

Half-termly newsletter: 20th December 2024

Dear parents,

The end of the term is finally here! Not that we have not loved it, it has just been a very long one for the children and staff.

As I type this I can hear Christmas logic puzzles being solved, children playing in the snow (foam) and plenty of laughter. Such a positive end to a wonderful 2024.

Mrs Kennedy

School Values

Individuality
Excellence
Adventures
This terms focus is —

Adventures

Headteacher Updates

Our proudest achievements this term...

"Being in the kindness bucket." Clemmie

"Being told I had a real talent for poetry" Teddy

"Doing really well in Cross Country" Matilda

ACHIEVEMENT

Christmas Events

Key Stage 1's Eddie the Penguin was a huge success, the dancing was particularly impressive!

Many of our children having music lessons performed us an array of Christmas songs this week, their composure was a credit to Mr Green and Mrs Willson.

This was followed by the Key Stage 2 Carol concert, we laughed and we cried, a beautiful evening.

Ask Not What Your School Can Do For You. Ask What You Can Do For Your School. Calling all artists... We would love some murals in our library and possibly some other spots around school. If you think you could do this and would like to volunteer to help please let us know.

Storage: We need a cube style storage unit for Linford class similar to the Ikea Kallax range, if anyone has something similar you no longer need please let the office know. Thank you.

Staffing Update

We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Hamm back after Christmas who has been missed by all.





I also wanted to officially welcome Mrs Bond and Miss Macdonald to the team.

PTA

We've had a fantastic term full of events and activities at our school. Our highlights include the Scarecrow festival, Halloween disco and the Christmas Fayre which was enjoyed by all despite the weather!

We're so pleased to announce that we've managed to raise just over £2000 this term for our school and children. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has donated and supported us, we couldn't have done it without you.

The funds we raise really do make a difference and this term, Linford and Bradgate classes enjoyed a funded trip to Stonehurst Farm. These trips are only made possible due to fundraising efforts and your generous donations.

Finally, we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Our school is blessed to have a supportive and engaged community. Thank you to all for making our year wonderful.



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Office Team Updates

Please make sure your child's meals account is topped up before the start of next term. We won't be able to order school dinners if you are in arrears.

Thanks for your help with this.

Huge thanks to the local businesses who have helped us over the festive period by donating goods, time and space!

Cooks Farm - gifting our fabulous Christmas tree

Cube Design& Build Ltd - erecting our Christmas tree

The Linford - providing a venue for our winter play

All Saints Church & Rev Trethewey - hosting our KS2 Carol Concert

Seasonal greetings to you all from Vicky and Kath. Thanks for our Christmas cards and gifts and for all your support with meeting our deadlines and requests over the last term. Enjoy the holiday!

The Lost Property box (outside Reception) is full again! Please check if you are missing anything - unclaimed items will go in the Air Ambulance collection bin in the new year.

Dates for your diary

Monday 6th January - Spring term - INSET day, children not in school

Tuesday 7th January - Children back to school

Wednesday 15th January - National Height & Weight checks for Reception and Year 6

Friday 17th January - Forest School begins for Tyburn (4 weeks)

w/c Monday 17th February - half term

From Charlotte Miller

It all started after my friend's breast cancer diagnosis, 2 girls on a playdate planning their business & to make money to donate to Breast Cancer Now charity....and my goodness, what a success...£60 for charity and £20 each for their efforts in just 2 hours at our local Advent Christmas Fayre.

What an evening......proud is an understatement. Thank you to everyone who came to support them! We know who you are & it hasn't gone unnoticed, supporting this amazing charity that is so close to our hearts.



This term you have raised:

£169 for Children in Need



£129 for the Poppy Appeal



£77 for Save the Children (Christmas Jumper day)



Thank you!



Menu change for Tuesday 7th January the lunch option will be pizza.

From the School Journalists

Merry Christmas everyone! This term in Old John we have been up to all sorts of fun activities and lessons. One of my favourite things that we were up to was our KS2 carol performance. On the 18th December, KS2 went to the church and after practising since November sang 7 songs in front of all the parents. The most fun song to



sing was the Twelve Days of Christmas, the song that I most enjoyed was Last Christmas which was sang by me and my class (Old John). We also sang lots more songs that you might know like Nazareth, Silent Night, Love Shone Down and lots more. I hope you have an amazing Christmas holiday and once again have a very Merry Christmas!

