



Friday 1st December

Cross Country

On Thursday this week we took 23 children to Goring for a Partnership Cross Country meet.

Once again, everyone ran brilliantly! It was a steep and cold course but spirits were high and team support was clear. Everyone ran fabulously and we are, once again, extremely proud of every runner. Of particular note, Will N came first in the year 3 / 4 Boys' race, Martha came 1st in the year 3 / 4 girls' race and Angus was second in the year 5 / 6 boys' race. In the team events, our Year 3 / 4 boys came third overall, the year 3 / 4 girls came second, Year 5 / 6 girls were third and the year 5 / 6 boys were first. Well done to every runner who contributed to this. The Olympic value for determination could have been awarded to every one of them but only 2 could receive the awards. They were given to Ada and Rory.

This is the last one in the partnership series of cross country events for this year and we would like to thank every one of the 53 children who has been part of the Cross Country tournaments this term.

Christmas Jumper Day

This year, Christmas Jumper Day falls on the 7th of December. We would be very happy for the children to wear a Christmas jumper over their school uniform for the day, if they would like. If they don't have a Christmas Jumper then school uniform is absolutely fine – please do not rush out and buy one! We are doing this for fun, however, if anyone would like to contribute to Save The Children, the charity who started this tradition, please send in your contributions and we will ensure any money collected is sent off to them.

Suitable clothing for the colder weather conditions

Please can we remind you to bring in named coats, hats and gloves etc. now that the weather is getting colder.

Globefit Kids Winter Holiday club is being held at **Woodcote Primary School** from the **2nd – 5th January 2024**. There are lots of exciting activities taking place and a hot lunch is included. Details as per the attached flyer. If you would like to book a place please click on the attached link <http://www.bookwhen.com/globefitkidsclubs>

Primary Times magazine

The Winter edition is now available from reception if you would like to help yourself.

Scholastic Books

You may wish to consider if you're looking to purchase books for your child or family members this Christmas that schools can earn Scholastic Rewards by purchases made by parents from their shop. Scholastic will donate 20p in Scholastic Rewards to Woodcote Primary School for every £1 spent on orders of £10 or more from the Scholastic Shop.'

<https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/free-books>

Class Updates

Oak	<p>As the end of term is fast approaching we thought it would be lovely for you to come into the class to see the wonderful writing and phonics work as well as all their wonderful displays. So if you are able to arrive a little earlier, at 3pm, on Monday 18th December that would be great! We know that some children have been finding capital letters difficult to recognise so we hope that the sheet we are sending home with children this week will support their learning on this. Thank you to everyone who has brought in costumes for the nativity performance. The first rehearsal in costumes is on Wednesday 6th December so please do bring in any remaining items by then. Thank you! We are taking the children to the church on the Tuesday 5th December and it would be super for them to wear a Santa hat for this. If you are able to send one in with your child that would be great...a named one! Then they can wear it for the RAF helicopter flypast the next day too. Lastly a big thank you from Mrs Somerville for all the get well cards, flowers and banners 😊. It is much appreciated.</p>
Hornbeam	<p>Hornbeam class have been working hard learning to say the word Geometry this week! They have been learning the properties of 2D shapes and hunting for them in the environment. In English we have read the book Meerkat Christmas and have been enjoying finding out about Christmas in different countries so we can write letters and postcards to Sunny the meerkat! Today we started our Advent countdown. We will be unwrapping a different Christmas story everyday - you could ask your Hornbeam each day to tell you about the book. Please can we remind everyone that we expect the children to read every day and make a note of this in your child's reading diary. Thank you.</p>
Beech	<p>Beech Class posted their letters to Father Christmas on Wednesday. We are hoping we will get a reply before Christmas. The children are now working to make audio recordings of these letters to aid their oracy skills and explore different ways of presenting their work. In maths this week, we have been solving problems involving addition, subtraction and measures. During computing, the children have been coding. We enjoyed using the following website, in case you want to have a go at home: https://www.google.com/logos/2017/logo17/logo17.html In PSHE, we read the book 'Pass It On' to help us reflect on passing on kind deeds to others. Has everyone managed to complete their kindness diary each day?</p>
Ash	<p>This week, we have been busy researching the famous Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamun. After learning more about his father's reign and how young Tutankhamun was when he came to the throne (age 8!), we enjoyed using our class library to develop our knowledge. In Science, we reminded ourselves of the different bones we can find in our bodies and which organs they protect. We have also planned and carried out our own investigation on whether children with longer legs jump further. Please remember to bring in an orange for Christingle making on the 11th December.</p>
Rowan	<p>This week we have working on combining our expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials in to a piece of descriptive writing as a story opening. We continue to practice our times tables in a variety of ways, and the children know they have to really speed up their recall to be successful in tests. Continue to use Times Tables Rockstars or Hit the Button to practice.</p>
Maple	<p>What a busy week in Year 5! We started it out by diving into a new unit of English, looking at the poetry of Benjamin Zephaniah. We loved exploring Talking Turkeys (and starting to feel a little Christmassy!). We're going to be exploring more of his poetry over the coming weeks and hopefully writing our own poems that we can perform. In Maths we started looking at different ways to solve problems. Turns out drawing a picture is often helpful! Much of the rest of the week was devoted to D&T. This week we've measured then used hacksaws to cut wood to length, drawn out and decorated cardboard coverings and used a hot glue gun to attach all the pieces together. Finally, we used a piece of fabric to act as a hinge and now we've all got keepsake boxes! We'll post some photos this week and will hopefully get to take them home soon! We're all looking forward to the Christmas Fair this evening so hopefully we'll get to see you all later on!</p>

