

Newsletter



8

Friday 10th December 2021



Thank you for your donations for Christmas Jumper Day.

All the money raised goes to **Save the Children**.
(We'll tell you the total amount raised at a later date)



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www.st-petersoxon.co.uk



THANKS FOR REMEMBERING
THIS IS A



PEANUT/NUT FREE
SCHOOL

We currently have two children who have serious nut allergies. Please remember that we don't allow any nuts or nut products in school. **This includes Nutella.** Thank you for helping us to keep St Peter's School a safe place.



Important Information



IMPORTANT

We are going to be recording various things over the next week for you to watch at home. Please remember that these **MUST NOT** be shared on any form of social media.

We will send details of how we are going to share the recordings next week.

*Please bring raffle ticket stubs and cash back to Emily in the office by **MONDAY!!***



*There are a few more books of raffle tickets if you want to buy any extras on Monday morning. There are some **AMAZING** prizes!*

Christmas Dinner

Please make sure all orders for Christmas dinner next week are in by the end of the weekend! We have managed to put an extension on the cut-off but this is absolutely the last call!

Please email Emily if you have any problems ordering.



ST PETER'S GOT TALENT SHOW

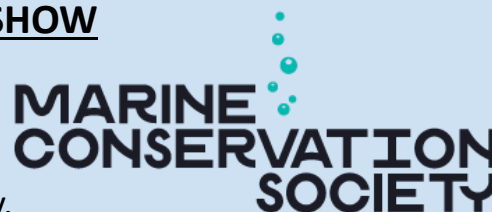
Please make sure your child brings in a pound if they are entering St Peter's Got Talent. If they are performing two acts or more, please bring in the correct amount of money.

And don't forget to bring in the costume or props!

By Bella



(Money going to the school charity - Marine Conservation Society)



CAR PARKING

As a reminder, please do not park on the grass or on the bend by the chequers pub when dropping off or collecting your children. If there is no space in the village hall car park or in the layby on the road, there is usually lots of space in Bell lane. This is just down the footpath by the school. If you aren't sure where, please ask Emily.



Christmas Cards

If your child wants to send Christmas cards to their friends, it is being done a little differently this year. There are Christmas post boxes in each class where the children can post their cards for other children (in any class).



VACANCIES FOR CLEANERS

The contractor that EPA use for cleaning (KGB Southwest) have vacancies in some of our schools. If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in finding out more about this please contact jean.jenkins@kgsouthwest.com

Jean will be able to give you details about hours, rates of pay, shifts available etc.

Handwashing

There are lots of coughs and colds going around at the moment and with the prediction that the winter vomiting virus might be quite virulent this winter, please make sure that you continue to wash your hands and encourage the children to wash their hands frequently during the day and especially before lunchtime.

Apparently, the sanitiser gels are not effective against norovirus so it is important that we are regularly using soap and water.

Let's stay safe and well!





Oak Class



We have been so busy in Oak Class this term!

Art

In Art we used various materials to create firework pictures, drawn portraits of Guy Fawkes and this week we have created fantastic Christmas cards! Here are photos of some of the art from this term. You'll have to wait to see the cards...

Literacy

During our literacy lessons, the children have written recounts about bonfire night, they have created fabulous poems and we have also written questions to ask Guy Fawkes.

The children had a visit this week from Guy Fawkes himself and they were very keen to ask him their questions. An interesting time was had by all!

This week we will be continuing our work on recounts, this time using the Christmas 2019 John Lewis advert, based on Edgar the Dragon.

The children are all so keen to share and write their ideas. It's really lovely to see. There are a few examples of some written work from this term on the next page



Maths

During our maths lessons we have been learning our times tables. We started the term recapping our addition and subtraction strategies and have now moved on to counting on in 2s 5s and 10s. The children have also looked at time, space, shape and measure.

