

Newsletter (12) Autumn Term – 01.12.2023

What happened this week in school?



All pupils had additional sports' sessions this week, delivered by WESSP. A big thank you to Mrs Vorster who arranged this.

As we lead up to Christmas, pupils all received an advent calendar from the school elf (Dr Lawson).

The prefects also decorated our Christmas tree.

Kind reminder that we still have one vacancy for a Parent Governor to join the Governing Body. Please contact the school office for more information.

Picture News – This week's Big Question...



Roots and Fruits

This week's value is **DIGNITY**







British Value of the term





Rule of Law










Attendance target: 96%

	Reception class 100%
	Yeas 1 and 2 87%
	Years 3 and 4 93%
	Years 5 and 6 87%
Whole school	90%

House Points

Ants		627
Badgers		584
Locusts		683
Lizards		541

Value Awards

	Reception	Ellen	Courage: For taking the plunge and sampling different foods!
	Courage		
	Years 1 and 2	Mikey	For the effort he puts into his learning.
	Years 3 and 4	Alice Curtis	For writing an excellent newspaper report in English
	Years 5 and 6	John James	For trying, even when it is hard
	Creativity		
	Years 1 and 2	Ava	For sharing a lot of good ideas.
	Years 3 and 4	Amber	For working really well in P.E this week
	Years 5 and 6	Teddy Dou	For writing a great persuasive letter in English
	Respect		
	Years 1 and 2	Knightley	For being a gentleman and opening doors for the girls.
	Years 3 and 4	Amelia	For being respectful to her peers
	Years 5 and 6	Tilly	For being respectful towards adults and peers
	Compassion		
	Years 1 and 2	Dolly	For helping her friends.
	Years 3 and 4	Cassidy	For being a kind and helpful partner
	Years 5 and 6	Teddy D	For always being kind and considerate to all
	Perseverance		
	Years 1 and 2	Scarlett	For trying again and again and asking for help if needed.
	Years 3 and 4	Phoebe	For trying really hard in English
	Years 5 and 6	Teddie	For trying hard when using manipulative equipment in maths
	Responsibility		
	Years 1 and 2	Alice	For eagerly helping to keep our classroom tidy.
	Years 3 and 4	Kai	For being efficient
	Years 5 and 6	Barney	For outstanding effort when completing school tasks
	Hope		
	Years 1 and 2	Florence	For being a good friend..
	Years 3 and 4	Jude	For becoming more confident
	Years 5 and 6	Paul	For recognising areas in his writing that can improve

Classroom News



Reception Red Class

We went on a 'Baby Hunt' (in the style of We're Going on a Bear Hunt') to find Jesus and to retell the Nativity Story. This enabled us to consolidate our learning and to answer our R.E. enquiry: Why do **Christians perform Nativity** plays at **Christmas**? The children also created their own stable to house the special baby!



Reception also had a very special visitor this morning!



Years 1 and 2 Orange-Yellow Class

This has been a very active week for Year 1 and 2. We have been taking part in various sport activities. We had a try at gymnastics, basketball and multisports. The children were immensely excited and despite some wobbles, falls and other mistakes they did their absolute best.



Years 3 and 4 Green-Blue Class

We have had a very exciting week as we were very lucky to take part in some extra P.E activities. This included basketball, gymnastics and multi-sports. We really enjoyed ourselves and tried really hard!



This term in Music, our topic has been 'Vikings'. We learnt about different instruments from the Vikings time and sang a song in unison.



Years 5 and 6 Indigo-Violet Class

As part of our PSHE topic we have been talking about healthy eating. We talked about the purpose of food and discussed that the primary purpose of food is to give our body energy (like fuelling an engine in a car) and to provide us with all the nutrients and minerals that our body needs to maintain itself. Calories, the short name for kilocalories (Kcal), are the unit that we use to measure the amount of energy certain foods give us. We each need to consume a variety of nutritious foods, containing the different substances that we need to keep ourselves healthy.



The body needs food for energy, to grow and to heal and repair itself following injury or illness.

Pupil Voice

Collective Worship Council



Pupils applied to form part of the Collective Worship team. Miss Radomska will be overseeing this:

- Alice B (year 2)
- Evie-May (year 2)
- Dotty (year 3)
- Eva (year 3)
- Maisey (year 3)
- Teddy T (year 5)
- Lillie (year 5)



Digital Leaders

Digital Leaders are pupils who are part of a Digital Leaders' Team within our school; their role is to support the use and further development of ICT in school.

