

**NEWS FROM MARCHAM SCHOOL**

**PTA Christmas Bazaar**

On Saturday, December 8, parents, grandparents, children and villagers packed in from the crisp December air to the warm tune of the Marcham Singers to attend the Marcham School Christmas bazaar, held to raise funds for the school's Parents and Teachers Association (PTA).

They were met with a varied display of activities and games and a delight of cakes, cards, gifts, books and sweets that adorned the tabletops of the school hall and the adjoining classrooms. The adults were entertained with tombola, bingo, guessing games and the prize draw while they enjoyed mince pies and mulled wine.

The festive atmosphere saw children choose from a variety of activities including face painting, Dirtball Denis, ring throwing, test tube making and biscuit decorating, but the star of the show was Father Christmas, who turned up to visit the children in his beautiful grotto, while others queued outside with bright-eyed anticipation.

All left the school full of Christmas cheer and the PTA managed to raise a record £1500. Many thanks to those who attended and donated so generously, to all our sponsors who donated gifts and prizes and to Jackie Ward and the PTA team for all their hard work and making it such an enjoyable event.

**The Bossy Christmas Fairy**



On the afternoon of Wednesday 12 December Christmas officially started with the performance of 'The Bossy Christmas Fairy', which was performed by the children in Duffield and Anson classes. The story told and sung so enthusiastically by the children, followed the exploits of the bossy fairy who always wanted to be in control as she dictated which decorations were to adorn the Christmas tree. The delightful tale ended with the unveiling of the nativity and the true meaning of Christmas. Thanks to the staff and children for putting on a great show.

*ANNEMARIE MC GRATH*

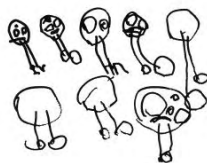
**PRE-SCHOOL NEWS**

This has been a very exciting term full of Christmas preparations, crafts and stories! The children have been looking forward to our Nativity Play and Christmas Party and, of course, that very special visitor!

The staff and children at Marcham Pre-school would like to wish all the readers of Marcham and District News a very Happy New Year!!

Please telephone 07749 245313 for a prospectus or more information.

Marcham Pre-School Playgroup



**WHAT WILL YOUR NEW YEARS RESOLUTION BE?**

Trying to get a bit fitter and meet new friends? How about joining in on a Health Walk in Abingdon. Health Walks Can

- Improve muscle and bone strength
- Help lower blood pressure
- Strengthen heart and lungs
- Help with weight loss
- Reduce stress and
- Make you feel good.

Every Wednesday at 10.30, volunteer leaders will meet you at the Abingdon Tennis & Leisure Centre in Audlett Drive and the walks, which are along local paths and tracks, lasts about an hour. On your return to the leisure centre you may like to purchase a cup of tea or coffee and stop for a chat in the cafeteria. No specialist equipment is required for the walk, just wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

If you need more information please contact Viv Boorman 01235 554751 Liz Barratt 01865 391251 **These health walks are Fun Friendly and they are Free.**

**MARCHAM PLAYERS**

On a windy rainy Thursday night in early December, twenty-two people braved the weather to enjoy a "With Great Pleasure" evening of readings with a Christmas theme in the Board Room at Manor Farm.



A wide variety of poetry and prose was read by Marcham Players members and friends — excerpts from A.A.Milne, Dylan Thomas, Charles Causley, Keith Waterhouse and Woodrow Wyatt, among others. The star was Donald Creasy and his rendition of Stanley Holloway's story of Sam Small and his mother's Christmas pudding and its part in the downfall of Badajoz during the Peninsular War! The readers and audience were warmed and cheered with mulled wine and mince pies and left at the end of the evening imbued with the Christmas spirit.

Date for your diary: The Marcham Players AGM will be held in the church at 7.30 pm on Friday 8th February 2008.

**Many thanks and a very Happy New Year!**

*JOEY MACLEAN*, Secretary

[www.marchamplayers.co.uk](http://www.marchamplayers.co.uk)

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**GREEN BIRTHDAY PARTIES**

Celebrate a birthday at the beautiful Wittenham Clumps. The Northmoor Trust offers unique outdoor experiences for children of all ages! From building shelters and tracking animals to becoming wizards or pirates the Clumps are a great place for birthday adventures at all times of year. We offer a wide range of themed parties suitable for boys and girls in the great outdoors.

Price: £7.50 per child with a minimum cost of £75 Maximum number of 15 children Parties run for 2 hours Please contact Jane Millin for bookings on 01865 409405 or email [jane.millin@northmoortrust.co.uk](mailto:jane.millin@northmoortrust.co.uk)

Information Pages are for YOU to use – write to the editor by 20th month latest