

Langley Fitzurse Church of England Primary School



Newsletter

Newsletter 3

"Amaze, Excite, Inspire"



What a busy term it has been at Langley!

We finish for the Christmas break this Friday and the last 7 weeks have certainly been action packed.

We started the term by welcoming Miss Ford and Mrs Hanna to Phoenix and Hercules Classes respectively, together with a farewell and good luck to Mrs Harris as she commenced her maternity leave. I am pleased to share that Baby Owen arrived on 1st December and all are doing well. We have also successfully appointed Miss Nicola Waylen as our new SENCO, who will join the team from the beginning of Term 3.

Learning both within classrooms and the wider curricular opportunities has varied hugely from visiting musicians, online concerts, performances, participation in sporting festivals and visits to St Peters. Thank you to all the staff for planning these fantastic, creative opportunities into what is an already broad and busy curriculum. Thanks also to parents and volunteers and our amazing PTA and Governing Body who support us in these activities which greatly enrich your children's learning.

Each month the school writes an article for the Community Magazine. This month it was the turn of Mrs Nathanson for her contribution. She has summed up the term quite beautifully. And so I will sign off now, wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and hand you over to Mrs Nathanson.

Yours sincerely

Karen Winterburn

This term we focused on the value of RESPECT



Respect is a key value which supports our school vision:

We are an inclusive, friendly church school with a family feel.



Respect is about patience and caring. It means valuing everyone and is fundamental to living in a school or any community. Christians believe that every person is created in the image of God and is loved by God – therefore we should love and value everyone, just as God does. We have thought a lot about how we show respect in our words and actions.

Advent started on 1st December, a time of waiting and preparing for Christmas. We have been pausing each day in the busyness and creating a **Jesse Tree**, a tradition stretching back to medieval times in Europe, which explores the family tree of Jesus from Creation to his birth in Bethlehem.

Wishing you a peaceful and joyful Christmas.

A message from the end of the Autumn Term..

Christmas is very much in the air and the excitement and anticipation of things to come can indeed be felt at school.

The children and staff have enjoyed a very busy month! All were surprised one morning, to find train tracks running across the school and into the various classrooms. This was part of our Whole School Write of 'The Polar Express' which included hot chocolate on the 'train' and building of a steam train. It has been absolutely delightful to see children chuffing along the track on their ways across the school. We can't wait to read their inspired story writing.

In addition to our 'normal' daily learning, everybody participated in a Drumba workshop which combines PE and drumming. We are looking forward to include this into our PE teaching. A big order of earplugs might be necessary!

Children in KS1 have been engaged in rehearsing and performing this year's Nativity Play of 'Bethlehem is Buzzing' and it certainly did. The children did a fantastic job in learning their lines and all the songs and the tremendous applause was indeed well deserved. This was closely followed by the Christmas Fayre, an annual event organised by the PTA. This was an equally great success, especially when Santa arrived, presenting every child with the gift of a book. Thank you PTA for all your efforts throughout the year!

The school choir has also been very active, opening the Christmas Fayre with their festive songs and performing at the cafe next to the school. If you would like to hear their cheerful voices, they will be performing as part of the 'Carols on the Common' on Tuesday, 17th December.

December couldn't possibly pass by without our traditional Christmas lunch. Lots of red Santa hats were worn and these will be bobbing across the playing field for this year's Christmas Fun Run. Our school term will finish with the annual Christmas Service at St Peter, a combination of joy and contemplation.

Thank you to all and everyone for your support of our school and we wish you a Happy Christmas and many good things to come in the New Year.

Johanna Nathanson

(Class Teacher/English Subject Leader)

School Christmas Tree..

Thank you to *Church Farm Estate* and *Langley Nursery* for our beautiful Christmas Tree.

The whole school have made beautiful decorations for the tree which they will be bringing home on the last day of term. Please look in book bags.



Head bumps in school....

From the start of Term 3 children who have bumped their heads during the school day will be given a paper wristband to wear.

In the past, standard procedure has been to make the relevant school adults aware of the bump and to inform parents at the end of the day with an advice slip.

The idea of a wristband is an additional measure to ensure that any adult in school is aware of the bump and can keep a closer eye on them.



A message from Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service

We appreciate that this time of year is very busy, but we ask for five minutes of your time to ensure you and your children are safe.

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service firefighters will be available all the time over the festive period to come and help in an emergency.

Please help your children understand how they can stay safe by reading and filling in one of the prize draw quizzes.

It was the lights before Christmas is designed for Reception and Key Stage 1 children

Winter Safety Firefighter Quiz is designed for Key Stage 2 children

However, each child may enter both quizzes if appropriate.

