

# The School Journal



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

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Head Teacher: Mrs Beth Hanna

**Friday 6th December 2024**



Dear families and friends of St Lawrence,

This week the children have been busy in their classrooms creating wonderful snowflake designs to decorate the hall displays ready for the Christmas Family Fun on Saturday. It looks really beautiful in the hall and very festive. We chose snowflakes as each one is beautiful and unique just like our children. It has been a busy week of rehearsals at school, the hall being in high demand, costumes being pulled out of the loft, backdrops being prepared, cardboard boxes turned into props and panic ordering sheep outfits! Oh ... and then there has been all the glitter and PVA glue which has made us all sparkle even more than usual. It just feel quite magical around school at the moment, with every so often a Christmas song being hummed as someone walks down the corridor. We have a busy weekend ahead with lots of activity at the school and church, I hope I will see lots of you at the Christmas Family Fun tomorrow and I look forward to seeing the orchestra, pupils and families who can attend the Christingle service at the church on Sunday. If not, have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you all next week

Mrs Beth Hanna

## This Week's Awards

Today's Stars of the Week are: Charlie (Y6), Thomas (Y5), Florence (Y4), Emma (Y3), William (Y2), Clarabel (Y1) and Martha (Rec).

Lots and lots of team point certificates were given out in assembly today! Raffle ticket winners were Luke,

Thomas, George B and Tim. Extra-curricular awards were given to Penny, Emily H, Reuben, Frances, Mila and Jaxon.

A special mention must go to Ora and Arlie for volunteering at a Side By Side charity event last week.

And we had lovely musical performances this morning from Emily G, Penny, Emily H and Mrs Foxwell!



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This week, **Reception** class enjoyed wrapping up 3D shapes in the 'Santa's workshop' role play. They also completed lots of Christmassy challenges, including ordering numbers to 5 and labelling Christmas objects using their phonic knowledge. Alongside all this they have been absolute superstars when practising their mini Christmas play and songs. They are very excited about the performance next week!

It has been another incredibly busy week for **Year 2** as we prepare for our Christmas Nativity. The children have all been working so hard in rehearsals, making sure they know when to enter the stage, speaking loudly and clearly and singing confidently. There was great excitement when the costumes appeared and the children were very eager to try them on. The children have made us so proud and we can not wait to perform our play next week. The children have been very busy with their art this week too, learning how to draw snowflakes and using these skills to make some beautiful snowflake paintings for the hall display. They have been learning about recycling in science and discovering what happens to the rubbish we send for recycling. A busy, tiring week, well done everyone.



If you are coming to the Christmas fair, do look out for **Year 3's** snowflake prints. Last Friday, we learnt how to carve a 'lino' block and then use inks to create a print. We were amazed by how the image we carved is left white on a background of blue. They look fabulous, I'm sure you'll agree. We also learnt about the artist Andy Warhol who often used printing in his art too. The class made sketchbook pages in the style of Pop Art. They looked at the use of bright colours and the unusual subject matter of soup tins, bananas and celebrities. It was his attempt to bring art out of the gallery and into people's lives. Then we recreated his Vesuvius print, using colours on the opposite sides of the



colour wheel to really make it POP! Meanwhile, the children have been thinking about God's creation and the ways how Christians might be inspired to care for the world. Perhaps they could use these ideas if they choose to enter the pollution poster competition? The details are on Google Classroom. In science we have been discussing magnetic poles. We discovered how compasses work. Look out for a link to a BBC clip on google classroom where you can have a go at making your own compass. It's also assessment season when the teachers try to take stock at how far the children have come. The class worked hard on their various 'quizzes' showing great independence and resilience. It's been wonderful for us to reflect on the amazing progress they've made so far this year. Well done Year 3!



**Year 4** have had a week filled with winter poetry. We read, analysed and sang 'In the Bleak Midwinter/A Christmas Carol' by Christina Rossetti. We also considered 'Snow' by Walter de la Mare. We used wintery words and phrases from these, and the book 'The Ice Bear' to develop our own freezing poetry. In Maths, we continue to make progress with multiplying and dividing, and have just cracked our 7 times table! We also had a bumper week for bronze and silver awards. A reminder - the pollution poster competition entries are due in on Monday! Details are on the Google Classroom.



This week in **Year 5**, the children have further explored using the most appropriate parentheses when separating main clauses from subordinate ones. They now confidently evidence using brackets when the parenthesis is a bit of additional information that is non-essential for the reader; using commas when the information is of (roughly) equal priority to other facts in the article and is something they'd like the reader to note and know; and using dashes when they need/want to really emphasise the information, for some reason. In our Modern Foreign Language (MFL) lesson, the class has been learning how to say different countries in German and matching them to characters, as well as role playing as different nationalities and striking up conversations using phrases learnt so far. Science had the Year 5 children buzzing as they reviewed which materials conduct or insulate electricity, and this helped to initiate ways to keep themselves and their property safe in different scenarios. In Art this week the children have begun their sessions on printing; their Christmas themed wrapping paper adds a touch of festivity to the class and ties in aptly with the reverse of their Peace Mats and their woven baubles depicting snowflakes (both displayed in the Hall).



In **Year 6**, we've been busy honing our skills across subjects. In English, we revisited punctuation, grammar, and a deep dive into nouns: collective, partitive, and abstract, alongside being verbs and "to have." Check Google Classroom for more practice! In Maths, fractions took the spotlight with challenges like dividing fractions by integers, mixed fraction questions, and finding whole amounts. Don't forget to see reviews on Google Classroom! Art got collaborative as everyone pitched in to create two enormous snowy scenes now proudly displayed in the hall. Moreover, as if this wasn't enough... we have been inspired by Hokusai's *The Great Wave* - where we explored proportion, perspective, and his unique colour palette while trying our hand at recreating this iconic print. Finally, PE sessions served up tennis skills, and while we may not be ready for Wimbledon just yet, there's definite promise on court!

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## An important message about car parking

Just a reminder to all family members that the staff car park is for **staff use only at all times of day**. Please don't pull into the car park to drop off or pick up children from either Larks or Owls, or at the normal start and end of the school day.



**STAFF  
CAR PARK**  
Strictly Staff Only

If your child is being collected by a friend or family member, please let them know that the staff car park is not to be used and that all cars should be parked either in the Victory Club car park or on the road in Napton. This is a health and safety issue for the benefit of all children. Thank you very much for your help and support with this.



A taste of what we have to look forward to at Christmas Family Fun... please turn over for details of tomorrow's lovely festive event! We look forward to seeing you there!



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ST LAWRENCE PTA  
**FESTIVE FUN**  
SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER  
3PM TO 6PM AT SCHOOL

- ★ Santa's grotto
- ★ Sleigh rides & games
- ★ School orchestra
- ★ Teddy tombola
- ★ Grand hamper raffle
- ★ Mulled wine & hot chocolate
- ★ Mince pies & hot dogs
- ★ New - Xmas Karaoke

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