hall decorations.

With Christmas just around the corner we will be holding

our annual raffle, the tickets for which will soon be available.

We will soon be planning our future ventures so watch this space... flyers... notice boards...etc.

I look forward to your continuing support to help give Castlethorpe school children that little bit extra.

Thank you again.

A Happy Christmas to you all from FOCS.

Jackie Cheshire
Chair of FOCS

From the Chair...

Another term draws to a close but there's no rest at school. As the staff and children continue with their preparations for the Christmas festivities and the nativity play, governors are busily working in the background, offering whatever support and encouragement they can.

This term governors have looked at various aspects of school life, including sections

of the school's self evaluation report, which is the document Ofsted would look at first – detailing what we think our strengths are, the evidence that backs up those beliefs and where we see further work is required. That feeds into the School Development Plan, which shows what work we are planning on doing both in the short term and longer. We've also looked at the School Profile and various policies that needed updating.

At our recent Curriculum sub-committee, we were delighted to see the results of everyone's hard work when we reviewed the Foundation Stage Profile data and the SAT's results. Castlethorpe children consistently perform better than MK averages and the national average, and their achievements are yet again to be applauded. School isn't just about results, but it is very encouraging to see that all our children progress so well during their time with us. Congratulations to all involved.

Our governing body has changed slightly this term.

Annell Mollett has been an Associate Governor since last June, and she has now been appointed as the LA representative following Dave Barker's resignation.

We were also pleased to welcome Christine Ayles to the governing body this term. Chris has experience as a governor at other schools in the past but has also been a valuable volunteer in school for a long time now. Chris joins us as an Associate Governor and has already been busy helping our head teacher, Julie Baldwin, looking at our school development plan.

If you are interested in becoming a school governor or helping in any other way, please contact either myself, Marian Christie at school, or Milton Keynes Council.

Wishing you all a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year,

Catharine Turner
Chair of Governors

Registering your child

If you want to register your child with the school, please contact the school secretary, Mrs Christie, as soon as possible. You don't have to wait until your child is four to let us know about them - in fact, the earlier the better. Give the school a ring today on **510342** or email: **CastlethorpeF@Milton-keynes.gov.uk**

Issue 35 Autumn Term 2008