

All Saints Church School

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Head Teacher: Mrs Sharon Bowditch BAQTS

Friday 17th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

December has been action packed, with so many wonderful learning opportunities for all our children. At the beginning of December, the School Council helped to decorate the school Christmas tree. Thank you to all our School Councillors and to FOAS finding us such a perfect tree.



On Friday 3rd December many children returned to school to join in some festive panto fun organised by the Friends of All Saints. The children had a fabulous evening, and much hooting and hilarity could be heard along the school corridor. A huge thank you to the FOAS team who prepped for a very festive evening whilst children watched their pantos. Whether mulled wine or hot chocolate topped with cream was your drink of the evening, the event was a great start to our Christmas festivities. I would like to extend many thanks to all the organisers and helpers as well as to Kelly Dale who kept the festive spirits high with her fabulous Christmas singing.

During the week of December 6th, all classes performed their own Christmas plays. We began the week with Acorn class retelling the Christmas Nativity story in the church to parents and carers. This really was a treat for us all. From the walking to church, fully dressed in costumes to singing and acting on stage, our Acorn children were brilliant! Well done to all and thank you to our marvellous staff and parents for all your support.



The school reception area and hall looked fabulous thanks to our Nutcracker art project, organised by Mrs O'Donnell. All who entered the school reception area to watch our Christmas performances in the school hall, were greeted with an enchanting display of artwork.



After much time away from performing in front of a live audience, all our children were an absolute credit to us all. I know that we were all super proud. I had the pleasure of watching all seven performances, each with its own Christmas message. Thank you to all the staff for their magnificent efforts and to the Friends of All Saints for helping to raise funds by setting up refreshments for all.

To end the week of Christmas plays, FOAS organised for all the children and staff to have a surprise visit from the ice cream van. This really was a well earnt treat and enjoyed by everyone. Thank you to Mrs Roe for organising this event.

On Tuesday 14th December, Classes 5 and 6 went to the Brewhouse Theatre to watch Wind in the Willows. The children had a fantastic time and came back to school buzzing with tales about Toad. Thank you to our staff and parents for supporting. Classes 4, 3, 2, 1 and Acorn all enjoyed a captivating performance of The Tale of the Charming Rat by the Wassail Theatre Company.

Throughout the morning of Wednesday 15th December all our children made their own Christingle. All classes, as well as those isolating at home, joined our online Christingle service.



I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all at All Saints.

We look forward to seeing you soon after a well-earned break.

Do take care and best wishes to all,

Mrs Bowditch

ACORN

In Acorn Class, the children have taken great pleasure from reading the Jolly Christmas Postman. This has been read to them by Father Christmas as well as enjoying Miss Gane's book she had from when she was their age! The children have been acting out the Jolly Postman's journey in our story telling area, writing cards for him to deliver, and helping him sort objects in the post office sorting room as part of our Maths sessions!

The children have also been trying hard with their phonics and are gaining confidence in having a go at reading and writing.

Acorn Class showed great confidence during their nativity at the church. They all looked wonderful in their costumes, joined in with the songs and remembered their 'big' voices when saying their lines. It was such a lovely performance to see and a very proud moment for all.









I-Spy Christmas

What a busy few weeks! Firstly, a huge congratulations to all of the children for the wonderful class nativity that they performed. The children worked so hard to learn their lines and songs and, on the night, they were so clear that they didn't even need microphones! Thank you to the families and friends of children in Class 1 who supported the class with costumes and lines.







Nutcracker Art

Class 1 have also been busy producing Nutcracker Art which was on display for everyone to see in the school reception area. The children used their knowledge of 2d shapes to make their soldiers which formed part of a whole school art project.





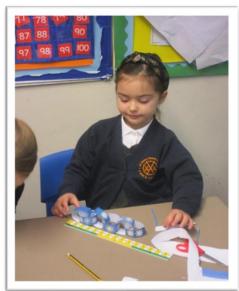
Christmas Maths

Class 1 ended their term's maths work but creating winter paper chains (completing a varied pattern), and then measuring the length of the paper chains after they had been made. The class worked really hard and have now developed a skill that will continue to help them in other areas of

the curriculum.









