



Barford St. Peter's C.E. (V.A.) Primary School

Together we love; together we learn

Newsletter

Friday 20th December

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2024! This term has been full of exciting learning experiences for children and it has been wonderful to welcome so many of you into school over the past few weeks for parent sharing events or stay and play sessions so that you are able to share in your child's learning journey.

This week we have been treated to the most spectacular performances from our children in Reception up to year 5. A huge well done to all of the children, who I am sure you will agree were absolutely superb. To see children perform with such confidence and enthusiasm is just magical and I am sure has provided you with life long special memories to cherish. My special thanks also to the staff for their incredible hard work (and patience) in putting such exceptional shows together.

Today we held our Christmas Carol Service at St. Peter's which was a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a school community. Our thanks as always to Mrs Fawcett for leading the service and to all the children who read and sang so well.

In other news this week, we are delighted to share that we are now the 3rd highest performing school in all of Warwickshire, out of 243 schools. In fact, we are the 2nd highest performing school for greater depth standard in reading, writing and maths. You can see our outstanding results in the league tables here:

[All schools and colleges in Warwickshire - Compare school and college performance data in England - GOV.UK](#)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support, co-operation and positivity as we work together to provide the very best for the children. I hope you have a most joyful Christmas and wish all of you the very best for 2025.

Merry Christmas!

Mrs Mary Baker



Staff Christmas Jokes!



I have tasked the reporters this week with finding out our staff favourite Christmas jokes!

Miss Baker:
What do Santa's helpers learn in school?

The elf-abet

Mrs Stock:
Why were the elves struggling in the woods with their wifi?

Because they couldn't 'log on'

Mr Swards:
Last year, I was given a deck of sticky playing cards for Christmas. I found it really hard to deal with!

Mrs Cookes:
What do you get if you eat tinsel?

Tinselitis

Mrs Taylor:
Who hides out in a Christmas bakery?

A mince-spy

Miss Taylor:
Why did the turkey join a band?

Because he had drumsticks!

Mrs Del Rio
What does Santa say when he walks backwards?

Oh Oh Oh!

Mrs Bunn
What do you call a man who claps at Christmas?

Sant-applause



What we've been learning

Year 1

Reception

Last week our theme books were 'Stickman' and 'The Smeds and Smoos' by Julia Donaldson. The children loved seeing 'The Smeds and Smoos' come to life during our visit to Warwick Arts Centre.

During the last two weeks, Reception have thoroughly enjoyed getting into the spirit of Christmas. We have an advent snowman in Reception which considers a thought each day for others and has helped us to think about others at this very busy time of year.

We are sure you will agree that the children were outstanding performing in their Nativity play. What a talented class! In preparation for the performance, we carefully designed programmes as a keepsake with our sheep characters on the front. To prepare for celebrating Christmas, we have also been crafting cards and calendars for our families. On Wednesday this week, we got together with our Year 6 buddies to make baubles for our Christmas trees. It was a lovely opportunity to play and learn together, spending time with our buddies in both classrooms.

In maths we have been decorating Christmas trees exploring numbers of different decorations, counting and finding a 'whole set' number. Most of all, the children have impressed the teachers with their ability to play and learn independently in class during very busy times. They have become a fantastic team during their first term in school.



In year 1 in English we have been writing about the gunpowder plot and who was involved, including Robert Catesby. We have also been practising spelling our high frequency words and writing sentences remembering our capital letters and full stops.

In maths we have been thinking all about different ways to represent 10. We have also been learning the names and properties of 2D and 3D shapes. We even sorted them according to their properties. We have also made tricky repeating patterns using shapes as well.

In science we have been learning about what the weather is like in Winter. In design technology we have been designing our Christmas cards using sliders. We could use a slider to make a picture move up and down to side to side. We then used cardboard to make our cards.

In geography we have studied maps of London and located some of the key buildings, including the tower of London. In P.H.S.E. we have been thinking about friendships and how sometimes we can fall out with our friends. We thought about ways to resolve friendship problems. In computing we have been learning about decomposition and how to break down tasks into smaller chunks.

Year 2

In Year 2 in English we have been learning about the Great Fire of London. We have been learning to add crossing over the tens barrier and add 2 digit numbers to 2 digit numbers. In art we have created beautiful pieces inspired by the Great Fire of London using tissue paper collage to create a background and black paper to show the houses.



