



Nursery

Dear parents and carers,

We hope that you and your children have enjoyed our first full term together. This has been a very exciting half term with the run up to Christmas. Children have been fantastic at learning all our nativity songs and performing them to you! We hope you enjoyed it.

We have been doing lots of Christmas crafts and even saw some real reindeer at the Christmas fair! During R.E we have been learning all about the story of the first Christmas and thinking carefully about what would make a good gift for different people.

Our story this half term was 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and children enjoyed counting foods and learning about the days of the week. We also learned about what a balanced diet looks like and children made their very own healthy sandwiches. We created our very first story maps and became very confident at retelling the story with actions. Our nursery rhyme this half term was "Hey Diddle Diddle" and the children found out what a fiddle is for our phase 1 phonics learning.

We continue to work very hard with pencil grip and name writing. The children are encouraged to have a go at writing their names on their work and drawings. Please encourage your child to recognise their name at home.

In maths we have been linking numbers to the correct amounts up to 5. Children have explored triangles, squares, rectangles and circles and have enjoyed shape sorting and shape hunts in the environment. We used different shapes to make Christmas Decorations for our classroom.

The children have been brilliant and we are all so proud of their achievements this term. We hope you and your family have a happy and safe break and look forward to seeing you in 2024!

Merry Christmas

From the nursery team!



Reception

The children have had an amazing term, this term, with Reception solidifying their friendships and practicing kindness. They've explored the story of The Gingerbread Man and used this to help them unpick the basic structure of creating story-maps, writing sentences and instructions.

In phonics, they have now covered all 23 phase 2 phonic sounds and are enthusiastically practising their blending and segmenting skills. Staff are **very** proud of the confidence and enthusiasm the children exhibit in their reading and writing. It has been fantastic to see so many children applying their phonological skills at home through reading stories. This really has helped them to build their independence and self-confidence; keep up the fantastic work!



In maths, the children have consolidated their understanding of the composition of numbers 1-5. They are beginning to confidently use their subitizing skills to recognise quantities. They have been using number facts and fingers to help them with their counting and they have enjoyed playing a range of board games that focused on developing counting, sequencing and strategies skills. Additionally, they have enjoyed learning and exploring different 2D shapes as well as shapes within the environment.

In RE sessions, they have been focussing on the celebrations of Christmas. This term the children have been thinking about equality, empathy and developing a sense of who they are. Staff have enjoyed reflecting on attributes that makes them special in their own unique way.



Have a fantastic, holiday and a lovely Christmas! We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

From the Reception Team

Year 1

It has been a busy half term, with lots of fantastic learning happening, both in and out of school. It has been lovely to see year 1 so settled and eager to learn! The children have all worked incredibly hard and should be very proud of how much we have managed to fit in to a half term.

In English, we have been exploring the key text, 'The Robot and The Bluebird'. A touching story about two characters that go on journey of friendship through the seasons. We responded to the story in various ways, including writing in character as the Robot or Bluebird, roll on the wall, drama, and role play. In addition to this, we researched lots of interesting facts about bluebirds and used our research to then create a fact file about bluebirds. We then focused on instruction writing, where we had to create a set of instructions on how to make a bird feeder using lard and seeds. We have thoroughly enjoyed exploring this text!

In science, our unit of work was the human body. First, we learnt about our skeleton and basic organs inside our body. Then we shifted our focus onto exploring our different senses. The children conducted senses experiments where they explored smell, sight, touch, hearing and taste through different stimuli and identified which body part is associated with each sense.

In maths this half term, we have mainly focused on addition and subtraction, moving onto shape for the last few weeks of the term. The children have used practical equipment to explore the composition of numbers and to add and subtract within 10. They have also used this knowledge to solve problems and answer reasoning questions.

Our topic this half term in history was Memory Box. We learnt about changes over time. The children explored their own memories and learnt about their family and younger children. They explored the differences in toys that they use now and toys that were used in the past. They also learnt about the history of our school and the local area.

Finally, in RE, our enquire question was, 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians.' I can not express to you how much fun and philosophic this unit of work has been for us all. As usual, the children whole-heartedly immersed themselves into our enquiry question and by the end of the unit they could not only give a clear, simple account of the story of Jesus' birth and why Christmas is important for Christians, but also express personally what they are thankful for at Christmas time. A lovely way to tie up the unit!

As always thank you for your continued support, we couldn't do it without you! Enjoy a well-deserved break and we look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year!

