



# LING MOOR

## A PRIORY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER December 2021



period and into the New Year, all of the Ling Moor team would like to wish you the happiest and most joyous Christmas. Family is at the heart of Ling Moor and we hope that everyone can have the loveliest of times with their family over the next few weeks. Merry Christmas from the whole of our Ling Moor Family!

Courage (one of our Trust values) has been in abundance this month with the children demonstrating real courage in their learning and actions. One of the most courageous things to do for any young child is to take that first step onto the stage – we were delighted how brave our Year 1 and Year 2 children were for their Christmas play.

The Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas play was the highlight of this month. It certainly has been a very challenging process this year – it's never easy to put on such an event – with the challenges of coughs, colds and covid making it even trickier. The children all acted, danced, narrated and sang beautifully. They really are a talented bunch!

Our Foundation Stage children had a fabulous theatre experience thanks to North Kesteven Academy. The children enjoyed their film experience immensely. We were so proud of them on their first visit their behaviour, maturity and listening being wonderful.

Year 3 took part in a great visit to Flag Fen to learn about all things Stone

Age. It was great to see them all experiencing history first hand – a great way to deepen knowledge.

Being brave has also been a theme of our Year 6 swimming programme. This is an opportunity for those children who have not been able to learn to swim to have catch up sessions so they are safe in water. At the beginning of this year, just 50% of the children in Year 6 could confidently swim 25m. We are now at a figure close to 90%. After Christmas, we are moving to our Year 5 children. Please do make sure your child is accessing swimming lessons if possible – getting them safe in the water is a key life skill.

Generosity is another of our Trust values and this has been in abundance during the Autumn term. Our Ling Moor Family is really incredibly thoughtful to those in need. We have continued our work in supporting St Barnabas with the non-uniform day raising a sensational £565.98 and Rudy's Run raising a phenomenal £1000. This money really does make a difference to people in our community.

Generosity also extended to this year's Poppy Appeal with £241 raised for another worthy cause. The connection that our older children have with Remembrance (through

their History learning) is so important.

The generosity continued thanks to the work of our wonderful and regenerated Friends of Ling Moor group. They really are fab with their work to provide Christmas presents for every child, providing the balloon arch for Santa and raising much needed funds through the Christmas raffle. The raffle raised a whopping £1558.77. The funds raised this year are going to be used to improve the hall audio systems so that every child benefits when we are singing, dancing and performing.

## Covid

Throughout December, the Academy has continued to face significant covid related challenges with at least one member of staff isolating since the half term break. This has had a significant impact on the capacity in the school and our ability to function 'normally'. The fact that the staff team have been able to provide such strong learning alongside so many positive experiences is testament to the hard work and commitment of all of the staff. Thank you to them for being the best of the best.

As we head into the Christmas break, there is still a lot of uncertainty about the impact of the Omicron variant. At the moment, the Academy is planning for a return to normal in the

New Year. As we have done throughout the pandemic, we have been guided by the latest guidance from the Department for Education and will continue to do so. Should there be any changes to guidance over the festive period, we will communicate this via email. As always, the safety of our Ling Moor Family comes first.

### Christmas opening

The school will be closed on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December until Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December when the staff will return for an INSET day. The children return to school on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January. Between these dates, the office will be closed. If you need to share any covid isolation news, please email our [lingmoorenquiries@prioryacademys.co.uk](mailto:lingmoorenquiries@prioryacademys.co.uk) address.

### Parking and driving around the Academy

We continue to have issues of parking and careless driving reported to us around the Academy site. Thank you to the many of you who are being thoughtful and considerate to our neighbours and who are keeping our children safe. If you do have concerns about parking or driving, I would urge you to report this to our local policing team who continue to monitor things.