Some of our lessons are practical and really help the understanding of certain methods. We like the children to have access to equipment that will help them each lesson. Counters, dienes (tens and ones blocks), multilink blocks, bead strings, number lines, hundred squares and other math equipment is available to aid learning.

See the photos for an idea of what we have done this term.

Topic based on historical events.

We have packed a lot into our topic lesson over the last few weeks. From learning more about the differences between 1605 and today, to acting out the Gunpowder Plot. The children have had great fun learning about why we celebrate bonfire night each year.

Forest school.

Forest school is always a highlight each week. The children have been talking about the seasons, weather changes and wildlife. See the pictures for a glimpse of what they have been up to.

Whole class reading

Through our reading lessons we have focused on inference, retrieval, decoding and fluency we have read various text types together as a class including poems, fiction and non-fiction text.

Our guided reading sessions are a great way for the children to gain independence with reading, they also help build their confidence to speak aloud in front of the class, giving their opinions and listening to the ideas of others.

Music

Our music lessons have mainly consisted of a lot of singing! We started to rehearse for our nativity a few weeks into the new term and the children have put their hearts and souls into every lesson! You will see the results of this very soon!

And Finally, Nativity 2021

Well, what can we say?! Each child put so much effort into the performance we were absolutely blown away by how confident and keen they all were. It always has been a highlight in the school calendar and we are so pleased we could bring the nativity back for 2021 even though you didn't get to see it in the flesh!

Well done to every single child in Oak Class! You were Fab-u-lous!





In our Science lessons recently, we have been learning about the changing seasons. We have been trying to be good scientists by asking lots of questions – something that everyone in Oak class is really good at! In particular we thought about questions we could ask about the weather and what data we could collect in order to help answer the questions. We made rain gauges and set them up in Forest School. Ready to measure the amount of rainfall each day, we were keen to find out which was the wettest day of the week. Would you believe it but on our chosen week, there was no rain at all!! Despite the lack of data collected, we weren't held back with our scientific thinking. We considered what we might do differently next time and how we could make sure the test remained fair. The children came up with some great suggestions such as placing the rain gauge in a more open space, using a wider container so that more rain might be collected and making sure that it was securely in the ground to avoid it being knocked over by a passing squirrel.

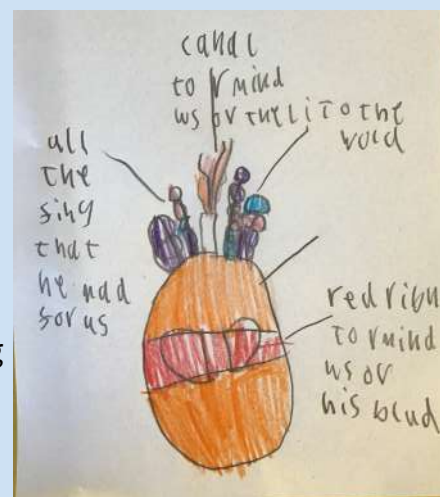
Having studied the weather here in Cassington, we turned our attention to other parts of the world. Using a world map and a globe we located countries such as Australia, Egypt, India, USA and Russia and learnt about what the weather was like in those countries. Our budding scientists were able to make a connection between the season on earth and how close the earth is to the sun, which was very impressive! Making use of the BBC Weather website on the chromebooks, we discovered that those countries close to the equator were having much hotter and sunnier days than we were in Cassington. We also discovered those countries that were having much colder weather than us here in Cassington. Observing the weather forecast for Ottawa in Canada provided a good opportunity to think about negative numbers, as the temperature was -5 degrees on that particular day! The children gave little presentations about the weather forecast in each of the countries that we had found out about. They made very good recommendations about the clothes to wear and the activities to do based on the weather forecast!