Miss Jacob and the Year 1 Team



Year 2

What we have been learning this half term?

This has been an amazing half term, which has flown by so quickly. The children have all worked incredibly hard in their lessons as well as in their performance. They were amazing! We are so proud of them and we would like to say a big heartfelt thankyou to you all, for all of your support.

English

In English, the children have been using the story of George's Marvellous medicine to write character descriptions, poems and instructions. The children thoroughly enjoyed the text and wrote some truly disgusting poems about things that they would put in their own medicines!

We retold the story and focused on using conjunction, direct speech and noun phrases.

Science

Science has been a food-based science project where the children have been learning to become little MasterChef's. We learnt how to store and handle food correctly and made our own cheese salad sandwiches.

We carried out an experiment to see how germs can spread by handling bread with dirty hands.

Maths

In maths, the children have been focusing on addition and subtraction. We have taught the children different ways for working out two-digit addition and subtraction, including drawing their own number lines and using the column method. We will keep practising this in class, particularly when it comes to exchanging!

R.E.

The children learnt why Christmas matters to Christians and focused on the story of the birth of Jesus in R.E. We looked at the meaning of Christmas Carols and how they are used to tell the story of Jesus' birth. We also looked at how Carols are different to Christmas songs.

History/Geography

The children have been learning about Florence Nightingale and the impact she made within the hospitals. We learnt about Mary Seacole and the role she also played, helping soldiers in the war. In Geography, the children have been learning about the weather and how it is different across the world. The children created their own weather diary.



The children have had lots of fun this term from making cheese salad sandwiches, seeing the pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty', performing in the Nativity, having fun at the school fete to feeding the reindeers.

We look forward to seeing all the children back after the holidays and we hope that you all have a lovely break and a good rest. For those celebrating Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas and hope you have a great day.

Thank you again for your continued support and wish you a Happy New Year from us all in Year 2.

Miss Robin, Miss Golding and Miss Hayes.

Year 3

Wow! What a busy Autumn term 2 we have had in Year 3! We love learning here in Year 3 and we are always enthusiastic about building our knowledge in all academic areas.

In English, we travelled through the thrilling adventures of Odysseus. Year 3 mapped out stories, written persuasive texts, written their very own chapter and challenged themselves to write their own newspaper report.



In Maths, we carried on with addition and subtraction, learning how to exchange from ones, tens and hundreds and then moved on to multiplication and division of 3, 4 and 8 where we learnt how to share and group our numbers.

Aside from Maths and English, In science we experimented with magnets, studied forces and understood the importance of water in Christianity and what it symbolises during baptism in our RE lessons.

Additionally, we have been engrossed in our Humanities topic: Gods and Mortals where we divulged into Greek Mythology. We learnt about all the types of Greek Gods that Greeks believed in. We even had a debate about which city in Greece is a better environment to live in by researching and collecting information.

As well as all that learning, we had so much fun rehearsing for our Christmas performance where Year 3 and 4 worked hard to put on a fantastic pantomime! We had a visit from two very cute reindeer, played games at our Christmas fair, received gifts from a *very special* visitor, sang countless holiday songs, baked bread, participated in the Christingle service and crafted beautiful artwork.



Phew! I think you will all agree, Year 3 have worked tirelessly over the last term and I think they definitely deserve a rest!

From all of us here in Year 3, we would like to wish all our St. Saviour's families a safe, happy and restful Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

The Year 3 Team

What did you love about Autumn Term 2?

"I really enjoyed Maths because I have finally learnt all of my 3 and 4 times table and getting confident in my 8 times table." **Florence**

"I have learnt a cool way of learning my 8 times table by doubling my 4 times table." **Alex**

"I liked learning about Baptism because I know how adults and children get baptised. Also, I now know that when you get baptised, it means to start life with a fresh start." **Alexis**

YEAR 4

This half term, Year 4 travelled back to 1066, probably the most famous date in English history. We have completed some fantastic pieces of writing inspired by our class text, *The Tinderbox*, including diary entries, newspaper reports, and biographies.

In Maths, we have studied Multiplication & Division and Area including many Times Table Rockstar sessions! By the Summer term, we are hoping to all be completely fluent in multiplication and division, ready for our times tables test.



In R.E we have focused on 'The People of God' and answered the question: 'What is it like for Christians to follow God?' As part of this we read the stories of Noah and Abraham and discussed the important promises that they made with God and that Christians make every day.