By Erin



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Class Updates

brywies from the Snow Queen

Linford Class

This half-term (although a long one) has absolutely flown by! We have been so busy with our learning in Linford Class. In English we have listened to and written about the traditional tale The Snow Queen. In History Year 1s have been learning about life in the past for coal miners and we created some art sketches of coal



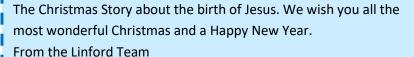
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miners based on the work of the illustrator Sydney Smith. Our EYFS children also discovered how trains have changed over time. In Science we have learnt about different types of animals, such as reptiles, mammals, birds and amphibians, and thought about what they eat...

I wonder if you would rather meet a carnivore or a herbivore?! In maths we have been understanding how numbers can be partitioned into different parts. We also really enjoyed our Numberblocks day and



have had a go at playing Numberblocks World on the school iPads. As we approached the Christmas holidays, as well as working super hard on our singing for our 'Eddie the Penguin' play, we considered how and why Christians celebrate Christmas and we retold





Bradgate Class

This term we have been lucky to have had some really special learning opportunities.



For our topic, we found out first-hand from the National Coal Mining Museum what life is like for miners and children devised questions which they asked a miner during a one-

to-one virtual session.

Bethan Woollvin, an author and illustrator visited our school. Children had a really engaging and inspiring time creating their illustrations and finding out more about storytelling.

The last few weeks have been busy practising for our winter performance. They worked so hard, as did our staff, to produce a fantastic play. We are very lucky to have such wonderful actors, singers and dancers in our school and we hope you enjoyed 'Eddie the Penguin Saves the World'.

Children have been developing their understanding of shapes and year 2's have been working on the new concept of multiplication. We have used lots of manipulatives to help aid their understanding so they can continuously practice their learning.

We hope the children have a wonderful break and looking forward to seeing you in the new year.

Miss Pearce & Mrs Ismail



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Class Updates

Tyburn Class

We have had another wonderful term in Tyburn! This term we have been learning about the USA, particularly focusing on Magic Kingdom and Kennedy's Space Centre in Florida. The children have enjoyed learning about the climate in Florida and why it has the name of the 'Sunshine State'.



We have been very busy in English, writing suspense stories, holiday brochures and winter poems. The children really enjoyed creating their very own spooky stories using fronted adverbials, lists of three and powerful verbs. They were a very interesting, ghostly read!

In maths, we have been continuing our work on multiplication and division. Year 3s have been multiplying 2 by 1 digit numbers and year 4s have been multiplying 3 by 1

digit numbers, using formal written methods. We have also been working really hard on our times tables.

Over the last few weeks, we have been practising for our carol concert. The children have worked so hard learning all of our songs, we are so proud of them all.

I would like to thank you all for your support this term. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Miss Langford

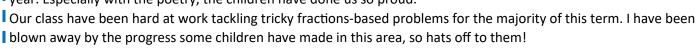


Old John Class

What a long (but productive) term this has been! Old John have been busy learning about all sorts of different things.

In our English, the class practiced their persuasion, narrative and poetic skills. As a part of our topic on Global Trade, they wrote a text to persuade foreign investors in invest in British businesses, as well as inventing their own product to convince people to purchase. We had some absolutely crazy inventions—does anyone fancy investing in the human slingshot? (Safety not guaranteed!) The children also experimented with suspense and tension in our narrative based on the spooky short film, Alma.

Finally, they wrote some incredible winter-based and personal poems to finish off the year. Especially with the poetry, the children have done us so proud.





In addition to all of this, the children have been learning about Global Trade, including the trade relationship between China and the UK, as well as Fairtrade and the supply chain. They showed some excellent understanding of this topic at the end of this term.

Ultimately, we have done so many things it's incredibly hard to fit them into this tiny little box! Well done, Old John!

Mr Brierley