



Centre Academy East Anglia Newsletter



Christmas 2014

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from Centre Academy East Anglia*

Dear Parents,

As you will recall, we noted in our last edition of the "Week Ahead" that "Perhaps the best way to convey the essence of Christmas is through something that a child wrote." The child was Virginia O'Hanlon, and she lived in New York over 100 years ago. She was puzzled about the existence of Santa Claus, and she wrote a letter to the editor of *The New York Sun*, a leading newspaper. She wrote the following: "I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says 'If you see it in *The Sun*, it's so.' Please tell me the truth: is there a Santa Claus?"

Francis P. Church's response, "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus", went on to become not only one of the most famous editorials of the age but of any age. We shared it with our parent community on Friday during our Carol Service. We print it here as our Christmas Message to all of CAEA.

* * * *

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the scepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is that all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! He lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at Centre Academy East Anglia.

Best wishes,

Mrs Kim Salthouse
Head of School

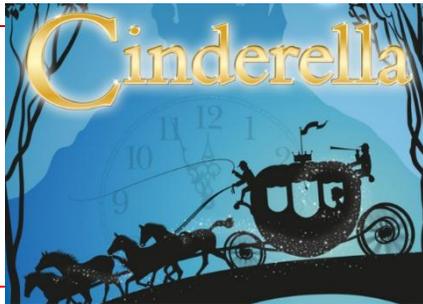
Dr Duncan Rollo
Principal, The Centre Academy Schools



Operation Christmas Child

Thank you once again to everybody who donated a shoebox to this very worthwhile charity. Every box will be much appreciated this Christmas by young people from poor countries in Europe and Africa. Nearly 27 shoeboxes were collected from our school on Wednesday 19th November and taken to a local collection centre before being transported to their final destination wherever it may be! I donated on line for my shoebox and requested to find out the country it was taken to. I eagerly wait to find out where it went.

Mrs Shaul



Pantomime – Cinderella – Tuesday 2nd December

On December the 2nd Sunshine, J3 and J2, along with helper Karis Smith, attended a sparkling performance of 'Cinderella'.

This energetic performance was thoroughly enjoyable. We were lucky enough to have two students, Jasmine Basu and Isobel Graham, invited on stage to join in with the festive fun. Filled with catchy songs, silly jokes and a sprinkling of magic, the performance was enjoyed by all. We look forward to next year!

The Christmas Variety Show Friday 5th December and Carol Concert – Friday 12th December

Friday the 5th December marked Centre Academy East Anglia's first 'Christmas Variety Show'.

Students from across the school performed a range of different pieces. From a Nativity News broadcast, to 'Christmas Around The World' and Sunshine's 'Snowman Song', there was something for everyone to enjoy. I would like to make a special note to say how proud I am of J2, whose performance was entirely their own creation.

Friday the 12th December was the Christmas Carol Concert. Junior Choir sung their hearts out and filled the church with song. It was no surprise that the Frozen smash, 'Let it Go' was a hit, and many of the congregation could be heard singing along too.

Thank you again for your support of the performing arts at Centre Academy East Anglia, and have a wonderful Christmas!

Miss Wiltz and Miss Talman



Mock Exams

In the second week after the Christmas break (12 - 16 January), our GCSE Seniors will be having their 'Mock Exam Week'. Students will be off timetable and sitting two mock exams a day in preparation for the actual exams in the summer.

Students will be expected to spend time revising over the Christmas break (there is still time to get some revision guides to put in their stockings!). Past exams papers can be found on different exam board websites if they would like some extra practice.

Mr Steward



*Ipswich Transport Museum – Friday 21st
November 2014*

On Friday November 21st J1, J2 and J3 with Mrs Shaul, Mr Benson, Mrs Whall and Miss Max travelled by school minibuses to Ipswich to the wonderful Ipswich Transport Museum.

The trip was to consolidate the work the 3 classes had done in history this term on transport through the ages.

The museum is closed to the general public throughout the winter months and opened up especially for the day for us to visit.

The exhibits were varied and included trams, trolleybuses, fire engines, bicycles, ambulance and police cars as well as prams, hearses and lawn mowers!!

We all had a fabulous day which was rounded off by a visit to a local park for a well earned play on the swings and play equipment.

Mrs Shaul



Bradfield Woods – Friday 28th November 2014

On Friday 28th November Mrs Shaul and Mrs Jeffs took J1 and S2 to Bradfield Woods for a long walk. It was a warm day but underfoot was very muddy and wet. We wore sensible footwear and clothing, although many of us had to take our coats off during the walk. We stuck to all the footpaths and followed the red route through the woods.

All the students were brilliant and we were very proud of them for their fabulous behaviour and stamina!!

Mrs Shaul & Mrs Jeffs





Please be aware that boarding staff are officially on duty on a Sunday evening at 7.00 pm. Please could any communication regarding trains or general boarding questions be made during the week and not during the weekend. Sending texts to either confirm or decline train pick up is appreciated. However, texts and phone calls which require decision-making should be made during the school week. Please also be aware that if your child requires collection from the station on a Sunday night, this should be arranged previously with Miss Graham/Mr Benson, as there are limited seats. The Sunday train collection is between 7.00 and 7.30 pm in order for the care staff to be back at school for the other students arriving.

Mr Benson - Coach House:
01449 738922/07847 719 073

Miss Graham - Main House:
01449 736404/07454 686 876

Please could all medical appointments/absences be reported before 9.00 am to the School Office. Please contact the school each day your child is absent; contact by email is fine.

If the illness is more than 5 school days we require a Doctor's Certificate.

Start of the school day

Please remember that students are not to be dropped off at the school **before 8.00 am**. Prior to that staff are not in their places and we cannot therefore ensure the students security.

UNIFORM

Please remember that all uniforms and casual clothes must have the student's name in, as we do collect a significant amount of lost property.

Parents of Boarders

All boarding students **must** have a dressing gown and slippers (or flip flops) at school.

Aside from the obvious benefits of such apparel, the children require such protection when, for example, we have night-time fire drills, which by law we must have each term.

Warm Clothing

Now the weather has changed please could all students have winter clothing; wellies, coats, hats and gloves.

Thank you.

MUSIC LESSONS

We are pleased to let you all know that we have two new music teachers: Paul Burke who plays Guitar and Will Jarmin who plays the Drums.

They will be offering one-to-one sessions at CAEA with any learner who would like to participate.

Please contact the teacher directly if you would like to book a lesson or would like more details.

Mr Burke - 07513 545 154

Mr Jarmin - 07758 673 444

Miss Talman, the school Music teacher, is still offering piano and singing lessons on a Wednesday and Thursday.

Miss Talman - 07929 045 806

mtalman@centreacademy.net

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term Ends:

Friday 12th December 2014; School Finishes - 3.00 pm

SPRING TERM

Monday 5th January 2015; Teachers Inset Day

Monday 5th January 2015; Boarders Retrun - 7.00pm

Tuesday 6th January 2015; Term Commences

Monday 9th February 2015; Coffee Morning 8.30 am

Half Term:

Friday 13th February - Sunday 22nd February 2015



Merry Christmas!



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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.centreacademy.net