



NEWSLETTER



Merry Christmas Everyone!



What have we been up to?

The Foundation Stage children have been working hard across the curriculum. In maths, the children have been looking at the composition of numbers from 1-5. In literacy, they have been developing their phonetic knowledge and writing skills, attempting to write CVC words, labels and captions. We have continued to work on our topic, 'All About Me'; Looking closely at our families and the community in which we live. As part of this the children have been exposed to different religions, cultures and beliefs. They have really enjoyed learning about the festivals: Diwali and Hanukkah. The children have finished the autumn term by learning why Christmas is important to Christians and learning all about The Christmas Story. They have really enjoyed retelling the story within their classes and have very much enjoyed dressing up and getting into character.

For the **children in Key Stage One**, studying our topic 'Knights and Dragons' has been a highlight. They have found out about the legend of King Arthur, investigated the life of real knights and learnt about a friendly dragon called Maud! You could ask your child about Maud and how you can spot where she has been! We had a fabulous time on our topic outcome day. The battles, using the children's personally designed shields, were a real success and we are looking forward to moving on with our learning next term, focusing on the topic "Our World".

This term **children in lower Key Stage Two** have been continuing their study of Raiders and Invaders with a closer look at The Vikings. The children used all of their Viking knowledge to add detail to their own independent Viking stories. The topic culminated in our topic outcome day. Thank you for all the super costumes - we had a great day rotating around the different classes acting, making Viking crafts and tasting Viking foods provided by our catering team. The children have been learning about electrical circuits in science, enjoying challenges and practical lessons using series of bulbs, bells, buzzers and motors. They have also learnt about conductors and insulators and how to be safe around electricity. Our maths topics have continued on a number theme moving on to multiplication and division and related logic and word problems. In the last few weeks the children have explored The Christmas Story in close detail, performing carols which re-tell the story very well in our school carol concert. Each class explored Christmas in different ways through crafts, puzzles and other activities.

Upper Key Stage Two children have thoroughly enjoyed reading the book 'Anglo-Saxon Boy' and using it for the English studies, writing speeches, play scripts and learning how to show emotions of characters rather than telling the reader. Invaders and Raiders Topic Day was a fantastic time of exciting activities rounding up the studies about Anglo-Saxons and Vikings; some classes have produced eye-catching artwork and creative pieces such as Viking battle banners and shields as well as Viking jewellery. In RE, we have been discovering more about the character of God and how to care for his creation by doing our part to protect the environment. Next term we are looking forward to finding out 'What makes Britain great'.

Christmas Celebrations

It was wonderful to see so many of you at Tuesday night's Christmas Carol Celebration.

It has been lovely to hear how much you enjoyed the children's performance and we really appreciate your words of thanks and support.

Merry Christmas Everyone!



A huge thank you to the PTFA for organising the Christmas raffle and hampers, for the amazing video from Father Christmas, for contributing to the panto experiences and for providing all children with a Christmas chocolate lolly!

Children In Need

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards our Children in Need fund raising this year.

We are pleased to inform you that we raised a total of £361.03 for this very worthy cause.



Children's Mental Health

The children's mental health charity **Place2Be** have created a webpage with advice for parents.

This offers support and advice on issues such as mealtimes, understanding sibling rivalry and what to do if your child is anxious.

Click on the link below to take you to the webpage:

[https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/?utm_source=Schools&utm_campaign=4179f45443-Non-Partner Schools Newsletter November 2021&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c6b02a1e38-4179f45443-220465112](https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/?utm_source=Schools&utm_campaign=4179f45443-Non-Partner%20Schools%20Newsletter%20November%202021&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c6b02a1e38-4179f45443-220465112)

Safety Around the School Site

Parents who drive to school will have noticed some new signage at the exit gate. The signs ask parents to **look left & right** before pulling out onto the road to avoid accidents with traffic coming along the lane.

We have been asked by residents to remind parents not to sit on their walls while waiting for children at the end of the school day.

We have noticed that an increasing number of children travelling by car are not using booster seats. We would like to remind parents that booster seats are a legal requirement for all children under 12 or under 135cm.

Online Safety -

Making a Gameplan

Many of our pupils enjoy gaming at home with friends and parents. Gaming can be enjoyable, creative and can develop problem-solving and collaborative skills.

Parents want to know more about how to support their child if they're gaming, including:

- how to participate
- how to manage their gaming time
- how to make sure their child is sharing personal information securely

A **gameplan** is an agreement you can use to help your child game safely and positively. Please find attached a gameplan template for your family, where you can agree what it is okay for you all to do when gaming.

For more information about gaming:

- NSPCC Net Aware www.net-aware.org.uk
- Ask About Games www.askaboutgames.com
- PEGI [https://pegi.info](http://pegi.info)

Considering the above is all the more important at this time of year because children may have new devices for Christmas.

For more information about setting up devices safely:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe/>

For more advice on screentime:

<http://bit.ly/RCPCH-ScreenTimeForParents>

Items Not Permitted in School

We wish to remind parents that **Fiddle Toys** should not be brought to school unless they have been authorised by Mrs Ruddle or Mrs Stock.

Children should not bring **mobile phones** to school.