



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

Together we love; together we learn

Newsletter

Friday 19th December



What an exciting end of term we have had, with so many exciting Christmas activities happening around school!

Thank you for joining us for the Children's Christmas performances, which I am sure you will agree were exceptional. To see every child sing, act and dance with such confidence and enthusiasm fills me with both pride and joy, as I am sure it does for you as parents.

Last Wednesday children were filled with awe and wonder as we attended Coventry Cathedral for a fun filled Christingle service. Children's singing and behaviour was excellent throughout. They created their own Christingles once back at school and completed work on the meaning of each element of a Christingle.

I am sure that the highlight of this week for Key Stage Two was our visit to the Spa Centre to watch 'Peter Pan!' It was certainly an interactive and entertaining performance, and again children's behaviour was exemplary.

As we come to the end of the Autumn Term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support as parents. We highly value our positive relationship with all of you, as we work together to enable every child to thrive.

All that remains is for me to wish you a very Happy Christmas; may it be filled with joy and special moments.

Very best wishes,

Mrs M.A. Baker
Head Teacher



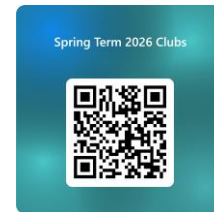
Spring Term Clubs

Clubs for the Spring term will commence during the week beginning 12th January. If your child was on a waiting list and you have already been notified of their space for the Spring Term (for example in craft club or gardening), you do not need to reapply for these places.

Netball and girls' football will recommence from the week beginning Monday 12th January for those already attending these clubs.

There is the opportunity to sign up for additional Spring Term clubs by filling out the forms link below, no later than Monday 5th January. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

[Spring Term 2026 Clubs – Fill in form](#)



What we've been learning

Reception

The last two weeks have been a wonderful end to our term topic 'Let's Celebrate'. The children performed so brilliantly in their Nativity as well sharing so much this term about the different ways we celebrate and commemorate special occasions and festivals, including birthdays, Remembrance, Hannukah, our Christingle service in Coventry and all other aspects of Christmas celebrations. We are sure you will agree that the children were outstanding performing in their Nativity play. In preparation for the performance, we carefully designed programmes as a keepsake and practised our singing and dancing so that we were all ready for the show.

Our post office role play has continued to be very popular for exploring celebration themes and delivering our cards. 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 their classroom.

During our Christmas party we had a very important visitor! Santa came to see us and brought individual replies to the letters we wrote him earlier in the term. We were so excited to receive them.



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 growing ability to play and learn independently in class during very busy times. They have become a fantastic team during their first term in school.

Year 1

In English we continued our journey by looking at the book 'Orion and the Dark.' We wrote a beautiful setting description where we used lots of adjectives! We then started to focus on 'The Gunpowder Plot.' Together, we unpicked features of a WANTED poster and wrote one on Guy Fawkes. We ended our English journey by writing an information text on 'The Gunpowder Plot' where we used question marks.

In maths we have been focusing on addition and subtraction. In particular, subtraction where we have been crossing out pictures. We then jumped back on a number line to solve subtraction sentences. We have been flashing back to previous learning at the start of each lesson and remembering key skills!

In science we discussed the similarities and differences between Autumn and Winter. We then observed the weather and completed a weather chart.

In history we have been looking at 'The Gunpowder Plot.' In groups, we acted out the story of the plot and showcased this to each other. This was a great oracy opportunity. We really enjoyed it!

In art we have been painting using the primary colours and creating secondary colours. We applied this learning to create our very own Christmas artwork of a Christmas Tree. Mrs Rose came down to look at all of them and was amazed!

In R.E. we made our very own Christingle after our lovely trip to Coventry Cathedral. We looked at why this is celebrated and what the different parts represent.

Finally, we showcased our wonderful music skills by singing our hearts out in the KS1 Christmas Show. We really enjoyed it and hope you did too!

Year 2

In Year 2 we have been having a very busy and exciting time. Firstly, we really enjoyed performing our KS1 show last week and all of our teachers were very proud of our loud confident performances, great acting and wonderful singing!

Then we had a fantastic art day completing our Great Fire of London masterpieces. We used orange, red and yellow paint to create the drama of the fire. We then used smudging and lifting out techniques with charcoal to create the smoke-filled sky, and finally we used tracing paper to create the London buildings. The effect of these layered techniques was stunning!

In Maths we have been learning about the properties of shapes and investigating creating different amounts with money. In English we had a wonderful time exploring Christmas Eve traditions and thinking about what makes this such a magical time. We then used our ideas to create senses poems about Christmas Eve.

Finally, in science we had a great time concluding our materials topic by completing a challenge based on 'The Three Little Pigs'. We made three different houses out of paper, lolly-sticks and plastic bricks. We then investigated which ones could withstand the wolf huffing and puffing. It was great fun!

Year 3

In year 3 we really enjoyed performing our Christmas show last week. It was a lot of fun learning our dances and singing all of the songs. We have also been working hard on our DT project and have created Christmas cards with moving parts. We had to draw out our designs carefully and then used fixed and loose pivots to make the parts move. In science we have been learning about a balanced diet and we created our own balanced meal. In art we have been working on our sketching skills and thinking about proportion and light and shade. In English we have been writing information texts all about natural disasters and we have enjoyed learning lots of new information.

Year 4

We have been having such a lot of Christmas fun in year 4! We really enjoyed performing in our Christmas show and hope you liked it too. We thought the costumes looked great and the songs sounded good.

Last week, we looked at the Romans and how they changed the Britain we know today. We learnt about Caesar's attempted invasion and Claudius's successful one. We also learnt about how they built lots of roads, brought over delicious food and even used under floor heating! We then look at Hadrian's Wall and were amazed at how they built such an enormous wall across our country. You can still see parts of it today. It was there to stop the Picts invading Britain and it was also a message to everyone to show them how powerful and clever they were.