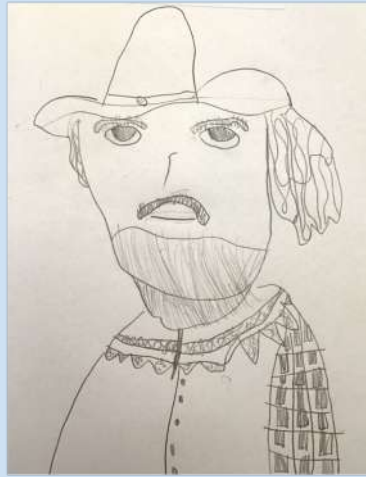
At the start of this term's Science unit, we learnt about how the seasons change throughout the year. In order to represent this, we created a picture of a tree throughout the seasons. The children did a great job at choosing appropriate colours for each of the seasons from Autumn through to Summer. Here are some photos of the children's scientific art work.

In some of our Science lessons, we have been trying out a new idea of having some 'busy time'. This is where we have some different creative activities to try out, all linked to our Science objective for that day. Some of the things the children have done have been making up their own seasons songs; designing a machine to measure and record an aspect of the weather; creating a 'What am I?' clue card for an animal often seen in the autumn; observational drawing of autumn objects. We always had a tinker table in Busy Time, where the children could practise some fine motor skills. I'm afraid we've been so busy in our Busy Time that we haven't managed to take any photos! I'm sure if you were to ask anyone in Oak they could tell you some of the things that they have been busy with!

In Maths, Oak children have been working hard at telling the time. It's not an easy skill to develop, particularly those tricky minutes to the hour times but they have persevered brilliantly and have been really successful. Year 1 children have learnt how to read o'clock and half past times. Year 2 children have been tackling the time to the nearest 5 minutes.

In R.E recently, we have been learning about some of the symbols of Christmas. We found out about a Christingle and considered the meaning of each different part. We thought about how for Christians, the candle represents Jesus, the light of the world. The children did some lovely, detailed drawings labelling each part of the Christingle.





Ottile



Isla



Julia



Poppy



Ivy



Instagram



Twitter -

[@mindsthatlearn](https://twitter.com/mindsthatlearn)

Facebook -

Minds That Learn



Take pride in how far you have come and have faith in how far you will go. *(Christian D. Larson)*

We would love for you take part in this project!

1. Talk to your child about **what hobby/activity in their life teaches them the most.**
2. Choose a picture of your child doing something outside of school that really captures a bit of their personality/hobby etc. This can be non-identifiable if you wish i.e. can be with your child's back to the camera.
3. Find a quote from a famous person (or make up your own!) that fits the picture and gives the appropriate message (just google 'famous inspirational quotes', for example)
4. **OR** you could find a quote first that resonates with them then find a picture that shows this
5. Send this to: mindsthatlearn@st-peters.oxon.sch.uk

We will feature these in the newsletter (once a fortnight), add it to our Twitter, Instagram and Facebook pages and also update the 'Minds that Learn' section on the website.

Example quotes you could use:

The time is always right to do what is right (Dr Martin Luther King, Jr)

I attribute my success to this; I never gave or took any excuse (Florence Nightingale)

The most effective way to do it, is to do it (Amelia Earhart)

He who is not courageous enough to take risks will accomplish nothing in life (Muhammed Ali)

Whatever fear I have inside me, my desire to win is always stronger (Serena Williams)

Christmas Jumper Day





These are just a few photos from the nativity by Oak Class. Next week it will be recorded and we will somehow distribute it to all parents & carers in Oak!



Child quote of the term

Hope for you, hope for your friends and hope for the world.

By Oliver P

This Week's Big Question




This is the big question that we talked about in collective worship this week.
How about having a discussion about it at home?

What are you hoping for?