At Dr Walkers, our Digital leaders are George and Sienna. Some of the duties that they perform are:

- Setting up the computer for assemblies
- Assisting teachers with assemblies
- Managing the computer room – ensure laptops are charged etc.
- Leading assemblies
- Assisting pupils with the use of computers



'I like being a digital leader because I get to help people when we do computers and I also take an active lead during assemblies' - Sienna.

'Being a digital leader gives me the opportunity to use my computer skills to help my peers as well as the teachers' - George.

As part of the role as digital leaders, the children interviewed our IT consultant, Dr Vowles.

Q: What is the best part of your job?

A: Coming to schools to look at the problems and fixing them.

Q: What is the worst part of your job?

A: When teachers forget what they have been told. Connecting cables for a new building in a school.

Q: Why did you decide to work with computers?

A: I saw an opportunity. A job with computers was advertised and I applied for it.

Q: If you had to rebuild a computer, could you do it?

A: Yes, I have rebuilt computers and then also built the parts to use in the computers. It is easier to do the old computers because the new computers these days are very fragile.



Information

Career guidance

We need help!

The subject Leads are organising visitors coming into school to talk about their careers to inspire our pupils and help them to make valuable links with the subjects taught in school.

We want to invite professionals from outside the school to talk to our pupils about different professions and the requirements for getting into them. It won't be an extensive talk – only 5-10 minutes during the morning assembly (please be ready to answer some insightful questions from the students). It can be any profession e.g. working in a museum, being a helicopter pilot or a wellness coach.

If you can assist us, please contact the school office.

We had Dr Vowles in to an assembly, to share with the pupils what his career is about.



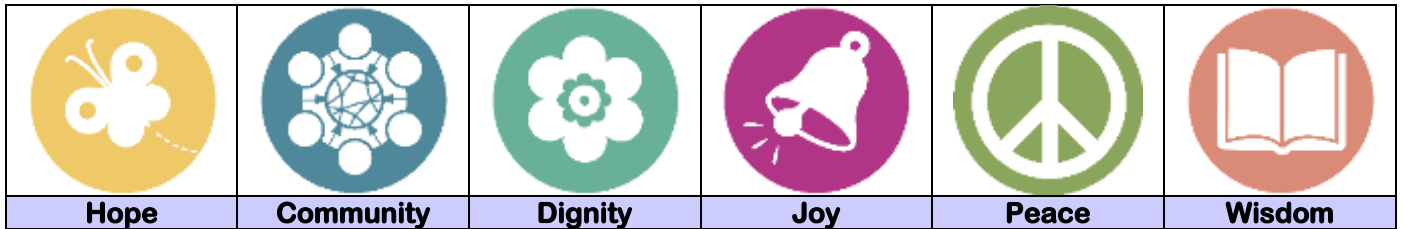
Job/Career title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT Consultant
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering PHD in Communications Engineering and Electronics
Which subjects did you enjoy in school and why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and technology Computing
How did the subjects in school inspire you for the job you are doing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and Technology was creative. Computing helped me to understand computers better. In the 80's and 90's there were a lot of computing developments.
What do you do as part of your job?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application design Data processing

- General IT support
- Network administration
- Server management
- Systems design
- Web hosting
- Website design
- PROBLEM-SOLVING!

Roots and Fruits - Values

As part of our Collective Worship, we focus weekly on a values, as represented Roots and Fruits 2.

The values are:



Librarian Prefects and Essex Libraries Winter Reading Challenge

Join Lyra as she travels around the world, finding out all about endangered animals. There will be 12 challenges for your child to choose from. Once they complete six of the challenges they will be rewarded with a certificate and a prize (while stocks last).

The challenges will support literacy skills, confidence with reading and creativity, with many of the fun challenges to complete in the library.



Lyra will be leaving on **Saturday 25 November 2023** and returning on **Saturday 3 February 2024**, but you can join her on her travels at any time!

You can sign up to the challenge by visiting any of our 74 libraries, or one of our two mobile libraries.

Keep your eyes peeled on the Essex Libraries social media over the next few weeks to be the first to find out more... <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/winter-reading-challenge>

The Librarian Prefects re-visited the classes today to promote the Winter Reading Challenge and collect the names of those who had signed up.

Well done Red Class – Harry, Jake and Noah who are the only ones who have signed up at the moment!

Church of England's Advent Calendar



While opening an Advent Calendar is an important part of the build-up to Christmas for many people, it can be hard to find one that depicts the real Christmas story.

