

Wychwood C.E. Primary School

One of the joys of working in a primary school is enjoying the buzz of the build-up to Christmas. Trees go up on 1st December and rehearsals for concerts begin in the hall. This year's performances



began with our youngest children in foundation stage performing their nativity play. The volume, clarity and acting skills of the young performers gave the performances the 'Aah' factor. It was unfortunate that the rain prevented the nativity being performed in church, but the children's enthusiasm was not dampened at all by the change in venue.

'Hey Ewe'

This was followed by *The Magical Christmas Jigsaw* performed by children in Years 3 to 6. The children dazzled and sparkled in their stunning costumes. They delivered their lines perfectly and the singing was outstanding. Special mention went to the musicians, a talented bunch who added an extra dimension to the production. *Hey Ewe* was performed by children in Years 1 and 2. It was an excellent re-telling of the Nativity story with a focus, as the title would suggest, on the sheep. The children all looked splendid in their costumes and performed brilliantly, especially the 'groovy' dance moves that were included in some of the songs. Our thanks go to all the staff who worked on these productions. We ended term with our Christmas Carol Concert. It was, as usual, a tight squeeze but we

managed to fit everyone in! The choir sang two songs, Y5 children gave bible readings and offered prayers and some of the children played festive pieces on their musical instruments.

Bridey Shepherd sang a beautiful solo first verse of *Away in a Manger*. The congregation, made up of the school and parents, were in good voice as they sang a range of traditional carols. Thanks go to Mrs Bardsley and Rev'd Kate Stacey for organising the event and to Mr West (father of Reuben Y2 and Isaac F1) for accompanying us on the piano and the organ.

Headteacher's Afternoon Tea

The first celebratory afternoon tea for the children who had achieved a head teacher's certificate took place at the end of term (see photograph). Those with awards were: Daisy Light and Bethan Jones - for setting up and running the pupil magazine, 'Mag', Olivia Moreton - for speaking to a distressed Polish child in his native tongue and successfully calming him down. Camilla McCormack - for having an article published in *The Wychwood* and Emogene Neeve - for consistent kindness and helpfulness to her class teacher and other children in her class.

It was a lovely afternoon and we were well and truly spoiled by parent Mrs Haworth of Serendipity Baking, with her donation of cakes for the occasion.

Julie Hemming