'R' of the Term




EYFS Reciprocity



I can share what I did	
I can share my ideas	
I want to know more	

KS1 Reciprocity



I can listen to others carefully	
I can discuss ideas clearly and work together	
I can imagine the thoughts and feelings of others	

KS2 Reciprocity



- I can **recognise** when to work alone or with others
- I can **listen** to others carefully
- I can **demonstrate** understanding of other views
- I can **discuss** ideas clearly and help others learn
- I can **innovate** with others' ideas and ways of learning
- I can **evaluate** different points of view and adapt my methods

This is about collaboration and working together. Your children will recognise these posters from their class. You may find these useful to use at home and to help reinforce what we are doing in school.



Important Dates



Please see the website calendar for more information— <https://www.st-petersoxon.co.uk/>

DECEMBER

Tuesday 14th Apple Tree Christmas singing - 9:15am -

Oak Class Nativity - 9:45am -

Wednesday 15th Christmas Dinner

Christmas service - 2pm

Friday 17th 1:15pm finish - **Happy Christmas!**

JANUARY

Tuesday 4th **INSET DAY**

Wednesday 5th Term 3 starts

Vision screening for Reception Class

Thursday 27th Year 3 / 4 Dance Festival at Bartholomew School

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 2nd Year 1 / 2 Dance Festival at Bartholomew School

Monday 21st **HALF TERM**



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had lots of entries for the Christmas challenges during the week and it has been so pleasing to see how much effort the children have been putting in. Children have brought in nativity scenes, word searches and puzzles, digital animations, and Christmas hats. The children looked great in their Christmas jumpers today and with the donations it was wonderful that we were able to support Save the Children in this way.

On Monday we have the talent show which is being organised by the Events Leaders. Bella, Imogen, Joseph and Osian have been doing an absolutely fantastic job of organising this. They have produced advertising, sign up sheets, certificates, organised prizes and props and have written their own script to introduce the acts. I've been impressed with how mature they have been from start to finish in making sure this event is going to be as fantastic as it possibly can be. We all can't wait for Monday to see what talents St Peter's has to offer!

Next week, the year 5 and 6 children will be writing thank you letters to the very kind residents who donated to our 'Covid Bounceback' campaign. We are still waiting for the smartscreens in Maple and Willow but we do have most of the new play equipment installed in Apple tree – there is one more piece of equipment that is due to be installed in February. The canopy for the outside area of Oak class had been installed but half of it was then promptly taken away by the tornado – this is in the process of being fixed. For any kind donors who wanted to remain anonymous, we obviously can't send a letter to you, but a big thank you from all of us.

Mrs Houghton has been working on a project called 'Milestone Moments' where we have been looking at our curriculum and what we offer the children in each class. We wanted to make sure we were providing a good range of memorable experiences that the children would look back on with fondness. You can find more details on the website: <https://www.st-petersoxon.co.uk/milestone-moments/>

One more week to go and we will have negotiated another tricky Covid term dealing with staff and child absences. We hope everyone can stay safe and enjoy a wonderful Christmas.