Now, The Church of England has released its first ever printed Advent Calendar, inviting people to put the birth of Jesus at the heart of their Christmas preparations.

And the Follow The Star Advent Calendar goes beyond the conventional countdown, offering a creative and interactive experience focused on the Nativity. It is available online and in bookshops.

Children and adults are challenged to find the right sticker for each of the 24 days of Advent and then add it to an overall scene. They are then invited to go further with a short story episode for each day, and free themed activities including a 'scratch' nativity play script.

The calendar forms part of the Church of England's 'Follow The Star' campaign for 2023, which also features a brand new Christmas Carol by composer Bob Chilcott which will be sung by choirs across the country, with the invitation 'Join the Song!' together with daily reflections from Christmas to Epiphany.

Launching the calendar, **The Bishop of Stockport, Sam Corley** said: "Advent Calendars are such a great way of building up excitement in the countdown to Christmas. But it isn't always easy to find a calendar that gets beyond robins and snowmen – or gifts such as chocolate, tea, whisky or even socks – to explore the real meaning of Christmas, let alone Advent as a time of preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ.

"By choosing the Church of England's Advent Calendar this year, we hope people and families will connect with the great joy and mystery of Advent in a fun and interactive way. They can also discover anew their place in the greatest story ever told, and how the earth-shattering arrival of God to earth in the birth of Jesus Christ is Good News for us, and for all the world."

The Advent Calendar is priced at £3.99 for a single calendar, or 10 for £35. It is available now from [Church House Publishing](#), and many outlets including Amazon and Waterstones.

It has been created for The Church of England by Clare Williams, Head of Schools & Family Learning at Norwich Cathedral, and Charlotte Cooke, a children's illustrator who has enjoyed seeing her books read on TV.

Featuring a fold-out, stand up crib scene, stickers for every day of Advent and a rhyming Nativity story sheet, it tells the story of how – and why – Jesus came to be born in Bethlehem.

Free accompanying daily activities and a Nativity play script inspired by the calendar are also available from the Church of England available.



Upcoming arrangements for Christmas events



- There will be an entrance **fee of £2.50** to the disco on Friday, 15th December. This is a fundraiser, but also to cover the overhead costs for refreshments. This is payable to the class representatives by Friday, 1st December. Year 5 & 6 pupils to pay Mrs Morris in the school office.
- All pupils are kindly asked to bring in “a BOTTLE of something” for the tombola table. This can be anything that is in a bottle, e.g. bubble bath, shampoo, a drink, gherkins, etc. As this is a fundraiser, tombola raffles will be sold at £1 a strip.
- There will also be £5 raffle ticket strips on sale before school, for bigger sponsored prizes (like last year!). Prizes to be drawn at the school disco.
- We also ask if pupils can make paper chains at home which we can use as part of decorating the hall for the Christmas Disco.

- Pupils will be asked to dress up for the concert day on Tuesday, 19th December. This must be something linked to the Nativity, e.g. stars, angels, shepherds, Magi, Mary, Joseph or animals at the stable. This means costumes can be made at home or recycled from previous years – no need to buy something. We will provide costumes for the reception pupils. The Nativity concert will be **“Whoops-a Daisy Angel.”**
- For the church service on Wednesday, 20 December, we ask that pupils make a Christingle at home and bring it to church. This will be a competition, like last year.

Event(s)	Date	Action
Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 8 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear your most festive Jumper - £1 donation. Normal school uniform for the bottom half.
Christmas Lunch		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be pre-booked for all pupils by 30 November – see slip below. There will be no jacket potato option on this day. If you do not book a Christmas Lunch, you will need to send your child with a packed lunch.
Prefects movie afternoon	Thursday, 7 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student council is arranging a Christmas movie afternoon. Pupils to bring a blanket, cushion and snack.
Christmas Disco at 15:15-16:15	Friday 15 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tickets to be purchased through Class Reps. • This will be a non-uniform school day.
Christmas Concert at 10:00 and 14:00	Tuesday 19 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musical performance (ukuleles and xylophones). • Christmas Carols • Concert • Contemporary Christmas songs • Christmas around the world (class presentations)
Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church at 09:45	Wednesday 20 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils to present Christingles (competition and prize per class). • Parents will be invited to join us.

Movie on Thursday, 7th December.

The pupils have voted and the prefects have selected **Arthur Christmas** as the movie the pupils will be watching next week.

This is a U rated film. This means the film should be suitable for audiences aged four years and over. U rated films should tell children that everything will turn out okay.

