



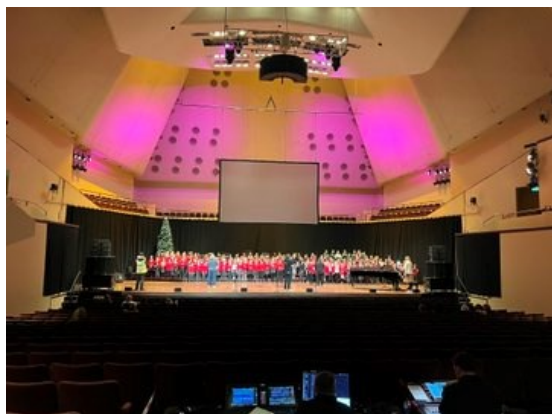
Merry Christmas from everyone at John Blow Primary School!

December 2023

Thank you for your support and engagement in 2023, I look forward to welcoming all the children back in January to commence the learning from our Spring Term units of work. Below is a snapshot of some of the wonderful events that took place at the end of the Autumn Term. We have lots of reasons to celebrate and be proud of being part of #TeamJohnBlow.

Merry Christmas everyone!

Mr Ben Carver



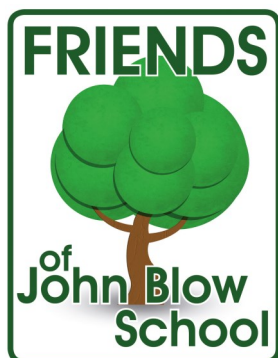
Our after school club choir performed in their first concert alongside Our Dementia Choir on Monday 18th December at the YMCA in Newark—they sang brilliantly! A section of the choir also sang at South Collingham Hall on Wednesday 20th December—spreading the joy of Christmas!

Well done and thank you to the 48 children from KS2 who represented the school at An Inspired Christmas Concert—it was a wonderful event with an opportunity to perform on stage at The Royal Concert Hall in Nottingham.

We had a hugely successful Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day on Wednesday 20th December—all children enjoyed eating in the hall together with Christmas music, crackers and jokes a-plenty. Thank you to the kitchen team for a great meal!



Everyone at John Blow would like to wish Mrs Skaith all the best as she retires after 28 years service at the school. Her knowledge, wisdom and positivity will be missed by the staff, children and parents—Mr Newberry is already trying to convince her to return as a volunteer reader in January (unsuccessfully!) - Happy retirement Mrs Skaith!



A massive thank you to the Friends of John Blow School Committee who have hosted some fantastic fundraising events over the Autumn Term. With the increasing costs of trips and events, the donation to subsidise trips and events in school has played a key role in delivering our curriculum.

The events that have been put on this term were:

- ⇒ 2 x discos (with an amazing new DJ!)
- ⇒ Refreshment selling at the EYFS and KS1 Nativity
- ⇒ A Christmas Movie morning
- ⇒ Bacon Babs and Bubl 

A great term of fundraising—a FOJB Newsletter will be published soon which will outline the amount raised- please see the Friends' Facebook Page for a summary of how the funds have been allocated! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Messages from The John Blow Primary School's Governors

What an amazing term this has been. You could have not blamed the staff if they had relaxed a little following the intense build up to the very positive Ofsted inspection last summer but instead they have embraced and maintained the momentum for continuous school improvement showing their enthusiasm and dedication to providing the very best education for your children. We are very lucky to have such a great team.

Whenever I pop into school it is lovely to see children visiting Mr Carver, feeling proud when they share their good work and to see them happily engaging in their work in classrooms all around school. This has also been echoed by other governors during their visits and from parental feedback too. It feels opportune therefore to take this opportunity to thank Mr Carver and all the school team for all their hard work, yourselves for all your support and to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Best Wishes

Susan Laplanche

It was heartening to see how pupils were supported both outside and inside at breaktime.

I have really enjoyed my visits to school this term. The highlights were seeing the year 4 class toot lesson, where all the class were learning to read music, and the exciting football match v Sutton. It's brilliant to see the children being offered a range of different experiences to enrich their school life.

Paul N

I had a super visit on 21st November – as usual I was really impressed by how willing pupils were to talk with me, and to explain what they were doing and why. A really level of engagement, all pupils were able to give really good explanations, and were happy to do so. It didn't feel awkward or difficult to engage with them.

Mary H

Start of the school day arrangements Spring Term

To ensure the safety of all children at the start of the day, starting on the 4th of January, children will need to be dropped off at the gate near the KS1 playground. Now that the children are settled into their routines at the start of the day, it is important that we enable them to develop independence in coming into school. Mrs Bingham, Miss Ball and Mr Newberry will be on a rota on the school gate; if you need to speak to them, they will be available on the same day each week. Please remember that an email to the school office is the best way of sharing messages and information with your child's class teacher. If you need to speak to a member of the team before the start of a day, please come to the school office at 8.30am so that the staff can be ready to receive the children once the gates open. Thank you for working with us to keep everyone safe.



Check out our amazing KS2 data outcomes and report from May 2023—the children (and staff) worked incredibly hard and there are many things to celebrate from these outcomes!

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/122631/john-blow-primary-school/primary>

We have moved over to IGS from Essex County Council as our Data Protection Office to ensure GDPR compliance—our school website has been updated to outline the changes: <https://www.johnblowprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=GDPR+%40+John+Blow+Primary+School&pid=141>



Meal price increase

As outlined in the letter sent to KS2 parents on Friday 8th December, the increase in prices for school lunches will come into effect on January 4th 2024. The school has covered the cost of this increase for December 2023 (they came into effect on 4th December) due to the short notice provided by Nottinghamshire County Council on the increases. As of 4th December 2023, meal prices for paid meals have increased to £2.95—this will be payable on the School Money app when ordering meals for the Spring Term.



Don't forget to follow us on X to celebrate and share what the children have been up to in school - JBPS_Notts

Our Twitter account is now private so if you are no longer seeing our posts, you will need to request access!

Thursday 4th January 2024—Start of Spring Term

Thursday 4th January - Assembly – New Year, New You? – Mr Carver

Tuesday 9th January - Parent open afternoon – 1.30pm – 3.30pm – pop in and spend time with your child in class!

Wednesday 10th January—Assembly – Lunar New Year—Mr Barnard

Monday 15th January—FOJBPS Committee meeting – Zoom Call – 6pm

Wednesday 17th January—New Age Kurling – Y1 – (School Hall)

Monday 29th January—Friday 2nd February 2024—National Story Telling Week

Tuesday 30th January—Book swap reading café – 8.30am

Wednesday 31st January - Y5 out – Nottingham Panthers (more information and payment link will be sent out in January)

Monday 5th February - Start of Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 6th February – **SAFER INTERNET DAY**

Tuesday 6th February—FOJBPS School Disco (3.30pm – EYFS and KS1 / 4.45pm – KS2)

Friday 9th February - Merit assembly – 9am

