



Kirtlington
C.E. School

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School Christian Value: Respect

15th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the final newsletter of the Autumn Term.

As I write this, the children are in school feeling very pleased with their performances yesterday at the Early Years Nativity, and Carol Concert in St Mary's Church. I'm sure you'll agree that both events were wonderful, and that the children truly shone. In addition, Oak Class have sung carols at the Reaching Out coffee morning at the Oxford Arms, and our cooks prepared an amazing Christmas Lunch for the children on Wednesday.

Attendance Update

As you are undoubtedly aware, strong school attendance ensures that children receive an excellent education. At Kirtlington CE Primary School, this year we have set ourselves a challenging target of 97% attendance across the school. This means that we'd like children to attend more than 97 out of every 100 sessions. On the 8th December 2023 this figure stood at 95.9%, meaning that we're not quite at 97% yet. We hope we can work together in the new year, to try and achieve this goal.

Finally, we'd like to take this opportunity to wish all members of the Kirtlington School community a wonderful, peaceful Christmas. Have a great time, and we look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year!

Have a lovely weekend.

Paul Atkins

Mrs Grace Slater and Mr Paul Atkins
Interim Co-Headteachers

Hockey

Last week, we took two teams of hockey players to St Edward's in Oxford to compete in the Oxford Hawkes P2000 Festival of Hockey. Everyone played brilliantly and showed their very best skill and sporting values.



Rowan Class

In Rowan Class, we have been busy rehearsing our nativity and learning about the story of the birth of Jesus. We have been focussing on the story of the Gingerbread Man and Goldilocks and the Three Bears in our English lessons. We have enjoyed making obstacle courses outside and the soggy weather has provided us with some excellent muddy puddles to jump in, and even some ice to explore.



Lime Class

Following our assessment week, where the children worked really hard and showed us how much they had learnt in their first term in Lime Class, we have been concentrating on making our hedgehog houses and they are beginning to look really lovely.

In Topic, we have also been learning about famous explorers and comparing what travel was like for Christopher Columbus compared to Neil Armstrong. Christopher Columbus would only have had a compass to navigate his way whereas Neil Armstrong would have needed computers for his travel or, as I was amused to see someone suggested, a satnav. I loved the idea and could just imagine the commentary on a satnav to the moon!



Willow Class

Last week Willow class had great fun with our D.T project where we designed and made healthy snacks. We looked carefully at packaging and how it helps to keep our food fresh too. We really enjoyed making them and eating them too!

This week in R.E we designed and made a keyring with our own design to represent the Holy Trinity. We thought carefully about the symbols we could use as part of our designs.



Oak Class

Oak Class have worked exceptionally hard over the past few weeks completing their assessments and proving just how marvellous they all are! We have finished our class novel, *Freedom 1783* by Catherine Johnson and have started creating book reviews which include our own artwork and quotes from the novel. It has been a fantastic book to read as a class and had us on the edge of our seats at several different points.



In Geography, we have been using Ordnance Survey Maps to measure the distance between places and identify human and physical features. In Art, we learned about significant black artists and their works. We analysed their work and created our own artwork inspired by them.

High Flyers - news from the team

'Ho ho ho!' It's been a fabulously festive week here at High Flyers. Our crafty crew have been doing lots of creative activities. From making beautiful pop-up cards that pop to sculpting incredible models, a movie night and helping decorate the Christmas tree. We have been racing like Rudolph and playing outside, laughing all the way. Not long before we break up, and we have a sleigh-load of festive activities.

High Flyer of the week is: Isabelle M, for been amazing, kind and embracing the Christmas spirit.

We offer breakfast and after-school service for children to play Monday – Thursday, within school. You can book through our website: <https://www.highflyers.org.uk> or on our booking platform: <https://highflyersoxfordlimited.ipalbookings.com/>

Dates and reminders (changes/new dates in red)

Fri 15th Dec

Tues 19th Dec

Rowan Class Nativity (Show 2) – 5pm

iRock Concert – 9:30am

Tues 19th Dec Pantomime (at school)

Weds 20th Dec End of Autumn Term – 1:30pm

Mon 8th Jan Spring Term Starts – 8:40am (gates open 8:35am)
Mon 8th Jan Multi-sports After School Club restarts
Fri 12th Jan KSF Winter Wonderland at Park Farm

Parking reminder

Please avoid parking outside the school when dropping off and picking up. The road is extremely busy at this time of day – try to use the Village Hall car park and walk up to school.

Change of footwear

Please remember that children should have a pair of trainers and a pair of welly boots in school for use during outdoor play. On PE days, they should come in their school shoes and will change into trainers when they do PE.

Safeguarding

May we take this opportunity to remind you that the school has responsibility for each child's safeguarding and welfare.

Paul Atkins and Grace Slater are Designated Safeguarding Leads for the school, with Victoria Grocutt and Cheryl Evans being the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Should you have any safeguarding concerns please telephone the office and ask to speak with one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads or, alternatively, the MASH (Multi- Agency Safeguarding Hub for all child protection and immediate safeguarding concerns) can be contacted on 0345 050 7666.

Free School meals

Should your circumstances change over the next few weeks or months, please see this link for further support. <http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/free-school-meals>