



The School Journal

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

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Friday 17th January 2025



Dear families and friends of St Lawrence,

It's been another wonderful week at St Lawrence. I have been so impressed with how many children I have seen this week with beautifully presented books, fabulous work and fabulous smiles as they have been telling me about their amazing learning. I have been working with Year 5 and Year 1 this week - both year groups have really shone and it's been a pleasure to work with them. The orchestra sounded wonderful this week, and I think every time I turn around it has grown in number again - such a joyous part of our school. Well to all our pupils and staff for a great week, and to our parents and friends for their continued support. Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Mrs Beth Hanna

This Week's Awards

Well done to today's Stars of the Week: **Beth (Y6), Reuben (Y5), Harrison (Y4), Heidi (Y3), Harvey (Y2), Cara (Y1), Alfie (Rec) and Leonard (LLs)**! Raffle ticket winners were **Annabelle, Alyssa, Alfie and Jasper**. There were lots of team point certificates given out as you can see from the photos, with a special mention for **Emily H** for receiving her gold award - an amazing achievement so early in the Spring Term! Congratulations to **Amy, Esme, George and Joseph** for their extra-curricular achievements in music, swimming and Beavers, and a big well done to **Archie** in Year 2 for joining in with Recorder Group for the first time. As the youngest member of the group and his first time attending, Archie managed to win the "who can hold the longest note competition!" and played really well throughout the rehearsal: a superstar musician in the making. **Very well done to you all!**



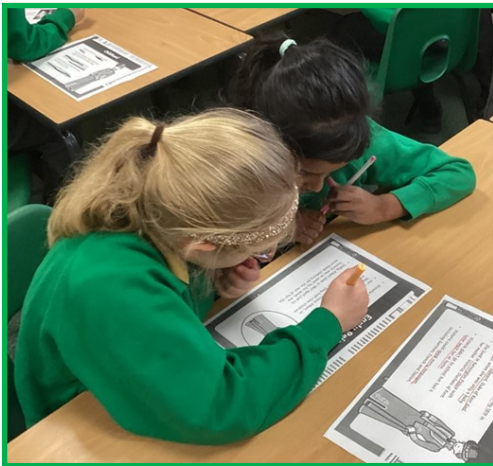
A happy church school that nurtures the unique talents of individuals and brings them together so that 'they will soar on wings like eagles' (Isaiah 40:31)



This week in **Little Lawrences** the children have really enjoyed the story of *Brown Bear, Brown Bear What do you see?* by Bill Martin. Together we have recalled the characters and colours of the animals; showing their ability in recalling something without help. We have discussed our favourite colours, using a tally chart to find out what is the overall favourite colour in the class. The children are showing an interest in learning about bears and we will continue exploring this interest further by looking at habitats and the different types of bears. This week we also welcomed Beth to our class, Beth is a student from Warwick University and will be supporting the children in the unit alongside the adults. Beth is getting to know all the children well.



This week has been all about 'Bears' in **Reception** class. The children have listened too, joined in with, acted out and sequenced the very familiar story, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. They have labelled pictures of bears and in maths they have explored 'staircase' patterns with cubes and repeated patterns with the compare bears!

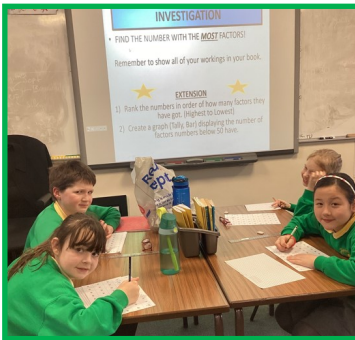


Year 1 spent this afternoon completing the Big Garden Birdwatch, and they did brilliantly! We talked about all the different birds they might see outside, and spent some time discussing what they looked like and what their names were. We watched carefully in Forest School for each of the different birds on our sheets, and were delighted when Raphael spotted a robin at the very end of the session! Year 1 has also welcomed Miss Pothecary this week, who will be with us as a student teacher for a while. It's wonderful to have her with us!



