

# Kilby St Mary's C of E Primary School Newsletter



December, 2024

**Christian Value Focus: Honesty**

**British Value Focus: Rule of Law**

As ever, the end of the Autumn Term brings with it many celebrations. In particular, those celebrating the birth of Jesus, central to the Christian faith. As part of the children's developing knowledge of Christianity, we will be looking at how Christians are reminded of Jesus' birth and how they celebrate Christmas around the world as well as across the United Kingdom.

We have many of our own celebrations which are detailed within the newsletter. We really look forward to seeing you at the events and joining in with our festivities.

Many of you have asked as to when I will be finishing. I will be here until the last day of term – 20th December. Miss Hartshorne will be starting a phased return as from Monday 9th December.

There will be one more newsletter wrapping up the Autumn term.

Enjoy your Christmas preparations!

Mrs Maher



# Diary Dates

- ▶ Wed 11th December Nativity - Afternoon
- ▶ Thu 12th December Nativity - Morning
- ▶ Thu 12th December - Save the Children - Wear a Christmas Jumper!
- ▶ Wed 18<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Lunch
- ▶ Fri 20th December - Carols around the Tree - 9:00
- ▶ Fri 20<sup>th</sup> December - End Of Term
- ▶ Monday 6th January - RETURN TO SCHOOL
- ▶ Monday 3rd February - Height & Weight Check FS and Y6



# Attendance

Attendance is a statutory element which staff and governors are required to monitor in accordance with the school attendance policy. The government requirements regarding attendance were updated in August 2024 and our Attendance policy has been updated and shared with parents accordingly. Our whole school target for attendance is 96%.

It is important to ensure that all children attend school in order that they continue to make progress across all subjects as well as socially.

Attendance for the school year until 29.11.24 by year group.

Foundation Stage 94.4%

Year 1 95.8%

Year 2 96.1%

Year 3 93.7%

Year 4 97.3%

Year 5 96.6%

Year 6 95.9%

It is very encouraging to see that many year groups are meeting the 96% target and Year 4 have exceeded with Year 5 hot on their heels... Congratulations all!

# Seedlings - Dinosaur Fun!

Seedlings have had a fab few weeks learning all about dinosaurs. They received a letter from Andy (the infamous cBeebies explorer) who needed their help. They worked hard with their friends in Oak class to build a wonderful nest .... only to find the next day that an enormous egg had been laid in it! There was much speculation about which dinosaur had laid the egg and how we could protect it!

Back in the classroom we made dinosaur fossils in our playdough, created moving split pin dinosaurs as well as practised the names of 2D shapes by making shape dinosaurs - super cutting skills too! We loved joining in with the Dino Stomp wake up shake up, and of course did some fantastic roaring! Well done Seedlings!

Thank you so to those who joined us for decorations morning and for the Christingle service in church. We are looking forward to all the other lovely activities we have planned to learn about and celebrate Christmas.





# Oak

What an exciting few weeks we have had in Oak Class!

A few weeks ago we had a great surprise when we discovered a huge egg had been laid in our outside area – after some investigation, we decided it must be a dinosaur egg! We had lots of questions about dinosaurs and have investigated using non-fiction books and the internet. We then thought about what the dinosaurs could do to be helpful if they were to return. We had lots of good ideas like helping to build skyscrapers, scaring robbers away, plowing the fields, taking us to school...

We have loved sharing some special times with you over the last few weeks with decorations day and the Christingle service.

Then of course we have our Nativity to showcase next!



# Willow

- ▶ We've had a brilliant few weeks in Willow class. We've had decorations morning, Christingle at the church and we have been full steam ahead practicing for our nativity performance, We can't wait to show you!
- ▶ A huge thank you to Mr Golby, our premises officer, who has helped us with rearranging our classroom to make our learning space even bigger!







# Maple

Food chains, teeth, Italian buildings and yoga skills have all been part of our learning for November.

Creatively we had a great morning making Christmas Decorations, with your help. We found out about the origins of Christingle, how to make one and wrote clear instructions.

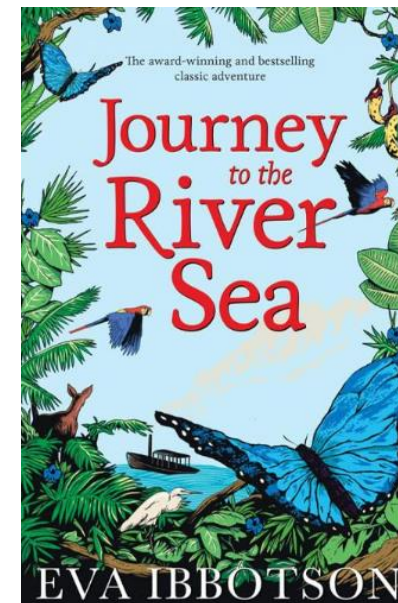
Can you put the following into the correct order?

Fox, carrot, bear, rabbit



# Rowan

- ▶ In Rowan Class, we enjoyed Decorations morning and produced some quality work that is now on display around the room, making it look very festive! Thank you to everyone who came and supported our class.
- ▶ We have finished studying *The Firework-Maker's Daughter* in English, and we are now working on *Kensuke's Kingdom* by our featured author, Michael Morpurgo. We will finish the term by watching the new animated film based on the book.
- ▶ We enjoyed PJ Day this week! This was a whole class reward for filling up the pom pom pot! The challenge has been re-set and we will be having a discussion soon about the next reward.
- ▶ Next term, we will be studying the following texts:
- ▶ Spring 1<sup>st</sup>: *The Middler*, by Kirsty Applebaum (Nosy Crow Ltd, 2019)
- ▶ Spr 2<sup>nd</sup>: *Journey To The River Sea*, by Eva Ibbotson (Macmillan Children's Books, 2014)
- ▶ If you need some ideas for stocking fillers, you could buy your child a copy of the book so they can follow along in class!





# E Safety



- ▶ This month's E Safety Guide from National Online Safety is all about: '*Setting Up Apps, Games and Software*', a really useful guide for this time of year in particular.
- ▶ See the attached guide for more details.



# Remembrance Service



The children led a thoughtful and informative service which allowed them all to share their reflections. Art was used as the inspiration and below are a few examples of the work showing a range of ideas that were considered.



# Children in Need

- ▶ Thank you for all your donations to our coin trail around school.
- ▶ The Grand Total raised was £74.50 - so many pennies and 2p's!







**Christmas  
Decorations  
across the  
school**





# Creating our Decorations





# Save the Children Day

Wear a Christmas jumper  
in recognition of Save the  
Children

Thursday 12th December



# Carols Around the Christmas Tree



- Friday 20th December
- 9:15am
- Parents and Carers welcome to join us
- Refreshments served by Friends of Kilby

We are looking forward to celebrating the important event in the Christian calendar through song and worship.



# Lost Property!

- ▶ We have a number of sweatshirts, gloves and hats that have lost their owners!
- ▶ Please check in the foyer before the end of the term as we will be clearing them out at the end of the term.
- ▶ Many thanks for your help.

