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Executive Head Teacher: Mr C. Flaherty
Head of School: Mr K Scanlon

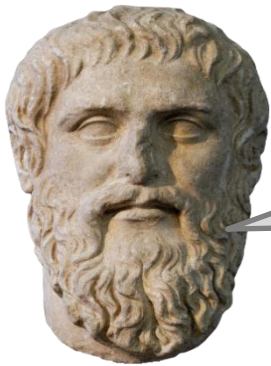


St Anthony's Catholic Primary
Fordbridge Road,
Kingshurst,
Birmingham,
B37 6LW

Friday 28th November 2025



This half term, we are growing to be **learned**, finding God in all things and **wise** in the ways we use our learning for the common good.



Wise men talk because they have something to say;
foolish men because they have to say something.

Plato - Ancient Greek philosopher

If any child (Reception to Year 6) would like to have a school dinner on **Tuesday 9th November** for our **Christmas dinner and jumper day**, please ensure you have ordered this via <https://www.parentpay.com/> by **tonight- 8th November 2025**. This can be accessed via ParentPay. See page 22 for menu details.

Have your children outgrown last year's jumpers?

Please consider donating any **clean, pre-loved Christmas jumpers** in good condition to school.

We will display all donated jumpers in the school hall for families to **choose one to take home**.

Let's share the joy this Christmas and support one another as a school community by being caring and generous during this Advent season.



PTA page



12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS RAFFLE








£1 PER TICKET
£3 PER STRIP
£10 FOUR STRIPS




PTA page

We're excited to announce our Christmas Raffle with fantastic prizes to be won for 12 consecutive days. The first winner will be announced on Monday 8th December, with a new winner picked every day up until we break up on Friday 19th December!

Prizes range from:

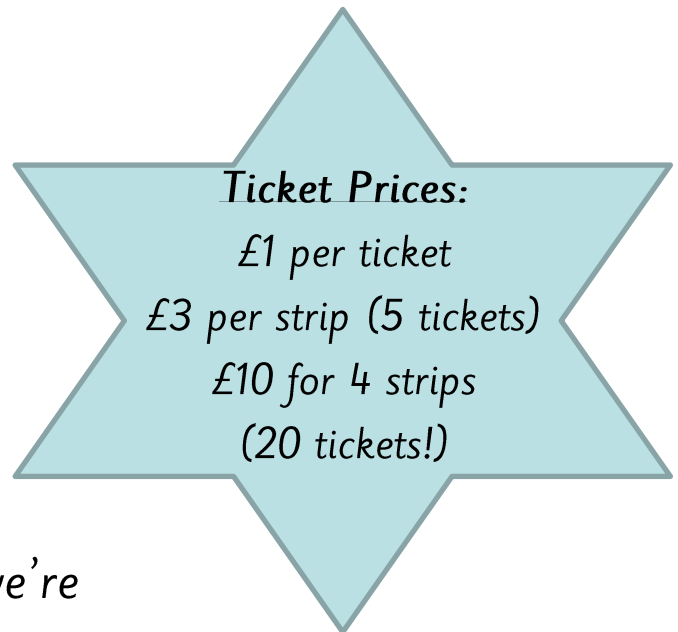
-  Sweet & chocolate hampers
-  A Karcher window vacuum
-  A cordless vacuum
-  Fun children's toys
-  A wine bundle

...and a few surprise prizes that we're keeping secret for now! 

Tickets will be sold at classroom doors from Monday 1st December and will continue throughout the raffle period.

All money raised goes directly back into events and experiences for the children.

What a great chance to win some Christmas presents! ✨



12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

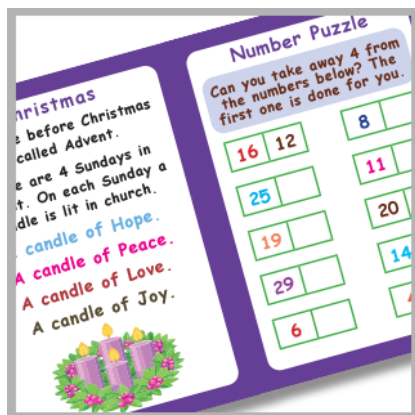
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12

**£1 PER TICKET
£3 PER STRIP
£10 FOUR STRIPS**

Catholic Life



This weekend marks the beginning of the season of **Advent** and a new church year. Rather than a 'Walk With Me' calendar (which pupils have in each classroom) this year we have purchased a booklet for pupils, '**My Day by Day**', which contains activities for your child to complete during the next four weeks – we hope that they enjoy them!