Pupils are reminded to bring in a blanket, pillow and snack as they will watch it in the hall.





DEAD SEA SALT GIFT SET
FROM SMOOTH SKINCARE

FLOWER
BOUQUET

£25 VOUCHER FOR
THE DOG & PICKLE



WOLF FISHING
ACCESSORIES

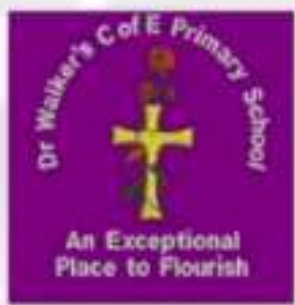
SHAPE & POLISH WITH
NATALIE'S NAILS & BEAUTY

WAX MELTS

X2 COMPLIMENTARY TICKET
ENTRY FOR THE CUTTY SARK

& ROYAL OBSERVATORY,
GREENWICH

BREAKFAST FOR TWO
@ HAZEL'S KITCHEN, HARLOW



CHRISTMAS PENGUIN
FROM PICCOLA

PROXELLI MINI
HAIR STRAIGHTENER



DR WALKER'S CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

EVE TAYLOR BUNDLE
FROM SMART BEAUTY

KRAZY KIDS
VOUCHER

£2 per strip of tickets
£5 for 3 strips

BUBBLE TEA @ THE POTTY
PAINTING STUDIO

WASH & BLOW DRY
@ HADLEY YATES SALON

£10 VOUCHER FOR THE
CHEESEMONGER ONGAR

CAKE STAND

CHERIE'S BOUTIQUE
VOUCHER

X2 CHRISTMAS TABLE
ARRANGEMENTS

CUT & BLOW DRY AT
YOUR HOME BY KELLY

£10 FOOD VOUCHER FOR
THE CROWN @ SANDON



Well-being – FREE Beauty Pamper session for parents/carers

Dr Lawson would like to invite all parents/carers to a FREE paper session on Thursday, 18 January 2024 (estimate time 14.30)

The session will be in school hours, so you will be able to have your treatment and purchase any products that you may like, then collect the children.

The options are:

- wellness
- wellness with facial
- full skin therapy facial / pamper.
- menopause session.



Please contact the school office via email to indicate your interest and preferred option, so that we can confirm the booking for the majority option.

West Essex School Sport Partnership



This week all the children had extra PE coaching. Pupils took part in extra gymnastics and basketball session.

These lessons were delivered to them by Ms Watkins one of the West Essex School Partnership coaches.



Reception



Year 1 / 2



Year 3 / 4



Year 5 / 6

Fyfield Pre-School Partnership

Reception class welcomed 21 children from Fyfield Pre-School today, as they joined us in today's virtual author event.



Creators Pippa Goodhart and Nick Sharratt hosted the event!

The children listened as they created their own Christmas adventure.

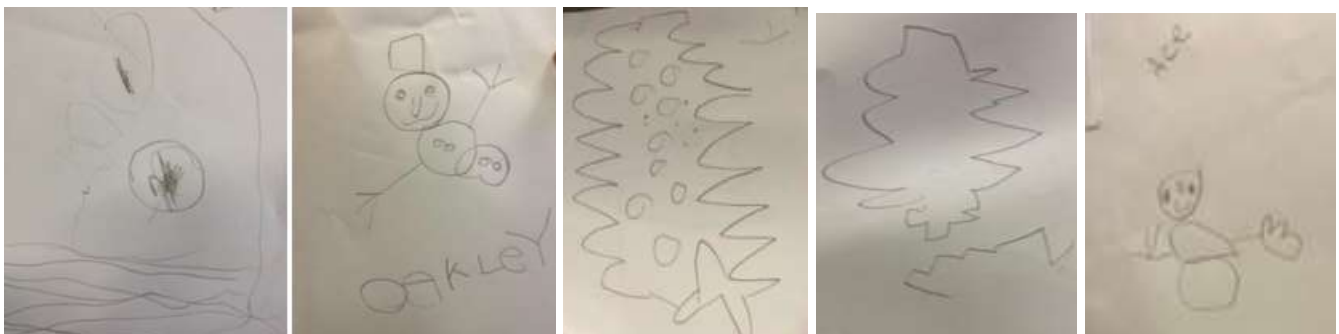
Which Christmas jumper will they wear? Which job will they choose to do in Santa's workshop? Where would they like to sleep on Christmas Eve?

