



Following in the footsteps of Jesus, we learn, love and laugh together

Friday 8th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

This week we have entered into the first week of Advent. At St. Luke's we are continuing the tradition of the Posada by inviting the children to take the travelling nativity to their homes each night. This means that Mary and Joseph will have a place to stay each night as they continue their journey to Bethlehem.

Yesterday, we had the pleasure of watching the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One Nativity 'Children of the World'. This was a spectacular performance, with children sharing Christmas traditions from around the world, all to celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus.

We are looking forward to the Carols by Candlelight which will be performed by our pupils in Key Stage Two on Monday evening. Weather permitting, this will begin outside and we will follow the choir into the hall.

Today, we had our annual visit to the Brindley Theatre, to watch Sleeping Beauty. We are delighted to provide this experience for our children, particularly as it is a wonderful part of the Christmas traditions.

Just a reminder of the events next week. On Wednesday we have our Christmas Dinner. This is also the Christmas jumper day. We ask for a donation of £1 and this will go towards the cost of the party food. On Thursday afternoon we will have the Christmas Parties. Children can come to school in their party clothes.

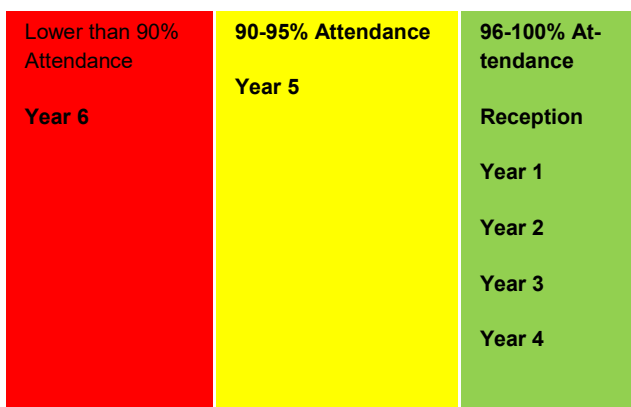
Thank you for your continued support

Best wishes

Eileen Murtagh

Attendance

Overall Attendance this week **94.7%**. Across the school, **40 minutes** of learning time was lost this week through late arrivals.



Don't underestimate the importance of 100% attendance. Even one day missed can have an effect on learning.

98% attendance means **4** school days missed

95% attendance means **10** school days missed

90% attendance means **19** school days missed

80% attendance means **38** school days missed

5 minutes late each day means **3** school days missed

Please be aware that requests for children to take holidays during term time will be classed as an unauthorised absence.

Please be aware that unauthorised absences that exceed 5 school days during term time will receive a fixed penalty notice (FPN).

Little Church

Come and Join us for Little Church during 6pm mass on Saturday where there will be some fun activities while discussing this week's Gospel.

Lion Cubs

The Lion Cubs enjoyed their Christmas party this week! Come and join us again next week.

After School Clubs and Early Birds

This was the last week for all clubs and we will send letters out about clubs for January.

Message from CWaC—Winter Reading Challenge

Following the success of Ready, Set, Read Summer Reading Challenge, the theme has been extended into the Winter Mini Challenge. With the holidays approaching, now is the time to encourage your children to tackle the holiday reading 'dip'.

Join in at wintermini.org.uk from 1 December 2023. More information on the Challenge can be found on the website.



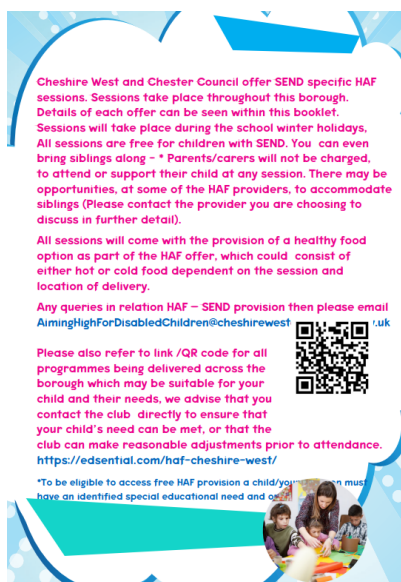
Nativity

We are so proud of the Infant Performance of the Nativity this week!

We hope you enjoyed learning about Christmas Traditions around the world!

Winter Holiday Activities

Please see information leaflet sent out with today's newsletter.



Cherry Class

This week Cherry class have been writing alternate versions of stories that we think Nibbles might have nibbled his way into.

In maths we have been learning about properties of shape and making shape patterns.

In 'The Way, The Truth and the Life', we have been learning about the Christmas story and the birth of baby Jesus.