Enter to win a VIP trip to a participating fire station, a Blaze Bear Teddy and a Lego or PlayMobil Emergency Services set.

Electrical safety is of particular concern at this time of year, especially with the increased number of electrical items such as festive lights and new electrical goods. Please make sure all electrical items are in good condition, the correct charger is always used and you unplug items when not in use #unplugtounwind

Attendance and Absence

Please note that we will not authorise holidays, or long weekends during term time unless in exceptional circumstances. Our Absence and Attendance Policy is on our school website:

It is important all pupils are in school every day and do not miss any learning. Pupil attendance is a particular focus of the school this year and parents will be contacted if we have any concerns regarding their child's absence. We would invite all parents and carers to review the latest guidance on the Department of Education website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>.



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School trips and visits

Friday 15th November—KS2 Football Festival @ Stanley Park—The Football Festival at Stanley Park was a fantastic celebration of the beautiful game! The event brought together mixed teams and all-girls teams in a spirit of inclusivity, teamwork, and fun.

The matches were played in a round robin format, ensuring that every team had the chance to compete against one another. It was truly inspiring to see players of all abilities coming together, showcasing their skills, and embracing the essence of football. The mixed teams highlighted the value of collaboration regardless of background, while the girls' teams demonstrated the growing strength and enthusiasm for girls' football, a testament to its increasing prominence.

The atmosphere was electric, with spectators cheering enthusiastically from the sidelines and players giving their all on the pitch. Stanley Park proved to be the perfect venue for this event, providing excellent facilities and a welcoming environment for everyone involved.

After the round robins were complete Ivy Lane and Queens Crescent progressed to the final where Ivy Lane scored to become overall winners. Unfortunately, upon reviewing the scores, we discovered that St. Peter's should have won Pool 2, which would have meant progressing to play Ivy Lane in the final, rather than QC 2. Unfortunately, an error occurred in the St. Paul's vs. St. Peter's game, where a 3-0 win was mistakenly awarded to St. Paul's instead of St. Peter's.

We profusely apologise for this oversight. All the teams on the day displayed incredible teamwork and skill, and it was a privilege to witness their performances. Medals will be awarded to Ivy Lane, St Peters and Queens Crescent as our finalists.

We felt a new write up show the updated results as needed on the website, to reflect this correction. Thank you for your understanding, and we greatly appreciate your dedication to sport. [Report by The Chippenham Sports Partnership]



Friday 29th November—Football for Fun: Year 2 Girls Shine in an Exciting Event!

Today, we attended a fantastic Football for Fun event for Year 2 girls, giving them an exciting opportunity to try out new skills and drills in a fun and supportive environment. From start to finish, the enthusiasm and energy of the young participants were truly inspiring!

The event began with a lively warm up to the iconic Lionesses song, setting the tone for a morning filled with excitement and teamwork. After the warm up, the girls rotated through eight fun filled stations, each designed to introduce a new skill or technique in a playful and engaging way.

Throughout the event, it was heart warming to see the smiles, teamwork, and determination from every participant. A huge thank you to our Sports Ambassadors, who led the stations with enthusiasm and professionalism, ensuring that each child felt encouraged and supported.



This event not only introduced Year 2 girls to the joys of football but also emphasised the importance of trying new things, having fun, and working together. A big well done to everyone involved—you were all stars today! ✨ [Report by The Chippenham Sports Partnership]



School trips and visits continued...

Friday 6th December—Reception Multi Skills Event—The Christmas Multi Skills event for our Reception and Year 1 children was a magical day filled with festive fun and laughter! The day began with an energetic warm-up dance to the “12 Days of Christmas,” setting the tone for an exciting celebration of movement and joy.

The main event featured 16 activity stations, each with a delightful Christmas theme. From reindeer relay races to snowball throwing and candy cane obstacle courses, the children explored a variety of fun, skill-building activities that kept them engaged and smiling. Each station was designed to encourage coordination, teamwork, and festive cheer.

To wrap up this wonderful event, the children came together for a final rendition of the “12 Days of Christmas,” complete with a joyful sing along that filled the room with festive spirit. It was a day of laughter, learning, and Christmas magic that the children will surely remember for years to come!

[Report by The Chippenham Sports Partnership]



The Green Barrows

Invites you to join them in a
PUSH IT Christmas Parade.



Light up and decorate your barrows (or anything you can push: pram, wheel chair...) as we parade and illuminate the village.

Meeting at the Village Christmas tree at 6.30pm on Friday 20th December.

