**Mill Lane Community Primary School &**

**Windmill Community Nursery**

**Festive Fun at Mill Lane Community Primary School**

As you can imagine, Christmas celebrations start early in all schools and since the start of December Mill Lane has been getting into the festive spirit. It all started when the children from our choirs sang at the Village Centre Victorian Christmas Fayre and ended with our families joining us for an end of term sing-a-long at our final assembly. At the Victorian Christmas Fayre we sang a range of traditional Christmas carols, Christmas pop songs and fun modern songs. I was very proud of the how well the children sang; they filled the room with their enthusiastic and beautiful singing.

Throughout December, the children have been rehearsing for their performances. The Reception class performed a traditional nativity with several children singing solos at the end; they definitely had angelic voices. Our Key Stage 1 were brilliant in their ‘Strictly come Nativity’ and the audience had no hesitation in giving them a 10! Our Year 3 children performed alongside children from schools across the Thame Partnership at the Thame Festival of Christmas music in what was a beautiful concert. Our Year 6 Art Club joined in with St. Andrew’s Church ‘World of Christmas Trees’ festival by decorating a tree and then our choirs sang carols from around the world. Finally, our Key Stage 2 children entertained us with the annual Christmas Variety show. There was a mix of acting, singing and performances on a range of instruments all linked together by a steady stream of jokes. Forget Britain’s Got Talent; Mill Lane definitely has talented and confident children.

Our Christmas celebrations were rounded off by the traditional, annual visit to the pantomime. This year we went to see Snow White and the 7 dwarves at Aylesbury’s Waterside theatre. The children love their yearly visit to the pantomime and we are very grateful to the Mill Lane Parent Association who funds this event.

It just leaves me to wish everyone a happy Christmas and an enjoyable new year.

**Tineke van der Ploeg**

**Headteacher**

**The Windmill Community Nursery**

This term, Windmill Nursery have been busy exploring space!

We made our home area into our very own space station with moon rocks, jet packs, control panel and astronaut dressing up. A very tall box was transformed into a rocket and was a perfect place for our astronauts to go with their torches to share adventures and space stories. We also tried some walking on the moon - but it was rather tricky doing things slowly!

We found out lots about planet Earth and for the ‘World of Christmas Trees’ Festival, we made animals and necklaces for our ‘Africa’ decorations. The children are looking forward to visiting the Church to find our tree and to see the amazing decorations.

We are now getting ready for Christmas, which is a lovely time at Nursery. The children have decorated the classroom and made a card and gift to take home. We are looking forward to performing our First Nativity but can’t wait for afterwards, as it is time for our Christmas party with Mr. Crackers, our entertainer and of course a special visit from Father Christmas.

Merry Christmas everyone and have a restful New Year!

**Mandy Payne**

**Nursery Teacher**