With warmest wishes,

Jon Jeffries





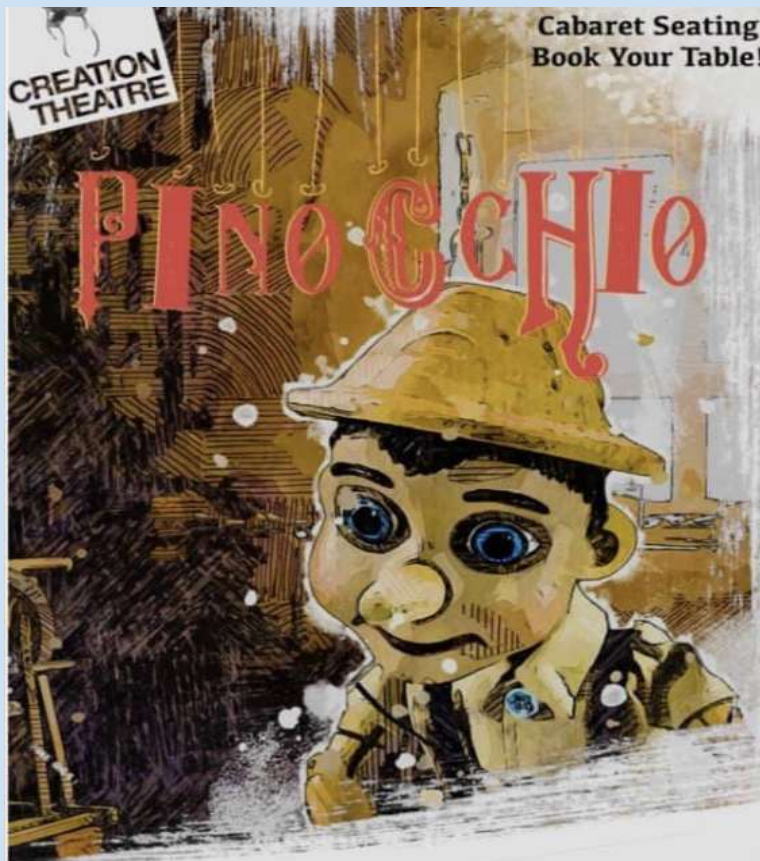
Christmas Challenges

On Wednesday 1st December we will be starting our Christmas Challenges! There are all sorts of things to try, so hopefully everyone will try and enter a few. Some of you might enter every single one! (There will be small prizes.) Some of the challenges are set over the weekend so you'll have plenty of time for making and doing before judging takes place on the following dates:

- Wednesday 1st - Make a **Christmas tree decoration** for the tree in the entrance.
- Thursday 2nd - Recite a **Christmas tongue-twister** or tell a **Christmas joke**
- Friday 3rd - Draw / paint / collage a **Christmas card** (the best from each class will go into the next newsletter)
- Monday 6th - Create a **nativity scene**.
- Tuesday 7th - Design a **Christmas wordsearch / crossword / puzzle**.
- Wednesday 8th- Make a **digital picture or animation of the nativity story**. The best ones will be put on the website. (**Please upload to Google Classroom**)
- Thursday 9th - Make a **Christmas hat**.
- Friday 10th - **Wear a Christmas jumper** for the Save the Children.
- Monday 13th - **TALENT SHOW!! Perform a skill** (The list is endless; judo, ball skills, card tricks, juggling, playing an instrument etc.)
- Tuesday 14th - Make **Christmas origami or other papercraft**.
- Wednesday 15th - Make a **Christmas Table Decoration**, which will be used to decorate the tables for our school Christmas dinner.
- Thursday 16th - Bring in a design (drawn onto a sheet of A4 paper) for a fabulous **Christmas machine** and explain what it is for.
- Friday 17th - Bring your nearly completed **Advent book** into school to receive your prize.

(Please take all 'making' entries to the hall)

Good Luck!



**Cabaret Seating
Book Your Table!**

PINOCCHIO

PINOCCHIO

15 December - 3 January

In association with The North Wall Theatre

"dark, funny... and deliciously chilling!"
☆☆☆☆☆
Oxford Mail (The Snow Queen, 2019)

"Gloriously vibrant,
fast-paced and tense -
a really high calibre-performance"
Daily Info (Peter Pan, 2018)

"Lies can be easily recognised...
There are those with short legs and
those with long noses. Your kind
have long noses."

Brimming with heart and humour, this
high-energy retelling of Carlo Collodi's
classic tale of a wooden puppet who
yearns to be a real child will see The
North Wall transformed into a magical
wonderland.

Performances Times
10am, 2pm, 6:30pm, 7pm
throughout the week.

Tickets: £13.50-£32
(concessions available)
* A £2.50 booking fee applies

A heart-warming and festive reminder
that we all get back together in the end.

Pinocchio promises to be an
unforgettable adventure for the whole
Family.

Age guidance: 7-

Spacious cabaret style
seating in the stalls.
Book an exclusive table
for 2 to 6 people

Written by Lizzie Hopley.

Directed by John Hoggarth.

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