

ail:

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## JOKE CORNER

**Q. What happens when you eat tinsel?**

A. You get tinselitis!

**Q. What falls but never hurts itself?**

A. Snow!

**Q. Who delivers presents to cats?**

A. Santa Paws!

# Tree-mendous effort

**GP Ted** was in for a big surprise when he headed to Beechwood School to find out what their Knitting Club had been up to



GP Ted gets a knitting lesson from his Beechwood friends, left to right, Christina Kennedy, Milo Walton, Charlotte Griggs, Isabella Shand, Chloe Elliot and Abigail Boyle. (Picture by Steve Sarre, 12497514)

I'VE heard of a tea cosy, but never a tree cosy, so I was rather shocked when I arrived at Beechwood School to find a tree looking resplendent in a knitted jumper.

I soon discovered that the handiwork was that of the school's Knitting Club, set up by two recently retired teachers, Mrs Kinder and Mrs Le Guilcher, who wanted to run some kind of creative activity. They decided it would be fantastic to teach a group of children to knit and my young friends seemed to agree. It's not the first time that the tree in front of the school has been decorated as it was dressed with poppies for Remembrance

Day and received such a positive response from passers-by that it was decided to do something at Christmas to make people smile.

At first they planned to make a winter scarf for the tree, but the children were so enthusiastic that they went even further and made it a jumper.

They set about making lots of individual patches, which were wrapped around the tree and sewn into place... taking the brrr away from this particular 'arbre' (French for tree – you didn't know I was a bilingual little bear, did you?).

I am told that there is plenty of knitting,

nattering and laughter at the lunchtime club and a growing number of children have joined, with many even putting requests for wool and needles on their letters to Father Christmas.

Nine-year-old Charlotte Griggs told me: 'I really like Knitting Club. We chatter and laugh and I've learnt something new.' Christina Kennedy, 8, agreed. 'I love the colours and I really like to knit, even if some of my stitches aren't perfect.' The Knitting Club will be picking up their needles again in the new year and I'm reliably informed that there are plans afoot for a new woolly project.