Each week in school we will have a focus on a particular theme. Next week it is '**hope**' and the children will be learning about George Mathias, a real child of hope. Learn more about his story here: <https://runwithgeorge.com/my-story/>



✕

Pope Leo XIV says...

✕

✕

✕



Jesus Christ is not a figure of the past. He is the Son of God present among us, guiding history toward the future promised by God.

Tiny Ants

I know it is early but the children have had a wonderful time decorating our Christmas tree, the children have been hanging baubles and wrapping tinsel to make their own creations. Teddy, Isabella and Thomas completed their puzzles, and we decorated green playdough trees using sequins and stars.



Nursery

This week in Nursery we have been focusing on the animation 'Pingu' and learning all about penguins - including their appearance, where they live and what they eat. Linking to this, we have explored arctic animals in a range of sensory materials including shaving foam, water and blocks of ice. We have experimented with how to break the ice and how to make it melt quickly. We have also been making some brilliant igloos and structures using our soft white and grey blocks and attempting to use developed vocabulary such as 'shimmering', 'cuboids', and 'frozen' to describe them.



Reception

This week we celebrated the Feast of Christ the King by reflecting on Jesus' kindness and forgiveness, especially towards the criminals on the cross. In RE, we began our learning about Advent and explored the meaning behind the Advent wreath. The children also enjoyed creating their own crowns as part of this work. In Maths, we have been counting in sequences to 10. The children built towers with blocks and helped our puppet friend practise careful, accurate counting. Our drawing book focus was Hansel and Gretel. The children created wonderful illustrations and descriptions of a sweet-filled house, using lots of imaginative detail. In PE, we took on the role of brave firefighters, practising climbing and balancing skills with confidence and enthusiasm. We ended the week with a lovely treat—making our own gingerbread biscuits!



Year 1

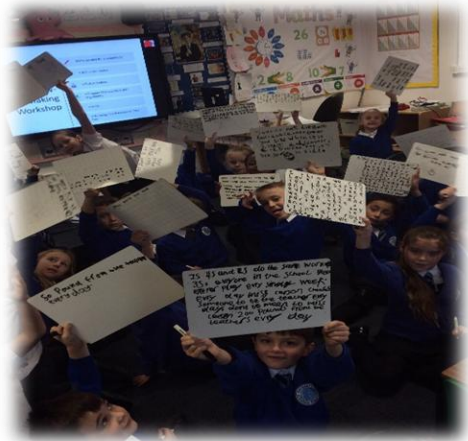
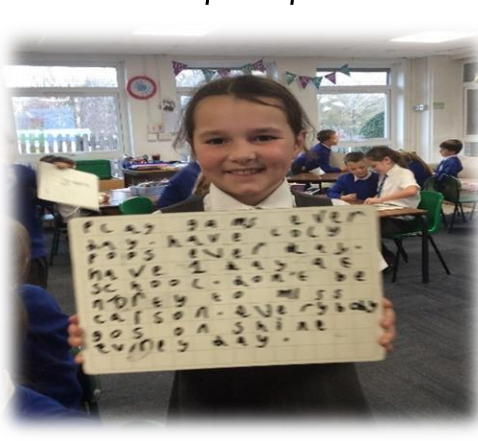


Year 1 have enjoyed exploring their local area this week as part of our Geography topic. We walked around our local park, Babbs Mill, and observed what we could see, hear and smell at different points during the walk. As part of UK Parliament Week, the children also had the chance to pick a rule that they would like during school. In their Kagan groups, they had an opportunity to pitch this rule to the class with their posters that they designed.



Year 2

In Year 2 this week, each child wrote an idea for a rule to implement in school. The children then had to form committees, and we picked 3 ideas and prepared arguments 'for' and 'against' and we held a class vote on the ideas. We then created a new 'class law'. Miss Carson's idea was to have a 'secret student' and 'Miss Carson's assistant' these have now become a rule that we must have at least one a week. In Maths, we have been learning about 3D shapes and their properties. The children loved our 'musical shapes' game, where we stopped the music and whoever had the shapes spoke about their properties!