Willow	This week we have celebrated St.Andrew's Day, nearly completed our script writing and begun looking at division in Mathematics. Some children have asked if they can bring props in for filming their movie, we have said this is fine but please make sure items are labelled or easily identifiable as yours. We also welcomed Miss James to our class, you'll see her around next week and then again after Christmas. We have looked at keeping healthy as part of our Science work into how our bodies work and have asked that everyone keeps a food diary for the week - check out Teams for this. Our Advent calendar looks fantastic and we are enjoying opening the boxes. The children have decided that they would like to do 'Secret Santa' as a class. Each child has taken a name of another pupil that they will either make something for or buy (maximum of £5) something for. Presents need to be brought into school from 18 th December, wrapped and labelled, and will be put under the tree ready to hand out on the 20 th . A reminder - Greek museum is on the 12 th December.
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Important dates

Monday 4 th December	KS2 to Langtree to see their Christmas production 1:00 – 3:30pm
Monday 4 th December	All John Radcliffe present donations to be dropped at school by Monday morning drop off.
Wednesday 6 th December	RAF Benson Flypast – remember to bring your Christmas hat
Thursday 7 th December	Christmas Jumper Day 2023 in aid of Save the Children.
Tuesday 12 th December	Reception & KS1 Nativity dress rehearsal
Tuesday 12 th December	Year 6 Greek Museum in the hall @ 2:30pm – Parents welcome
Wednesday 13 th December	SEND Coffee morning – time tbc
Wednesday 13 th December	Reception & KS1 Nativity performance – 14:00, tickets only
Thursday 14 th December	Reception & KS1 Nativity performance – 14:00, tickets only
Friday 15 th December	Y3 & Y6 After School Cake Sale
Friday 15 th December	Bag2School Fundraising Textiles Collection
Sunday 17 th December	Nominate a Charity £1,000 donation deadline. To enter: https://movementforgood.com/#nominateACharity please use charity number: 1038615
Wednesday 20 th December	End of Term 1.00 pm
Friday 19 th January 2024	Young Voices (Yr5 & Yr6)
Monday 22 nd January 2024	Year 5 Bikeability
Saturday 27 th January 2024	FOWPS Coffee Shop @ The Old School House
Monday 5 th February – Friday 9 th February 2024	Children's Mental Health week

OTHER NEWS

From Oxfordshire Libraries - eBook short story competition 2024 – flyer also attached

I am delighted to announce that our 10th writing competition launches on 11 December 2023. This year, children aged 7-11 are invited to write a short story up to 1000 words. Other categories are for 12-17 year olds and 18+ (short story up to 3000 words).

Please encourage your children (or adults) to join in. It is the perfect activity for winter, inviting children to build on the creative writing skills practised in class – to then explore at home and in their own time.



Christ Church Cathedral School – be a chorister for a day – details as per the attached flyer