Written by Class 2

Class 2 have enjoyed using the outdoors for their learning. We went outside and found leaves and materials which we brought inside to write expanded noun phrases. It made writing our noun phrases easier because we could look at, feel, and touch the objects.





In our geography we were learning about towns and countries and thinking about Town Mouse and Country Mouse. In the forest we built houses for Country Mouse. We made sure that they had space around them and created farms, trees, cottages, and a home for Country Mouse.





As part of our maths, we designed different micro journeys. These were small journeys for the mice, and we used directions such as whole, half and quarter turns. We learnt left and right and forwards and backwards. We linked this maths work to our computer work where we learnt to programme the sprites in the computer.





We loved learning the words and acting for our Christmas play called Honkey Tonkey Donkey. We enjoyed all the songs especially the loud ones where we could add actions.



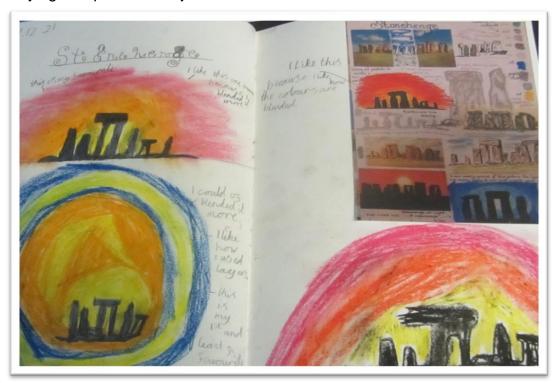


Class 3 have been feeling the magic of Christmas this month - practising hard ahead of our performance of 'The Little Fir Tree'. They did a wonderful job and made us all super proud; from the clear, loud speaking to the beautiful singing and signing! Thank you to everyone who managed to come and see the performance live- and to those who will be watching when the videos are ready.





We have been very creative in art and English work these past two weeks, applying our learning on syllables to write Haiku and Tanka poems. Lots of Class 3 found these poetic forms exciting and fun. We discovered these forms can be utilised for both comical and more serious poetry. We have also enjoyed using our sketchbooks to work in the style of another- taking elements we find effective and trying to replicate or adjust them.



We shared the light of the Christingle Service this week and enjoyed making the Christingles.



Below are some examples of the beautiful Haikus and Tankas children have written about the First Christmas.

<u>Wisemen- By Joe R</u>
Wisemen travelled far
They travelled on their camels,
Just to see Jesus.

Shepherds and Angles- By Amelie Shepherds and angels-Angels sing in the darkness, Shepherds out there, too.

Our Saviour is Born- By Evie
Our Saviour is born,
God's Son, king of the whole world.
His name as Jesus
He was born in a stable,
He was God's gift to the world.

That Night- By Emily
Jesus in a stall
Angels came to tell shepherds
Kings followed a star
That night he was born a king
Forgiveness to the whole world.

CLASS 4

Class 4 have had a very exciting half term indeed! Our trip to Carymoor Environmental Centre was a great success. The children all thoroughly enjoyed their day out and were very well behaved. We started with a tour of the site, learning about what happens to our waste now, as well as experiencing the sort of rubbish that has been added to the landfill site over the decades by walking through the Landfill Tunnel!





We learned about renewable energy and had a go at creating our own solar and wind powered circuits. We tried very hard to light up the bulb and make the buzzer sound, despite the particularly grey, windless weather!





We made it onto the leader board in third place with our relatively waste-free lunch boxes, then got stuck into den building and fire lighting in the afternoon to experience what it would be like to first set up home on a new planet!





We have continued our science topic on sound, learning about the workings of the ear and how we hear sound. We experimented with expanding our pinnae to see whether this would help us catch more vibrations.





Class 4 have enjoyed getting outside this half term and have taken our learning out into the playground and forest area whenever possible. We have taken maths outside, measuring the shapes on the playground and using natural objects to multiply and divide by 10 or 100.