Year 3

Year 3 have had an amazing week 😊 The best part was our trip to the wonderful alpaca farm!



Year 4

What a packed week in Year 4! In RHE, we held a debate for the topic 'should we wear school uniform?'. We heard some really thoughtful responses about affordability and bullying! We also had our special trip to the cinema to see 'Flow'. In Maths, we have been times tables superstars with our 3s and 6s!



Year 6

This week Year 6 have been hard at work creating their own websites using Google Sites. They have learnt how to use 'Creative Commons' to check copyright laws for the content that they want to add and have very much enjoyed scouring the web for images.

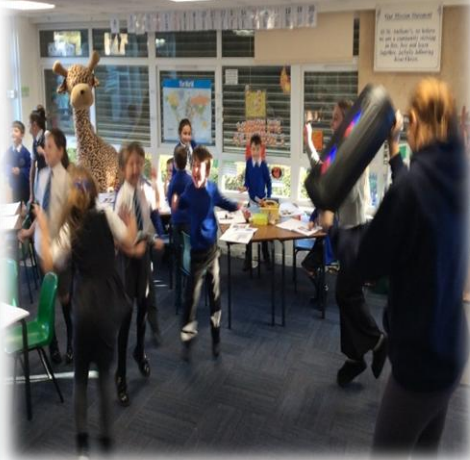


In English, we began our new unit on autobiographies; with a 'quiz-quiz-trade' activity, where the pupils were **BRLLIANT** at identifying famous faces based on information about their lives. the pupils have also been busy gathering information to complete their own autobiographies.



FITMAS

MERRY
FITMAS



FITMAS

MERRY
FITMAS



Winter Uniform

**Children in Reception to Year 6
are now to wear Winter Uniform
(apart from PE days)**

*Girls' winter uniform:
Grey skirt/ school
trousers, white blouse &
tie, school
cardigan/jumper, grey,
white or black tights or
socks, black shoes*

*Boys' winter uniform:
Grey school trousers,
white shirt with tie,
school jumper, black or
grey socks, black shoes*



PE KIT EXPECTATIONS

*Please be reminded that PE kit is; white round neck
t-shirt, black bottoms (not baggy or flared), school
hoody and trainers*

*****If you are unsure, please contact the School Office*****

School Absence Requests

We would like to remind all families that **Leave of Absence requests must be submitted to the school office at least four weeks in advance** of the proposed absence date.

Please note that, in line with government guidance, **holidays during term time cannot be authorised**. However, if your child will be absent from school for any reason, you are still required to complete a Leave of Absence request form so that we can record the absence appropriately.

If the reason for absence is due to illness, **medical evidence may be requested** to support the absence.

We kindly ask all families to be honest about the reason for any absence. It is not fair to put children in the difficult position of feeling they must hide the truth about where they have been. Transparency helps us to maintain trust and ensures accurate school records.

Thank you for your co operation and continued support.



Are you struggling to get a Doctors appointment?

As qualified health professionals, pharmacists are trained in the use of medicines, managing minor illnesses and providing health and wellbeing advice.

Most community pharmacies across Birmingham and Solihull can provide advice and treatment, if appropriate, for you or members of your family for seven common conditions.

This service is called Pharmacy First.

It's free*, confidential and may be much quicker than seeing your GP.

<https://www.birminghamsolihull.icb.nhs.uk/health-information/your-community-pharmacy/think-pharmacy-first>

Medication

REMINDER: Please remember to bring in any medication your child may need including inhalers.



Illness and Attendance

Student Illness and School Attendance

To ensure the health and well-being of all students and staff, we kindly ask that you keep your child at home if they are experiencing symptoms of illness. Children should remain home if they have a fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher, are vomiting, have diarrhoea or show signs of contagious conditions.

Unacceptable Reasons for School Absence

While we understand that every child may occasionally feel unwell, it is important to distinguish between minor discomfort and genuine illness that warrants absence from school. Vague symptoms such as “feeling unwell,” mild headaches, or general tiredness are not considered valid reasons to keep a child home and absence due to these reasons will not be authorised. In such cases, we encourage parents to use appropriate over-the-counter medication, such as paracetamol, before school. If your child’s condition worsens during the day, school staff will monitor them and contact you if it becomes necessary for them to be collected. Regular attendance is essential for your child’s academic progress and social development. We appreciate your support in ensuring that absences are limited to genuine illness in line with school guidelines.