In Science we have been working scientifically. We investigated the following questions: How can we make bubbles bounce? What makes Sherbet fizz? How does bread rise?

In History, we looked at everyday life in Norman times, sequenced the Battle of Hastings, looked at the Bayeux Tapestry, designed our own Norman shields and created Norman castles. In Geography we studied early settlements and looked at why people chose to live where they did.

In amongst all of our learning, we squeezed in many Christmas celebrations; a Pantomime performance, carol singing, a Christingle service – and a special festive school trip to Canary Wharf.



We hope all the children have enjoyed the half term as much as we have and that you all have a restful break over the Christmas period. We look forward to seeing you all in 2024 – wishing you a

happy and healthy time together at home.

The Year 4 Team :)





Year 5

The pupils in Year 5 have worked incredibly hard this half term: being creative, persevering when they have found new concepts challenging, sharing and discussing ideas, challenging themselves, and getting into good, constructive habits. During this half term, we have immersed ourselves in the topic 'Space'...



In maths, we have focused on multiplication, division, and a massive fractions unit of work!

In English, we have loved reading our class book 'Cosmic' and have designed persuasive posters for our own theme parks, and written factual newspaper reports on the moon landing of 1969.



In History, we looked at the significant advances in space exploration, and the politics behind the Cold War and the Space Race. For a session, we combined history and P4C to discuss whether it is ethical to send animals into space, which led to some very insightful contributions. In Geography, we looked at time zones, hemispheres, lines of longitude and latitude, and the North and South poles. In Science, we explored why we have night and day, old-fashioned ideas of what our solar system is like (heliocentric vs geocentric models), and - of course - the order of the planets. To help us remember the order, we came up with our own mnemonics!



On 1st December, we celebrated our school's birthday by doing some research into our local history - specifically, researching George Lansbury and the Poplar Rebellion. We spent some time looking at and reading about Victorian artefacts in our living museum. During our final few days of term, we have had plenty of Christmas fun: we have been rehearsing our Christmas songs and performance of Cinderella; attended a whole-school trip to Clifford Chance for lunch and a pantomime; done Christmas crafts; and had our class Christmas party! Since September, all of the children have made fantastic progress and they should be extremely proud of themselves, as we certainly are!



What did you enjoy learning this half term?

"What I really liked this half term is when we learnt about space, and in Geography when we learnt about the world, such as lines of longitude and latitude, and time zones. I really liked maths this half term, specifically learning about fractions!" -

Isambard

"It was a rollercoaster of learning, and we had really good trips" - **Tanjim**

"I loved how the school provided trips for us, and I've loved the second term of year 5" - **Cairo**

"This term, I'm really enjoying maths because I'm getting to achieve my goals of getting onto mastery and greater depth where I add and subtract fractions!" - **Mekhi**

"The experience I have loved from Year 5 are the trips and the opportunity to see nature, such as the reindeer" - **Ade**



We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas!
Miss Dooley and Mrs White :)

Year 6

What a busy half term it has been for the children of Year 6! The children have completed lots of learning in class and started or continued with various projects, including the BEE project.

Eloise said, "I really liked it because we got to learn about the interesting jobs people have and got to learn about how businesses are created!"

In Maths, the children have spent a large amount of time completing learning about fractions. The children have learnt how to add, subtract, divide and multiply with fractions and use these skills in different contexts or through word-based problems. We have also continued to have a push on the children's arithmetic skills through daily arithmetic practise in their maths sessions. Thank you to those children who are continuing to access TTRS to practise their fluency in their times tables.

In English, the children used the story of Fox by Margaret Wild as a springboard for all of their learning. The children were using lots of the features of the text in their writing and interpreting the different meanings behind the text and illustrations in the book.

The children learnt about light and how light travels, alongside the functions of the eye and how we see things in their Science learning.

For R.E., the children focussed on they key questions of 'What would Jesus Do?' and looked at the idea of caring for those who are vulnerable or sick. This work was completed by looking at the different roles of organisations that help others, along with children thinking about how St. Saviour's and they help others.

Riley said, "I found learning about Jesus telling stories in Sermon on the Mount really interesting. I learnt that Jesus would praise the less fortunate and those in need."

It has been a busy half term with plenty of outings, including ice-skating, Christmas pantomime and lunch at Clifford Chance and the opportunity to visit and work with the artist Anita Chanda. These experiences have certainly added to the children's learning over the course of the half-term.

From all of us in Year 6, we wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year!