In PSHE we have looked at bullying and gender stereotypes. We had a good discussion about the characters we see on TV and how they do or don't fit gender stereotypes. We then talked about how important it is to have a characters that show you can be unique.

We also loved our trip to the pantomime and Coventry Cathedral. We also had a great time on Wednesday seeing Santa and having a Christmas party. We did a really tricky quiz and played musical statues. It has felt so Christmassy and we can't wait for Christmas day in a weeks' time! Have a great Christmas holiday.

Year 5

In maths we have been learning how to calculate mixed number in fractions; it's a little bit easier when you get the hang of it! In English we have continued to study the text 'Charlie and the chocolate factory' by Roald Dahl, which we have almost completed. In PSHE we have been learning about families and relationships and how it can be challenging to children if families change.

In Design Technology we designed and then made our own chocolate bar. We had lots of fun choices like which type of chocolate to use as the base, and which fillings to use such as gummy bears or Biscoff! We thoroughly enjoyed making our bars and all thought they were delicious.

We had a wonderfully Christmassy afternoon for our party on Wednesday. We started it off with playing musical statues and musical bumps which was awesome. Next we did a teamwork game. Then we heard bells ringing down the corridor and realised it was Father Christmas coming to visit! He gave us some chocolate lollipops. It was so much fun!

Year 6

We have had a festive time in Year 6. In English, we published our sonnets from King Henry VIII to Anne Boleyn. In Music, we played Pachelbel's Canon on the xylophones, a canon is a melody which is then imitated one or more times. Mrs Facchino was very impressed with our playing.

At the start of the week, we produced our Christmas cushions following our design making on Tinkercad. Some found blanket stitch quite challenging but we persevered and were very impressed with the final product.

Yesterday, we embarked on our annual trip to the pantomime. Peter Pan was amazing, especially the flying scenes. Today, we have loved working with our Reception buddies to make Christmas bauble decorations. We wish you all a Merry Christmas from Year 6.

This Week's Prayer

Father God,

Thank you that You gave us the greatest gift of all time when You sent Jesus to the world. We give You the glory, just like the angels, as we remember Your perfect plan to save the world. Thank you for Your great love for us.
Amen.

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”
Isaiah 9:6

Warning – Humphrey Book Series

The following message has been passed on to schools from the publisher of the Humphrey series of books:

Public Statement from the Publisher

This morning, we became aware that the website www.funwithhumphrey.com which is advertised on the back of various titles in the 'Humphrey' series by Faber author Betty G. Birney now leads to a malicious website. This website is not in any way associated with Faber or the author Betty Birney.

We are taking this matter extremely seriously, and acting, as a matter of urgency. All affected stock is now frozen. We have immediately paused on the sale and distribution of those books. We have reported the site to the National Cyber Security Centre.

We are asking people not to visit the website and to ensure that children do not visit it either. We are asking anyone who has copies of these titles to remove these books from their shelves and return them to us, until such time as they can be replaced.

Ebook editions of these books have already been amended. Affected titles are listed below:

- 978-0571282500 - Secrets According to Humphrey
- 978-0571328338 - Holidays According to Humphrey
- 978-0571248186 - Friendship According to Humphrey
- 978-0571328352 - Mysteries According to Humphrey
- 978-0571284191 - Spring According to Humphrey
- 978-0571328383 -Imagination According to Humphrey
- 978-0571328390 - World According to Humphrey
- 978-0571328369 - Christmas According to Humphrey
- 978-0571255429 - School According to Humphrey

We sincerely apologise for all inconvenience and distress that this will have caused and to all Humphrey fans.

Spring Term Dates 2026

Please note dates may be added or timings changed closer to the events. Please read each newsletter carefully for updates.

Date	Time	Year	Event	Location
5 th January	INSET DAY			
8 th January	All day	Choir	Young Voices	BP Pulse, Birmingham
8 th January	9am to 10.30am		Phonics Family Learning Course	Hall
15 th January	9am to 10.30am		Phonics Family Learning Course	Hall
16 th January	10.30am	All	Year 4 Cake Sale	Hall
21 st January	8.45am	5	Poetry and Music Class Assembly	Hall
22 nd January	9am to 10.30am		Phonics Family Learning Course	Hall
23 rd January	3.30pm to 5pm	All	FABs Movie Night	Hall
29 th January	9am to 10.30am		Phonics Family Learning Course	Hall
5 th February	2.45pm	1	Parent Sharing Event	Year 1 classroom
6 th February	2.45pm	4	Parent Sharing Event	Year 4 classroom
3 rd February	2.45pm	2	Parent Sharing Event	Year 2 classroom
10 th February	9am to 12pm	All	Parent Meetings	Via Teams
11 th February	8.45am	3	Music & Poetry Class Assembly	Hall
11 th February	3.30pm to 5.30pm	All	Parent Meetings	Via Teams
13 th February	TBC	KS1 & KS2	FABs Valentine Disco	Hall
W/B 16 th February	Half Term			
27 th February	All day	5	Visit to Tamworth Castle	
4 th March	8.45am	4	Poetry and Music Class Assembly	Hall
5 th March	All day	All	World Book Day	Classroom
11 th March	8.45am	2	Class Assembly	Hall
18 th March	8.45am	1	Class Assembly	Hall
19 th March	2.45pm	3	Parent Share	Year 3 classroom
25 th March	8.45am	Rec.	Class Assembly	Hall
26 th March	9am	All	Easter Service	St. Peter's Church
27 th March	All Day	Years 3-6	Ricky Dance Day	Hall
27 th March	3.30pm	All	Easter Egg Tombola	Hall