Solihull HAF Information

Please follow the link below for more information regarding holiday activities and food programme 2025

https://edportals.solihull.gov.uk/Synergy/Live/SynergyWeb/Solihull_FSD/HAF2025.aspx

Holiday Activities and Food Programme 2025



Click the boxes below to search for activity providers in Solihull who are providing free places to children on benefits-related free school meals during the October half term under the Holiday Activity and Food Programme - known as **HAF**.

You can search for activity providers by:

- **Name** of activity provider
- **Postcode** of where the activities are taking place (to view those closest to your home or work address).
- **Family Activities** that are available.

You can click below to view a complete list of **HAF activities** and **Specialist SEND activities** aimed at children with additional needs and/or disabilities.

The **Christmas 2025 HAF schemes** are now LIVE on the directory. Please click into the search boxes below to find a suitable HAF activity for your child.

Infant Agility



Well done to Year 2 for achieving 2nd place in the Infant Agility competition at North Solihull Sports Centre.



Support for Parents

Evergreen
Family Hub



Timetable

September 2025



Wherever you live in Solihull, we're here to support you

Family Hubs are local centres where children, young people, and families can access support and take part in fun activities! Our friendly staff and service providers work in partnership with you and your community to access the information and support you need. Some services offer drop-in sessions, whilst others require booked appointments. The Hubs are a safe space for you and your loved ones.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Employment, training, and digital skills support – 09:00-16:00 Support with job searching, creating, emailing and sending your CV. Drop in or call 0121 779 1724 to book an appointment.</p> <p>Buggy walk – 13:00-13:45 <i>Weather dependant</i> Times may change for the stay and play workshop dependant on the weather. Families to be notified through the Evergreen Facebook page or changes to app.</p> <p>Stay and play – 13:30-15:00 Come and play and meet new friends. Suitable for ages 0-4 and their parents/carers. No booking required, just come along and join in with the fun!</p> <p>After-school club – 15:30-16:30 Play board games, do quizzes, art, table tennis and other fun activities. Suitable for ages 4-12, parents/carers must stay and supervise their children.</p>	<p>Health Visitor clinic – 09:00-14:00 Booked appointments for parents and their babies and children with the Health Visiting team. Book by speaking to your Health Visitor.</p> <p>Midwifery team – 09:30-15:30 Community midwives that provide maternity care outside of a hospital setting. Parent consultation workshops with midwifery team.</p> <p>Community coffee morning – 10:30-12:00 Come in for a cuppa and tell us what you would like to see happening at Evergreen or find out more about volunteering and other services in your local area.</p> <p>Sensory room – 14:30-onwards Slots available for the sensory room. To book, call Evergreen on 0121 779 1724.</p>	<p>Employment, training, and digital skills support – 09:00-16:00 Support with job searching, creating, emailing and sending your CV. Drop in or call 0121 779 1724 to book an appointment.</p> <p>Health in the hearts of our community social group – 10:30-12:00 Social group including fun, games and a cuppa! Learn more about heart health through one-to-one consultations.</p> <p>Health visitors' sensory play – 13:00-15:00 <i>Weather dependant Every second and last week of the month – 10 and 24 September</i> To book, call the Health Visiting Team on 0750 733 2563.</p> <p>Family support worker drop-in – 13:00-16:00 Drop-in service, advice, support and signposting to other services. Helpline is provided at Evergreen on Wednesday afternoon on 0121 788 4327</p> <p>Sensory room – 14:30-onwards Slots available for the sensory room. To book, call Evergreen on 0121 779 1724.</p> <p>Seasonal crafts – 15:30-16:30 Autumn-themed craft workshop.</p>	<p>Health Visitor clinic – 09:00-14:00 Booked appointments for parents and their babies and children with the Health Visiting team. Book by speaking to your Health Visitor.</p> <p>Family support worker workshop – 10:00-13:00 Solution focused workshop</p> <p>Sensory room – 15:00-onwards Slots available for the sensory room. To book, call Evergreen on 0121 779 1724.</p>	<p>Employment, training, and digital skills support – 09:00-15:30 Support with job searching, creating, emailing and sending your CV. Drop in or call 0121 779 1724 to book an appointment.</p> <p>Midwifery team – 09:30-15:30 Community midwives that provide maternity care outside of a hospital setting. Parent consultation workshops with midwifery team.</p> <p>Stay and play – 10:00-11:30 Come and play and meet new friends. Suitable for ages 0-4 and their parents/carers. No booking required, just come along and join in with the fun!</p> <p>Family activities – 13:30-15:30 Bring your homework, play board games, do quizzes, art, table tennis and other fun activities. Suitable for 4-12 years, parents/carers must stay and supervise their children.</p>

Wellbeing and advice

Here2Help

Family Hubs can help with food, toiletries, fuel, money, staying well, and keeping safe. To find out more, visit www.solihull.gov.uk/here2help.