All of our learning and passion about looking after our planet, spurred on by discussions about COP26, culminated in some formal letter writing. We have written letters to persuade some of the big supermarkets in the area to reduce their plastic packaging. Lots of pupils feel very passionately about reducing plastic in the oceans and this really showed in their letters. We also wrote some excellent letters to other primary schools persuading them to reduce the amount of glitter they use due to the damaging affect it has on our planet.

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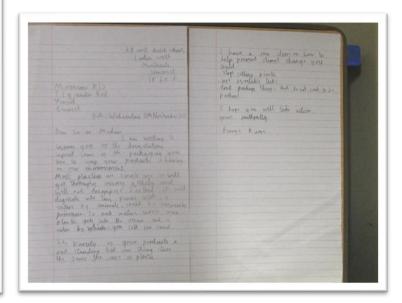
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Inspired by our fantastic, environmentally conscious children, our Christmas production had an eco-conscious theme too. The children worked so hard on their lines, the songs and the many set changes and prop moving that was involved. They were so proud to be able to share their hard work with all their important people.

We have been developing our story writing skills, basing our work on Coming Home by Michael Morpurgo. The children worked hard to improve their writing techniques and apply skills they had learned, producing a beautiful book of their own.



One day, we were pleasantly surprised to receive a lovely reply to our letters about plastic pollution from Morrisons. They were very complimentary about the standard and persuasive element of our letters and would like to work with us next term on this important issue. Well done children, your important message is spreading far and wide!

Merry Christmas everyone, enjoy your holiday!

Class 5 have continued to work hard over the last couple of months and it certainly feels like time has whizzed by since our Autumn walk.

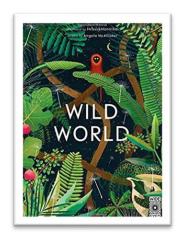
In November, we were lucky to join many other schools as part of Leonardo's outreach project – Cool Engineering. The children thoroughly enjoyed their day: creating wind turbines and rafts. Each activity involved the children working as a team and they could gain points for creativity, teamwork, design and effectiveness.







We have been enjoying using the book, Wild World' for our poetry over the last few weeks.



The children started by using climate change to help them write poems about how the Amazon was being destroyed. They then went on to creating their own Wild World illustration, which they wrote their own description about using made up words.

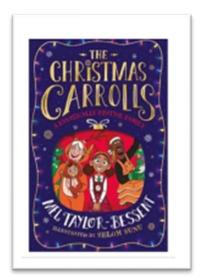
In our history lessons, the children have been learning about the Space Race. Using what they have learnt, they have created their own games such as Astronopoly to teach others about how American and the USSR competed against each other.

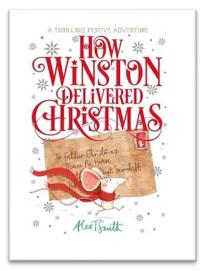
Finally, the children have worked really hard on the school play to learn their lines and practice their songs. It was fantastic to be able to share their Top of the Pops themed performance with the parents last week, who joined in at the end by waving their glow sticks!

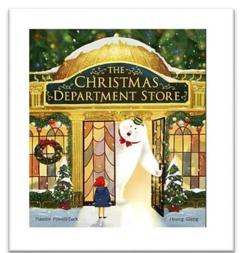
Wishing you all a healthy and happy Christmas and New Year from Class 5!

Librarian News

• A few recommendations for your Christmas list...







Here is a link below for some additional ideas:

BooksForTopics: Christmas Gift Guides

 Having a sort out for Christmas? Got a lot of good quality books that you no longer need?

We are happy to accept any of your old, good quality books for our school library.

The last few weeks of term have been very busy in Class 6! We were very proud to put on our production of Archibald's War which tells the story of evacuee children at Christmas time. It has been a long time since we have been able to perform to a live audience and we were so proud of the whole class.





We also had great fun decorating our school foyer with the work we had completed for our whole school art project on 'The Nutcracker'.





We have also completed our science topic on circuits this term by designing and making a 'steady hand game'. The children loved designing their game for a person in their family and then had great fun making a circuit so their game worked smoothly.





To end our busy term, we were able to visit The Brewhouse Theatre to watch a production of The Wind in the Willows. It was a real pleasure to see a piece of classic literature on the stage!