In P.H.S.E we have been thinking about different types of families. We have also been thinking about friendships. In design technology we have been learning how to sew! This has been quite tricky but we persevered to make our lovely ginger bread men decorations!

Year 6

In English we have been reading 'Treasure' based in Tudor times, and writing about the emotions of one of the characters called Will. We have written about how he feels about getting on and off the boat which crosses the Thames.

In maths we have been practising calculating with fractions, including multiplying fractions. In science we have been investigating how our heart rate changes during and after exercise. We measured our heart rate after exercise and drew a line graph accurately to show our results.

With our buddies this week we have had a fun morning making baubles and playing musical statues! In design technology we have designed and made our very own Christmas cushions. We used blanket stitch and running stitch and added on embellishments. We were really pleased with our finished products!

This Week's Prayer



"Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." - Luke 2:11-12

Heavenly Father,

At this exciting time of the year, help us to keep in our hearts and minds the true meaning of Christmas. We thank you that we are able to celebrate together with our families and friends, enjoying happy and memorable times together. Help us all to find some peace during this holiday, and return refreshed in the new year ready for the next part of our school journey.

Amen

Parent Pay

We would be really grateful if you could spare a moment to log into your parent pay account and clear any outstanding balances. There are a lot of Christmas show tickets which have not yet been paid for, as well as the trips to the theatre.

Currently the theatre trips to Smeds and Smoos and Dick Whittington are running at a loss to the school of over £350 which unfortunately means they will not be able to go ahead next year as we are not able to absorb this cost. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please do come and speak to Mrs Baker in confidence. Thank you for your co-operation.

Year 3

In English we have been creating an information leaflet about how to stay safe in an earthquake. We have incorporated all our learning from our science lessons about how earthquakes happen as well as how to stay safe. We concentrated on presenting our work well too!

In R.E. we have been writing our own Christmas prayers. In P.H.S.E. we have been considering the different problems which occur in friendships and how we can resolve these.

In maths we have been practicing our division methods, including formal methods which leave a remainder! In design technology we have designed our own moving Christmas cards using levers and linkages. We learned about to create movement using levers and links and incorporated this into our designs. We then decorated them to make them aesthetically pleasing. We are really pleased with our finished products!

Year 4

In Year 4 in maths we have been practising our times tables. In design technology we have been designing our Christmas decorations and learning how to do different stitches, and we remembered lots from our sewing in year 3 as well! We used glue guns to help to add in the decorations.

Year 5

In Year 5 we have been busy designing our very own chocolate bars. We use a CAD programme called 'tinkercad'. We created our own packaging, using careful measuring and then decorated them according to our design. Then, the most exciting part, we made our chocolate bars! They were delicious! We have really enjoyed our chocolate learning theme and have learned so much, for example how chocolate came to Europe in our history lessons.

In English we have been writing persuasive letters to Mr Wonka to try to convince him to buy our bars. In P.E. we have continued to develop our hockey skills.

In maths we have been converting and ordering fractions. We had to find the lowest common denominator and then convert the fractions to have the same denominator before ordering them. It was challenging but we did really well!

Spring Term Dates 2025

Date & Time	Event
Monday 6 th January	INSET Day
Wednesday 15 th January 8.45am	Year 6 Poetry & Music Assembly
Friday 17 th January	Year 4 Cake Sale
Friday 24 th January	FABs Movie Night
Wednesday 5 th February 8.45am	Year 5 Poetry & Music Assembly
Friday 14 th February	FABs Valentines Disco
Monday 17 th February to Friday 21 st February	Half Term
Monday 24 th February	Science Week
Thursday 27 th February	Young Voices
Wednesday 5 th March	Year 5 Poetry & Music Assembly
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 12 th March	Online Parents' Meetings (am)
Thursday 13 th March	Online Parents' Meetings (pm)
Friday 14 th March	Year 3 Cake Sale
Friday 21 st March	Ricky Dance Day – KS1
Wednesday 26 th March	Year 3 Poetry & Music Assembly
Friday 28 th March	Ricky Dance Day – KS2
Wednesday 2 nd April	Year 2 Class Assembly
Friday 4 th March	Break the Rules Day
Thursday 10 th April 2.30pm	Easter Service
Friday 11 th April	INSET Day