Health visiting

To speak to a health visitor, text Chat Health on [0750 733 2563](tel:07507332563) between 09:00-16:00, Monday-Friday.

Women's Aid

If you or someone you know needs support, call Women's Aid at [0800 800 0028](tel:08008000028). Available seven days a week, 09:15-17:15.

Mental health support

The Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust provide guidance and reassurance to people of all ages. Call [0800 915 9292](tel:08009159292) or [0121 262 3555](tel:01212623555).

Midwives

Please call your midwife using the phone number in your red book.

What else can the Family Hubs offer?

Help and support

Speak to our friendly staff

Stay and play area

Toys, books, and soft play

Sensory room

To book, call [0121 779 6943](tel:01217796943)

Computers and private work pods

Internet and phone access

Community wardrobe

Free clothing

[42 Kinshurst Way, Kinshurst, Solihull, B37 6DX](https://www.solihull.gov.uk/evergreen)

Family Hubs | solihull.gov.uk | [Solihull Family Hubs](https://www.facebook.com/SolihullFamilyHubs) | evergreen@colebridge.org | [0121 779 1724](tel:01217791724)

Family support worker drop-ins at the Family Hubs

Parents can go to the Family Hubs to talk to a Family Support Worker if needed. No need to book, just turn up.

Evergreen Hub is next to Yorkswood School.

Family Hub	Day	Time
Evergreen	Wednesday	1pm-4pm

Support for Parents and Carers

Did you know Solihull now has a new Family Help Line?



This has launched to support families and the people around them. You can now call 0121 788 4327 for advice, information, strategies & support on things like:

- Parenting support
- Family conflict particularly because of difficulties managing children's behaviours
- Parents/carers needing support if they are struggling to get their child/ren into school and getting in trouble because of this
- Parents/carers struggling to manage their child's health, developmental or social needs (including mental health)

The team can offer:








- Signposting to services and what's on offer at the Family Hubs
- Referral to a Family Support Worker
- Advice and Support on the wider Early Help offer & how this works

**** This is not a safeguarding or social work service, so if you are worried about a child being unsafe – please call the MASH on 0121 788 4300.**

According to Ofcom, 90% of children are watching online videos and browsing the internet regularly. Children may love to stream videos and look up information, it's a fun way to learn and relax after all but they must be guided. The e-space is filled with inappropriate content and dangerous material. It is important that parents and even teachers, are able to steer their pupils and youngsters, towards the right places when online. Internet Matters has published a guide dedicated to supporting adults in setting digital boundaries for children, so that they can make smart choices and build healthy online habits. In the Internet Matters guide you'll find practical tips on managing content access, the use of safety controls, advice on setting boundaries and ways to educate children on how to stay secure online. If interested please follow the link below:

[Browsing and watching online safely guide Internet Matters](#)

Lunch menu for w.b. 1st December

FOOD FESTIVAL By Aspens		LUNCHTIME					PRIMARY TRADITIONAL
WEEK 2 Autumn Winter 2025/26 08/09/25, 29/09/25, 20/10/25, 10/11/25, 01/12/25, 22/12/25, 12/01/26, 02/02/26, 23/02/26, 16/03/26		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
 THE MAIN EVENT	Macaroni Cheese B	BBQ Chicken with Rice C	Roast Gammon, Skin on Roasties and Gravy C	Mild Chilli Con Carne with Rice B	Golden Fish Fingers and Chips B		
 MEAT-FREE MAGIC Veggie Dish	Sweetcorn Fritters with Wedges B	Veggie Whole Grain Pasta Bolognese B	Cauliflower & Broccoli Bake B	Vegetable Bean Chilli with Rice B	Margherita Pizza with Chips B		
 RAINBOW ALLEY Vegetables and Salads	Sweetcorn	Broccoli	Carrots and Peas	Mixed Greens	Baked Beans or Peas		
 BIG TOPPING Filled Jackets	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo B	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo B	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo B	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo B	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo B		
 DESSERT TROLLEY	Flapjack B	Carrot Cake C	Apple Tea Cake and Custard B	Iced Vanilla Sponge Cake B	Marble Cookie B		
 What impact has your meal had on planet Earth today? A Very Low B Low C Medium D High E Very High	AVAILABLE DAILY DAILY SALAD BOWL, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, YOGHURTS AND CUT FRUIT					 PASTA TWIRLER AVAILABLE EVERY DAY TOPPED PASTA HOT PASTA TOPPED WITH HOMEMADE TOMATO SAUCE & CHEESE C	