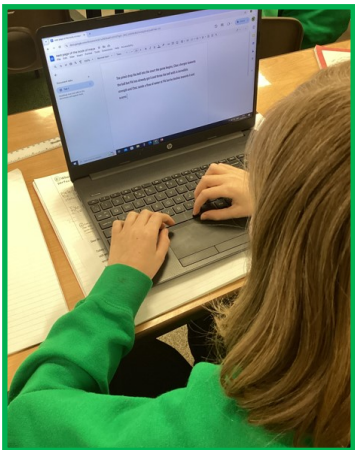
It's been another busy week in **Year 2**, full of lots of research, subtraction and poetry. The children have been continuing their work on the Owl and the Pussy-cat, writing diaries, expanded noun phrases and sequencing the events in the poem. They are working hard to learn the poem by heart too. Maths has been very tricky this week as we have looked at subtracting two digit numbers by crossing 10. We discovered that using our tens and ones can help with this. The children became history detectives this week, researching the life of Queen Victoria. Their mission reports show they have discovered so much about her. Well done everyone, it's been a super week.

Times tables are a big focus in **Year 3 and 4** and this week has been a packed one with both the 4 and 8 times tables in addition to last week's focus on the 3s. We used arrays to help us build confidence with both the multiplication and division facts and explored how we can use doubling and doubling again to help with our 4 times tables. In science, we looked at the importance of different nutrients including carbohydrate, protein, fat and vitamins and minerals. We are going for it with our writing and this week we looked at how we could use fronted adverbials to expand our sentences. We interviewed characters from our class book and practised using speech punctuation. The children were very excited by Scratch in computing. Look out for the logins which children will bring home next week. Year 3 are a very creative class and have done some beautiful sketchbook work based around Egyptian art and the illustrations of Marjan Vafaian.



This week, **Year 4** have carried out not one, but two maths investigations! They firstly found the factor pairs for numbers up to 100, and later used this data to find the amounts of multiples which had certain numbers of factors. They even created tables and bar charts to present this information! In English, they focused on both spelling and using similes and expanded noun phrases to describe creatures from ancient Greek mythology, namely the Cetus and Pegasus! In topic, we located Greece on a map and compared its climate zone and position to the UK.

Year 5 have been amazing this week. Mrs Hanna and Miss Shepherd have been so impressed with their perseverance in maths with column multiplication, 2 digit by 2 digit and 2 digit by 3 digit. They've showed excellent presentation and great recall of multiplication facts. Year 5 have also continued to enjoy reading *The Sleeper and the Spindle*, and this week we have been focusing on integrating speech into narrative. They have been fantastic at remembering the conventions of speech and using these effectively in whole-class writing. We are all really looking forward to doing this independently next week. They've been fantastic historians this week, using a range of sources to explore life in Britain before the Roman invasion, looking at farming, housing, and the view of other cultures around at the same time of the Celts.



Here's what **Year 6** been up to this week! In English, *Rain Player* by David Wisniewski has kept us busy. We've described scenes with dialogue to drive the action, mastered the perfect tense to write diary entries, predicted outcomes from text details, and even dabbled in the passive voice to change perspectives. Next, we'll tackle writing a newspaper article - no pressure! In maths, it's all about ratio: scaling up, scaling down, and solving problems involving similar shapes and proportions. We've also been sharpening our arithmetic skills with tools like MathsBot (a personal favourite among most of us - honest!). In topic, the Maya gods have stolen the spotlight; Chac seems to be the class MVP (Most Valuable Patron, perhaps?). In computing, the children have updated their Google Sites with new pages all about the Maya gods, alongside a refresher on online safety. Finally, Year 6 have danced their way through a curriculum unit that mixes creative expression with

teamwork - some fab performances were shown and enjoyed!

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If you have a budding writer in
 Years 5 or 6, they might be
 interested in this competition!
 Details are [here](#).

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