



# Mill Water School

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11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

## Christmas crafting, baking, decorating and elf hunting!



Beautiful pine trees have been donated to Mill Water by local businesses. Our Christmas tree in the hall - now decorated by pupils' individually hand-crafted baubles - was kindly donated by Kings Garden Centre. Carpet King donated the tree that adorns our reception area, festively decorated by Dee.



Class 9 enjoyed a day of crafting and baking, creating these wonderful Christmas card designs and these yummy cupcakes. And the whole school got behind Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children (as modelled here by Classes 9 and 10).



Sadly Class 9's elf, Jingles, was kidnapped overnight on Thursday and then held to ransom! The demand: 10 chocolate bars unless pupils could solve 10 clues in order to get him back unharmed. The children did some amazing clue-solving around school and worked out the clues. They finally found Jingles safely tucked under the tinsel on a Christmas tree. He is very grateful to the children and happy to be home!



And 6<sup>th</sup> Form have their very own Christmas tree which students have decorated. Earls Coffee House in Budleigh Salterton responded to an appeal for a tree by 6<sup>th</sup> Form, kindly donating the lights as well as this lovely tree.



## Christmas raffle 2020

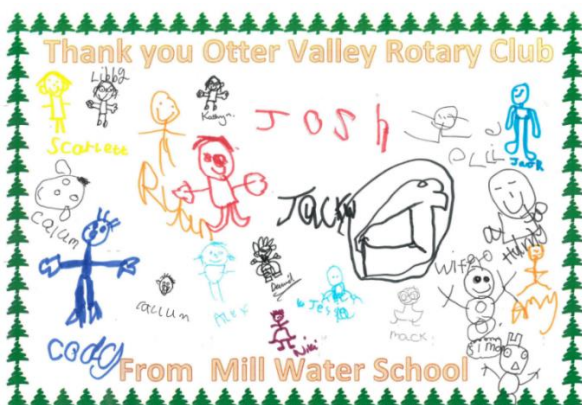


Thank you for supporting our Mill Water Christmas raffle. There is still time to get tickets for a chance to win some amazing prizes! We have wonderful hampers up for grabs containing some fantastic vouchers, plus loads of seasonal goodies and pamper products. There's a chance to win vouchers for:

*Bicton Botanical Gardens, Escot, Budleigh Riding School, Waitrose, Eden Project, Pynes Farm Shop, Porky Down Butchers, Seaton Tramway, Woodlands, Exeter Trampoline Academy and Chelsea Beauty Salon, plus the chance to have a delicious special occasion cake made exclusively for you!*

Tickets are £1 for a strip of 5. You can **pay by cash or cheques** made out to Devon County Council (which we will then receive from DCC), or parents can use the **Schoolcomms system** by logging in as normal, selecting 'Christmas Raffle 2020' and then selecting how many strips of tickets you wish to purchase. We shall then ensure your tickets are named, let you know the numbers and then inform you if you've won! If you need support using the Schoolcomms payment, contact Laura in the school office via [lbowden@millwater.devon.sch.uk](mailto:lbowden@millwater.devon.sch.uk) The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds will go directly towards enhancing our pupils' experiences; providing resources and equipment to support classroom and outdoor learning activities.

## Seasonal thanks to our community supporters



We have a very long list of local community organisations and businesses to thank for their unflinching support for Mill Water. Of particular note at this time of year is the Otter Valley Rotary Club which always ensures there is plenty of extra festive cheer for pupils every year. They may not be able to stage their annual Santa's grotto this year, but they have pulled out the stops to ensure there will still be plenty of ho, ho, ho and festive surprises as we count down to the end of term!

## Raise funds of Mill Water while you shop online

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

**easyfundraising**  
feel good shopping

Don't forget that a donation can be made to Mill Water every time you purchase something through AmazonSmile and Easyfundraising, at no extra cost to yourself! Simply go to [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk) and/or [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk), follow the instructions and select 'The Friends of Mill Water School' as your chosen charity. Then shop away while helping to raise money that will enhance our pupils' education. Thank you Mill Water PTFA for setting this up.

## Acts of kindness tree



In the Christmas spirit of giving and generosity, Mill Water is using this lovely tree to celebrate special acts of kindness. It is displayed in the hall and includes loads of special mentions. Giving someone a smile, helping a friend put their coat on and tidying the classroom all get praise using these colourful baubles.

## FIRST LEGO League Discover packs donated by the IET



Pupils will have the opportunity to further extend their design and engineering skills, thanks to a generous donation of £1,140 worth of FIRST LEGO League Discover classroom resource packs, donated by the Institute of Engineering and Technology. Christmas came early when these huge boxes of kit arrived this week. We shall look forward to delivering the IET's innovative lesson plans next term.

## Communicating with school about Covid test results

Please can you use the [covid19@millwater.devon.sch.uk](mailto:covid19@millwater.devon.sch.uk) email address to inform us of any positive test results during the holidays. I will be monitoring this daily for 6 days after Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020, and regularly throughout the holiday (although beyond Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 there will be no need for school to contact everyone regarding the need to self-isolate).

<b>Dates for your diary</b>		
<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Christmas lunch & Christmas raffle draw	Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> December	
Meet Santa (virtually) / Christmas party in bubbles	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	
Last day of term	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	