All under 18 must be accompanied by an adult

Family and Community Learning



Wellbeing

Chippenham Community Hub
No1 Gladstone Parade, Chippenham, SN15 3BS
Induction 9 January 12:30 - 1:30pm
Course: Thursdays 12:30 - 2:30pm
16 23 30 January 6 13 February

Booking closes 9 January (induction)



Make small changes for a brighter future

- Take more control of your own wellbeing
- Learn coping strategies for difficult times
- Know when and who to ask for help

Contact familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk
call the FaCL team on 01225 770478
scan the QR code or visit
<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>



Our courses are free, if you are 19+ years old, resident in the UK/EU for over three years (some immigration status exempt), have a Wiltshire postcode and meet any of the following criteria: earn less than £25,000 pa, in receipt of benefits, military family, foster carer/care leaver/carer, have a disability.

Wiltshire Council

Christmas at Langley Fitzurse...

Over the last few weeks at school, we have been involved in numerous festive events in the lead-up to the Christmas holidays!

Langley Fitzurse Choir...

Our new KS2 choir has had the chance to sing carols to lots of audiences. They opened our Christmas Fair in the school hall; they had their own part of the Carols on the Common carol evening in the village; they entertained truckers at the Pit Stop Café; and sang for a late night shopping event at Church Farm café and gift shop next door.



Christmas Lunch and Disco...

The children enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner last week. They sat at long tables with their Santa hats and listened to Christmas music as the teachers and teaching assistants served the meals. This week, many of the children have also attended the KS1 and KS2 disco, where the PTA had arranged popular music choices along with sweets, children's tattoos and light-up bands.



KS1 Nativity...

Our KS1 and Early Year children put on a fabulous Nativity show in front of a packed hall audience. They did a brilliant job remembering lines, singing plenty of songs, and executing lots of different little dances. It was a truly lovely performance for everyone.



Nativity Experience at St Peters...

Our Hercules children had the chance to go to St Peter's church to meet Mrs Bloomer and to learn more about the Christmas story with a trail around the church. It was led by members of the worship council, who did a brilliant job engaging the younger children in all the activities.



Christmas Fun Run...

On the 13th, we decided as a whole school group, to undertake a festive fun run. A huge oval was marked out at the Kington Langley Rec for children to complete as many laps as they could.

Mrs Tayler helped us with a warm up, the Y6s went round with their Hercules buddies, and everyone cheered each other on to keep going for a 15 minute run. The children had rather wet feet, but afterwards we all agreed that it was a fun and worthwhile activity to be part of. We then headed back to school for hot chocolates with cream and marshmallows delivered by the wonderful PTA and helpers! Well done, everyone!



P.E Days Term 3

Reception—Thursday

Year 1+2—Tuesday and Friday

Phoenix – Monday and Wednesday

Chameleon—Monday and Wednesday (swimming)

Term 3 Dates at a Glance

Monday 6th January	- Start of Term 3
Wednesday 8th January	- Chameleon Swimming Lessons Commence for Term 3
Thursday 16th January	- Year 5 Primary Liaison Day @ Hardenhuish
Saturday 18th January	- PTA Music Quiz @ Kington Langley Village Hall
Thursday 23rd January	- School Nurse Workshop open to all parents (more information to follow)
Thursday 30th January	- Christingle Experience @ St Peter's
Friday 31st January	- Selected 4/5/6 children to attend All Active Academy @ Abbeyfield School
Monday 3rd February	- Christingle making. Children will need to bring an orange into school
Tuesday 4th February	- Christingle Service @ St Peter's. All welcome (9.15am)
Tuesday 11th February	- KS2 Productions @ Kington Langley Village Hall—afternoon and evening performances
Friday 14th February	- PTA Valentines Bake Sale at the end of school

'Tell the truth to each other' (Zechariah 8 v 16)

Term 3: TRUTHFULNESS

The BIG QUESTION - Why can telling the truth be hard?

This term the school value we will be focusing on is 'TRUTHFULNESS'.

As a Church of England School, we believe that truthfulness is important because it is part of God's character and the way in which he wants us to live. Christians often ask themselves 'What would Jesus say or do?'

Truthfulness is essential in all our relationships so we can trust one another. Honesty and forgiveness connect us together and strengthen our relationships. Everyone is tempted to cheat or break the rules. We can choose to act honestly, fairly and justly, or not. How we behave is a choice. How we behave when no one is looking is integrity!

In school we show our understanding of truthfulness by:

Telling the truth to each other all the time

Knowing we should not tell lies

Knowing that when we are honest, we can ask for forgiveness

A prayer for this term:

Dear God, help us to be honest when we do something wrong. Help us not to blame other people *but admit to our mistakes and apologise, and so learn and move on. Amen.*