

The School Journal



**ST LAWRENCE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Friday 29th November 2024



Dear families and friends of St Lawrence,

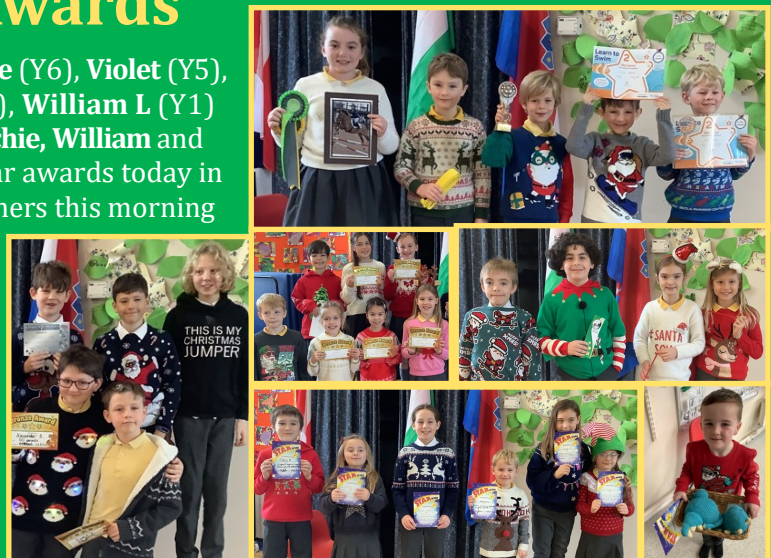
It has been a week filled with success, inspiration and teamwork. We started the week with the wonderful Open the Book team who delivered a very entertaining collective worship on the story of Daniel and the lions. The children learnt about being true to themselves and doing the right thing even when this is hard. We had some wonderful student volunteers who helped with the dramatisation of the story. Then we were incredibly lucky to have Olympic gold medallist Emily Craig join us. She spoke to the children about the perseverance, determination and personal strength needed to achieve a dream. The children got the chance to ask her questions about her achievements and her journey towards them. I was so proud listening to the thought provoking questions they asked, which included: do you feel any kind of faith helped you to achieve your goals? How did you overcome disappointment and keep going? Have you always been amazing or did you start with little certificates? Emily's consideration of these really deep questions and her inspirational answers really captured the children. Everyone was also so excited to get to touch and hold the medal, which was incredibly heavy! On Tuesday we had a team of Year 3s travel to Champion School to take part in a cup-stacking competition. They were absolutely brilliant, with fantastic teamwork, sportsmanship and behaviour, and if we weren't proud enough of them for that, they then achieved first place! On Wednesday our netball team took part in the netball league games, winning two out of their three matches - what a wonderful achievement. Once again, they were exemplary in their conduct and we are proud that they were representing our school. The children may have told you that the stage has gone up in the school hall, which means Christmas must be coming closer as we prepare for the productions from our younger year groups. Then finally today as I led our celebration assembly this morning, it was delightful to see the school awash with all the colours of the rainbow on Christmas Jumper Day to support our PTA in creating hampers. What a wonderfully full and busy week in which we have really soared as a school.

Mrs Beth Hanna

This Week's Awards

Today's Stars of the Week are: **Dottie (Y6), Violet (Y5), Otis (Y4), Esme (Y3), Maybel (Y2), William L (Y1) and Levi (Rec).** **Maisie, Joseph, Archie, William and Rupert** were given extra-curricular awards today in assembly, and our raffle ticket winners this morning were **David, Alfie, Laurel and Florence.** Lots of team point awards were given out today and we were delighted to congratulate our **Year 3 cup-stackers** and **Year 6 netballers**, who are featured elsewhere in this Journal!

Well done, everyone!



A happy church school that nurtures the unique talents of individuals and brings them together so that 'they will soar on wings like eagles' (Isaiah 40:31)

In **Little Lawrences** this week we have been exploring the story of Goldilocks and the Three bears which the children have loved!! We retold the story by acting it out and then on Wednesday we tried porridge with different flavours. The children have also created their own snowflakes for the hall and we have created Christmas trees separately and then placed them together to make a collective tree.

This week, **Reception** have enjoyed reading Goldilocks and the Three Bears and the Gingerbread Man, and our activities have been based around this, designing a gingerbread man and giving them a name, counting buttons, creating patterns and acting out the story. In phonics we've been doing sky writers, which is a tool to assist in letter formation - the children love it! We've had a busy week practising our Christmas songs and dances for our concert, and also deciding who is going to play which part! It was been lovely seeing the children in their Christmas jumpers, and can we just take this opportunity to say thank you for the PTA hamper items. Have a lovely weekend!



This week in **Year 1** we have been continuing our work on the story 'Lila and the Secret of Rain'. The children have produced some amazing writing! We have begun work on our Christmas production and have been busy learning songs. It looks set to be a really good show and we will be working on this next week too. We have had fun at Forest School and the weather was really kind to us, saving the sunshine for Friday!

Year 2 have really started to get into the Christmas spirit with their play rehearsals, which have started in earnest! You may have heard beautiful singing in the morning whilst dropping your children off at school during our song rehearsals! In maths, we have been adding and subtracting multiples of ten, and have continued investigating properties of materials in our science lessons, building houses of different materials based on the story of the Three Little Pigs. Here's a teaser (pictured left) of what our Christmas play has in store for you!