The children also had the opportunity to get their own pens and pencils ready and join Nick for some live draw-alongs! They drew a snowman, a Christmas tree, a Christmas pudding and Father Christmas!

Here are some of the masterpieces that Red class created!



Look at some of the artwork that the Fyfield Pre-School children created too!



We look forward to sharing more events together!

My Child's Art – Christmas Designs

Don't forget that the online portal is now live and you are able to purchase your child's Christmas design.

There is a 10% early-bird discount code, which will expire at 23:59PM on **Monday 11/12/23**.

Do not forget to apply the code during checkout!

The final date for orders for guaranteed Christmas delivery is Thursday 14th December 2023.

Orders made after this date cannot be guaranteed for arrival for Christmas.



iRock club

Unfortunately there was not enough interest shown for this club to be offered. The external provider will try again next year.

The Big Ambition



www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition

The Children's Commissioner for England has launched the survey, **The Big Ambition**, to hear from all children and young people in England aged between 6 and 18 years old. Adults can answer on behalf of a child or young person aged up to 18.

The survey will be used to take children and young people's views to the Government.

To find out more, visit [website](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition/).

www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/the_big_ambition/

Christmas Crafts at Chipping Ongar Library

Saturday 16th December 2023

All children aged 3 – 10 years!

Chipping Ongar Library is hosting a Christmas Crafts event on Saturday 16th December 2023.

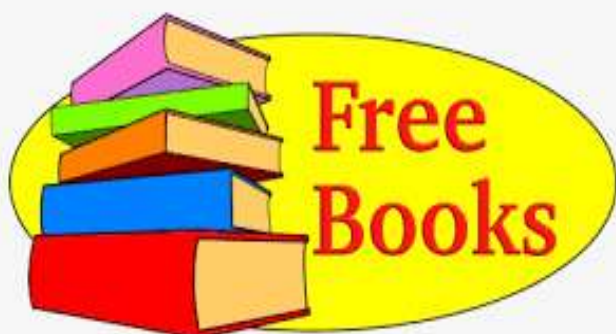
Make a snow globe ... decorate a bauble ...

AND

Participants receive a free book!

Please email us pictures of your creations to share in our Newsletter

BOOKING is required and tickets cost £3.



Essex County Council
Libraries

Christmas Crafts

Chipping Ongar Library

Saturday 16 December, 10am to 12noon

- Join us for some exciting Christmas crafts, for children aged 3 to 10
- Make a snow globe. Decorate a bauble. Participants will also receive a free book
- Booking is needed, tickets cost £3



Scan me to book

Free training courses for parents

Dear Parents & Carers,



National
Online
Safety

The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children, and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers. Learning how to act safely when using the internet is an incredibly important part of safeguarding our children.

We are therefore delighted to announce that **Dr Walker's C of E Voluntary Controlled Primary School** have shown our commitment to protecting our pupils online by working with National Online Safety- providing resources for all parents and carers.

The resources include Parents & Carers courses (presented by Myleene Klass), online video resources and weekly guides covering a huge range of topics, including:

- Online Relationships
- Fake Profiles & Social Bots
- Online Bullying
- Online Grooming
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Sexual Harassment & Violence
- Sexting
- Live Streaming
- Online Identity
- Screen Addiction
- Online Challenges
- Overspending
- Social Media Platforms
- Online Gambling
- Radicalisation, Terrorism & Extremism
- Age Inappropriate Content
- Copyright & Ownership
- Hacking
- Fake News
- Online Fraud
- Online Reputation
- Personal Data
- Pornography
- Targeted Adverts & Pop-Ups
- The Dark Web
- Games & Trends

To create your account, please follow <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/dr-walker-s-c-of-e-voluntary-controlled-primary-school> and complete your details. When you're set up, you'll be able to set 'Parent/Carer' as your user type.

You can access National Online Safety online via any device- including via our brand-new smartphone app. To download the app, please go to:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/national-online-safety/id1530342372>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.nationaleducationgroup.nos>

Alternatively, search for 'National Online Safety' in the App Store/Google Play Store.

Information



04.12.23	Reception Open day 09.45am to 10.15am
07.12.23	Prefects arranging a Christmas movie afternoon
08.12.23	Reception Assembly CANCELLED due to practising for the Christmas concert
08.12.23	Christmas Jumper Day
08.12.23	Christmas Dinner Day
14.12.23	Year 6 – Tudor workshop
15.12.23	Christmas Disco
18.12.23	WESSP Whole School Sports Day in school
19.12.23	Christmas Concert