



## Christmas Spirit Fills the School!

This issue, the Co-Curricular News takes a look at some of the Christmas events which have been taking place over the last few weeks. From all the CCN team, have a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

### Christmas Concert Hits the Right Note!

Patrick Cartidge (F2)

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of December, in the City Square, the Wind Ensemble was playing festive songs to welcome those who had come to see the annual High School of Dundee Christmas Concert. The Caird Hall was packed with parents and friends eagerly awaiting to hear the pupils perform. The concert began with Dr. Halliday promising that the evening would bring out the Christmas spirit in everybody. While the

evening was full of highlights some of the most memorable were Calum Archibald (F1) singing "Walking in the Air" accompanied by the Senior String Ensemble. Observant members of the audience might have noticed Dr. Halliday entering stage left to join the Senior String Ensemble on the Viola. There were wonderful performances from the school choirs and seasonal readings from pupils. The Symphony Orchestra and

the Senior Wind Ensemble lead the audience in singing a variety of favourite Christmas carols.

The pupils made sure that the Rector's promise came true by ending the concert with 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas'. A great evening was had by all who attended and the proceeds from the concert were donated to benefit Sense Scotland and Music in Hospitals, Scotland.

See page 2 for pictures.



Early December saw heavy snowfall in the Dundee area, with the school playground having unusually deep snow cover. This resulted in the creation of the two new school celebrities pictured!

## Christmas Concert Photos



**The L4-5 Choir in action, ably led by Mrs Scott-Brown.**



**The String Ensemble playing, joined by Dr Halliday!**



**This Christmas, the House Captains and Vice-Captains have raising money in school to buy Present Aid gifts for people in developing countries. Thanks to the generosity of pupils and staff, the staggering sum of £556.10 was raised to buy everything from ducks to baby buffalo for poverty stricken families all over the world. Pictured are some of the House Officials involved in the fundraising. To everyone who donated to this fantastic cause, thank you!**

## **Junior Chess Club Continues to Thrive!**

**Lewis Thomas (L7)**

The chess club has resumed play for the session. DHS' own chess Queen Mrs Powrie enters her seventh year teaching the club! This year there is a whole range of abilities ranging from the beginners in L4 to the seasoned campaigners of L7 including, in L7, last year's chess champion Qing Qing Zhu. As in previous years the club has a huge waiting list which is testament to how much pupils enjoy this hugely popular club. During a session there are normally 30, or even more, players. Already this year, 10 novices have learnt to play chess and, in keeping with the spirit of change in the school, this is the first year that internet sites and interactive tutors have been utilised. With good players, good games and computers on offer this is a fantastic way to spend a lunchtime. So why not try something new or rediscover your Rooks and come along to the chess club?

## **Senior Christmas Dances Raise the Roof!**

**Barbara Braid (F1)**

From Friday the 12th to Thursday the 18th of December, the F1 to F6 High School of Dundee Christmas Dances were held in Bonar Hall at the University of Dundee. They were voted a huge success by all who attended especially new pupils. The music provided by the live band for the Scottish Country Dancing was brilliant, as was the music for the disco! All the hard work that was put in contributed to the great success of the dance, so thank you to Mrs Hudson and all the other staff that helped to organize it all!

## **“Beauty and the Beast” Gets Top Marks**

**Freddie Kempton (L7)**

On the 16th of December, the whole of the Junior School went to the Dundee Rep Theatre and saw “Beauty and the Beast”. For those who do not know the storyline, a man has three daughters who all get presents, but the youngest doesn't want much and gets a rose from the Beast's garden. Beast wants her to work for him and she does. She gives him a kiss, he turns into a Prince and they all live happily ever after. We interviewed Mrs McIntosh of the Junior School, who said: “Everyone had great

fun– the Beast was scary!”

The show “Beauty and the Beast” also has quite good reviews. Alongside the opinions of the Junior School the story of a human and a beast falling in love is very popular. In past years the shows and pantos at the Rep have been very good and professional. The show brought the house down. It is still showing and is suitable for all ages.

And they all lived happily ever after!

# Nativity Play Highly Rated by Junior School

Lewis Thomas (L7)

On the 16th of December the High School of Dundee junior school went to see L1 to L3 perform their annual nativity play. This year the show "Countdown to Christmas" told the story of a family during the festive season with one small twist - a Fairy Godmother has got in on the act! This year as with previous years there were many Christmassy touches including at the end of each scene baubles getting taken off the tree and getting placed on stands to spell out "Merry Christmas" by the

end of the show. A novel assortment of characters included the Fairy Godmother's helpers Tick and Tock, the chuckle brothers Paul and Barry and a crew of builders. From the audience's point of view it was a very good show, and in the cast Cameron Dow and Archie Frame (both shoppers) said they were enjoying working on the production and acting in the actual show. That view was unanimous throughout the school. All in all it was a very enjoyable experience and the L1's and L2's can't wait to get another turn at it next year.

In addition to the fantastic events described in this issue, plenty of other Christmas activities have been taking place in-school recently...

- Senior String Ensemble play at Malcolm Sargent charity concert.
- Senior School House Debating Competition (full coverage next issue!)
- F1 Pantomime Trip (Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh).
- Charities Christmas Sparkle Day in aid of victims of the Congo conflict.

## "The Crucible" Cast List Published!



REVEREND PARRIS  
BETTY PARRIS  
TITUBA  
ABIGAIL WILLIAMS  
SUSANNA WALCOTT  
ANN PUTNAM  
THOMAS PUTNAM  
MERCY LEWIS  
MARY WARREN  
JOHN PROCTOR  
REBECCA NURSE  
GILES COREY  
REVEREND HALE  
ELIZABETH PROCTOR  
FRANCIS NURSE  
EZEKIEL CHEEVER

ALEX DOLAN  
AMY GRIEVE  
SASCHA BROOKS-MATHESON  
JENNIFER LOTHIAN  
SINEAD POUNDER  
HEATHER SIMMONDS  
PAUL MCNULTY  
GABI LAVERTY  
SOPHIE CRAIK  
GORDON DICK  
JENNI HAGAN  
JAMES ORR  
IAIN KENNEDY  
LINDSEY DOCHERTY  
ANDREW KILGOUR  
EOGHANN MCGREGOR

This year, the Drama Department are staging a production of Arthur Miller's classic drama, "The Crucible".

Rehearsals have just begun, with the cast (pictured in the Drama Studio) busily preparing for the performances in June.

Watch out for more information nearer the time!