Year 3 have had some special visitors this week: an Olympic athlete came to visit the school, and as if that wasn't enough excitement, both Mr Delaney and Miss Shepherd popped in to do some maths with the class! Wednesday afternoon was another highlight. We explored the idea that magnets can both repel and attract. We had fun making the magnets move and spin without touching them. (We felt like magicians but of course it's just physics!) Then we used the magnets to try and manoeuvre toy cars around our specially-designed towns. We have also begun exploring the art of Andy Warhol and Pop art. We have used our sketch books to record our learning and our ideas about his artwork and we're looking forward to creating our own version of his volcano artwork. We have also learnt about the amazing volcanologist and daredevil Katia Krafft. Did you know she actually camped out in the crater of an active volcano!



Very well done to the Year 3 pupils who took part in this week's **Cup-Stacking tournament**. They had a great morning and we're thrilled to announce that they came first in the competition! Huge thanks to Miss Hawthorn and our very kind parent helpers who accompanied the children. We were so delighted to hear positive feedback about how beautifully the children behaved and how enthusiastic they were about taking part. Great teamwork, Year 3!



This week in **Year 4** we had a roast battle, the point of which was to learn how to use similes to describe characters. In this instance, the unfortunate characters were myself and Mrs Evans. Later in the week, we were personifying the weather, inspired by our class book 'The Ice Bear'. On Thursday we were pleased to host Year 5 for our glacier project exhibition, pictures of which are below. Amy also brought in some cakes for her birthday!

Have you ever tried to add and subtract improper and mixed fractions or those with different denominators? Well, the children in **Year 5** are experts in doing so because of their skills in identifying equivalent fractions first. They are also superb at identifying the eight different film making techniques (involving camera angles) in Computing, and at making links between different polar explorers, their experiences and challenges, and their races to the North or to the South Poles in Topic and English. In D.T. this week, the class has found weaving to produce snowflakes so much fun and their painted backgrounds help them to zing with pride- both the snowflakes and their creators! And talking of feeling a sense of pride, I was bowled over with the class's conduct on our recent visit to the Napton War Memorial; everyone remained respectful, mindful and sensitive to the occasion. It was brilliant to see the children's Remembrance Peace Mats in situ and to hear the prayers and hymns shared. Thank you to Fiona and Marion, who so



willingly and generously gave their time to support us.

This week, in **Year 6**, we finished our latest class book and have turned our attention to grammar and punctuation, starting with a recap of common and proper nouns - and plan to move onto abstract nouns next Monday. Parents, do keep an eye out for our SATs quiz homework, where your children will be looking to tackle the trickier questions via the Rollama app, linked via Google Classroom. In Maths, we've been mastering fractions - finding common denominators to add and subtract, multiplying with ease (just numerator times numerator, denominator times denominator), and dividing fractions using the 'Keep > Change > Flip' method. Homework for consolidation is live on Google Classroom. A special mention should be given to our arithmetic quiz scores too - as they are definitely on the up! In PE, tennis has been a hit, with some extra floor work in the hall keeping everyone active. Finally, in Science, we've been exploring microorganisms and conducting experiments to answer the big question: are they alive? (Spoiler: the balloon results have been fascinating!)



Mrs Monk was extremely proud of all the Year 6 players who took part in the **netball league game at Leamington Netball Club** on Wednesday evening. Our first game was very challenging. Some of the opposition's moves would have been more suitable on a rugby field but we battled hard. Although we lost that game, the children's support for each other was a pleasure to see. The children were very determined in our second and third games and they were very proud to win both of them. The whole team played their hearts out with quick passes, great defending and accurate shooting. Thank you to all the parents who took the children and supported them from the very chilly sidelines!

Music News



Miss Todd writes: Caroline, our string teacher, rushed over this week to tell Miss Todd how hard **Eli** has been working on his violin. We all know the difference a bit of practice makes but he's proved it with his superb effort at home. He has learnt the whole of Jingle Bells and is making fabulous progress in his violin lessons. He's trying so hard in the orchestra too so we're not surprised to hear it! Keep it up Eli!



Mrs Foxwell writes: **Maisie** in Year 4 brought a fabulous horse wreath picture to go on the wall in the



Tardis which is now looking very festive. Thank you Maisie! Also a big thank you to everyone who has sent in tinsel and decorations - what a lovely photo of Neve and Emily with their contributions! Mrs Hanna has donated a wonderful toy dog, named Ralph by Charlie in Year 6. Ralph is now living in the Tardis enjoying day-to-day musical activities and is very popular with children having music lessons. And congratulations to Iona (Y4) who has worked so hard to achieve a well-deserved **DISTINCTION** in her Grade 1 Flute Performance exam. Well done, Iona!



What a fabulous **wreath-making workshop** the PTA held on Thursday evening! Everyone had a wonderful time and as you can see from the lovely photo above, every single wreath made was beautiful! The PTA would like to thank Holly Thurgood for her support and expertise in running the workshop, as well as everyone who took part. About £300 was raised for the school, which is amazing!



Thanks so much to everyone for supporting Christmas Jumper Day today! We were blown away by your generosity - so many lovely items were donated by all classes for the PTA hampers.

Thank you so much!

Please do save the date and join us at this lovely village event! All welcome - we look forward to seeing you there.

SUPPORTING ST LAWRENCE CHURCH

Join us for an evening of

Christmas Cheer

Family Friendly Christmas Tree
Trail and Lighting the Village
Christmas Tree

Carol singing and music
Festive refreshments and
goodwill galore!

**Sunday 1st December
4pm at the Victory Club**

**No need to book!
Just come along**

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*A happy church school that nurtures the unique talents of individuals and brings them together so that
'they will soar on wings like eagles' (Isaiah 40:31)*