In Science we have been write about what we found out following our experiment to find the best material to use for wrapping paper.

In Geography year 1 have been learning about Grid References and have created a world for Nibbles to live in.

We have enjoyed exploring the icy weather and the frozen outdoor area.



Elm Class

Elm class have had a fabulous week this week! In English, we wrote about our trip to the Christmas Journey and in Maths we have been looking at 2 step problems as part of our addition and subtraction topic.

In Personal Development, we looked at how to keep inside our bodies healthy by looking at a range of feelings we might have.

In Science, we started our germs and bacteria experiment to see if dirty or clean hands will help to grow the mould the quickest on the bread. We thought about how we could make it a fair test and made our predictions. We will continue to observe our bred over the next week.

We have been enjoying sharing our favourite books as part of our Advent Calendar and we can't wait for all the books that will be shared next week!

On Thursday, we performed our Christmas play, we did extremely well performing twice in one day and we were really proud of ourselves.

On Friday we enjoyed watching the Pantomime, it was really good and a lovely way to get into the Christmas spirit!

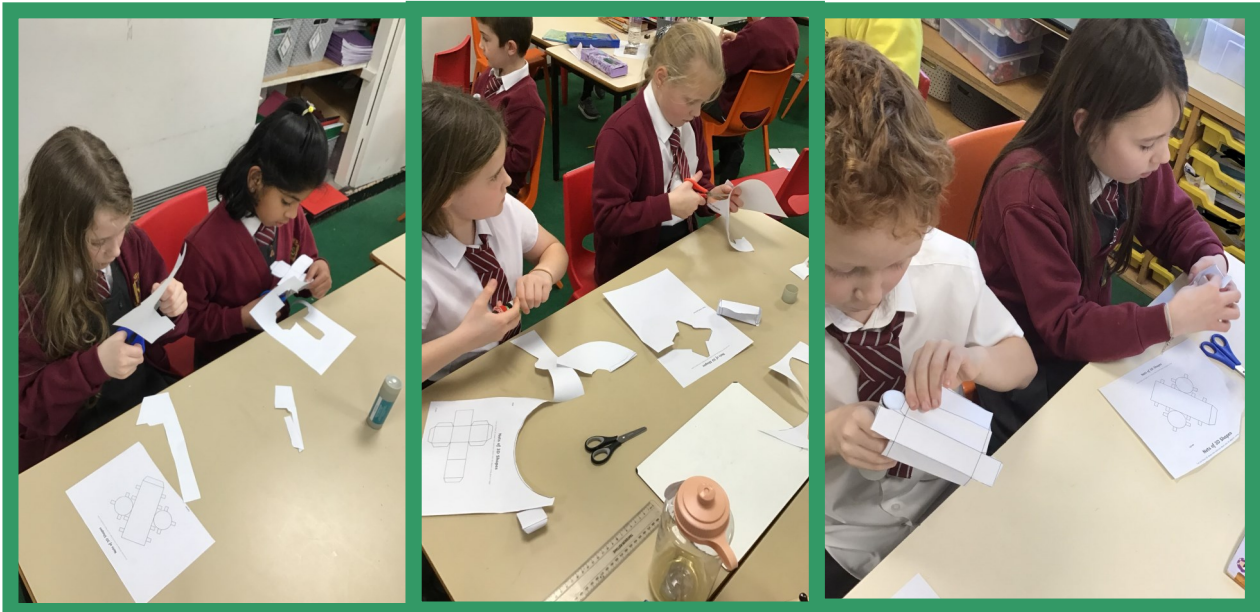


Yew Class

This week in science we have been looking at food chains. We matched pictures of producers and consumers and linked our pictures to create food chains. We made predictions of what we think would happen if a link in a food chain was removed.

In DT we constructed 3D shapes using nets. We considered which 3D shapes we would use in our final project whilst referring back to our original design.

On Wednesday we were very lucky to be able to watch KS1 and EYFS in their nativity. The children had a brilliant time and thoroughly enjoyed the performance.



Cypress Class

It has been another wonderful week in Cypress Tree Class. With their first concert fast approaching, Year 5 enjoyed their violin lesson on Monday morning and can't wait to share their musical talents with their family members next week. Whilst Year 5 have been working hard on learning how to play the violin, Year 6 have enjoyed creating their own compositions using African instruments in their music lesson.

We really enjoyed our history lesson this week where we investigated different theories about what caused the decline in the Maya civilisations. There were many different ideas and it was great to have a class debate.

This week, we have continued to present our homework projects to the class and it has been fantastic to see and hear all about the different facts that have been found out. There were some very creative ideas used to present findings.