Due to school dinners being cooked fresh, please ensure that you pre order meals that your child will eat. Unfortunately, we cannot offer alternatives

Changes to ordering school lunches...

We have now moved to our new simplified lunch ordering system, a single login system via ParentPay

<https://www.parentpay.com/>



**Tuesday 9th December, Whole school
Christmas dinner and jumper day**

**FOOD
FESTIVAL**

FESTIVE FUN

Roast Chicken, Pigs in Blankets & Stuffing

Or

**Roasted Vegetable, Cranberry & Cheese
Puff Pastry Wreath & Yorkshire Pudding**

With

Roasties, Peas & Carrots Gravy

Rudolph's Nose Cookie

Or

Chocolate Cracknel



Please order on

<https://www.parentpay.com/>

by tonight – 28th November 2025

***Please note- there will be no other
meal options on this day.***





Diary Dates



Y6 SATs

Year 6 weekly booster starting from Thursday 6th November for all pupils from 3:15 till 4:15pm

2025

Tues 9 th Dec	Whole school	Christmas dinner and jumper day
Wed 10 th Dec	EYFS	Nativity and Workshop (a letter has been provided)
Thurs 11 th Dec	Year 2	Trip to 'Journey to the Stable'
Fri 12 th Dec	Year 1 and Year 2	KS1 Nativity 2:15pm
Weds 17 th Dec	Whole school	Whole school Mass @ 9:15am - Year 3 leading. Parents and family members welcome
Thurs 18 th Dec	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6	KS2 Carol Concert 2pm
Fri 19 th Dec	Whole school	Non-uniform day (£1 donation) and end of term

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS:
Monday 22nd Dec - Friday 2nd Jan 2026

Term dates 2025 - 2026

	Term starts	Half term	Term ends
Autumn	1 st September 2025	27 th Oct – 31 st Oct	19 th December 2025
Spring	5 th January 2026	16 th Feb – 20 th Feb	27 th March 2026
Summer	13 th April 2026	25 th May - 29 th May	20 th July 2026

Inset days: 1st September, 24th October, **5th January**, 23rd February, **13th April**, 20th July

P.E Days

Week beginning Monday 1st December

Reception – Friday

Year 1 – Monday & Wednesday

Year 2 – Monday & Friday

Year 3 – Tuesday & Friday

Year 4 – Wednesday & Thursday

Year 5 – Tuesday (swimming) & Thursday

Year 6 – Tuesday & Thursday



EYFS Nativity and Workshop

*Wednesday 10th December 2025 - EYFS Nativity
and Workshop*

Group 1:

9:15-10:00am - Nativity

10:00-11:00am - Workshop

Group 2:

1:10-1:40pm - Nativity

1:40-2:40pm – Workshop



*Letters have been sent home with your child to
confirm which group they are in.*

Head Teacher's Awards



Congratulations!

Reception – Reuben – For being a kind friend who always helps others and sets a wonderful example.

Year 1 – Theo – For always being a great classmate and helping others.

Year 2 – Arlo – For a fantastic attitude to your learning! Miss Carson and Miss Robinson are very proud of you 😊

Year 3 – Maja – For always being so helpful and caring – you are an outstanding member of Year 3 😊 keep up the amazing work.

Year 4 – Leoni – For bringing joy and enthusiasm to Year 4 every day with your beaming, infectious smile!

Year 5 – Alfie – For always working hard and doing it with a smile – you're a star!

Year 6 – Chloe – For always working hard, being conscientious and a delight to teach.

