

# Newsletter (13) Autumn Term – 15.12.2023

## What happened this week in school?



Our very talented Mrs Spanton has been keeping busy in the evenings! She has knitted all of the Nativity characters! Amazing!



The Elf also had a look in and snuggled up with baby Jesus.

Event(s)	Date
Christmas Concert at 10:00 and 14:00	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church at 09:45	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December

## 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 <b>100%</b>
	Years 1 and 2 <b>91%</b>
	Years 3 and 4 <b>91%</b>
	Years 5 and 6 <b>84%</b>
<b>Whole school</b>	<b>90%</b>

## House Points

<b>Ants</b>		772
<b>Badgers</b>		698
<b>Locusts</b>		816
<b>Lizards</b>		664

# Value Awards

	Reception	Hope	Noah: For always racing into school full of smiles
	<b>Courage</b>		
	Years 1 and 2	Jesse	For asking for help when he needs it
	Years 3 and 4	Harrison	Completing challenging work
	Years 5 and 6	George	For always putting effort into everything
	<b>Creativity</b>		
	Years 1 and 2	Dolly	For sharing a lot of good ideas
	Years 3 and 4	Amelia	Great ideas in her work
	Years 5 and 6	Sidney	Using his talents during the concert
	<b>Respect</b>		
	Years 1 and 2	Lucas	For lovely manners and consideration of others' feelings
	Years 3 and 4	Kai	Helping Mr. McLendon
	Years 5 and 6	John James	For being respectful towards adults in school
	<b>Compassion</b>		
	Years 1 and 2	Ava	For always supporting her friends
	Years 3 and 4	Hugo	Kindness to others
	Years 5 and 6	Ralph	For being a helpful and kind partner in class
	<b>Perseverance</b>		
	Years 1 and 2	Alice	For trying hard to keep her handwriting big
	Years 3 and 4	Joey	Keeps trying when it's hard
	Years 5 and 6	Sienna	For trying hard to always go the extra mile
	<b>Responsibility</b>		
	Years 1 and 2	Florence	For collecting and putting away books when the learning is finished
	Years 3 and 4	Amber	Finishing jobs
	Years 5 and 6	Teddie	For efficiently helping in the school
	<b>Hope</b>		
	Years 1 and 2	Ethan	For having an amazing amount of self-belief
	Years 3 and 4	Dotty	Looking for the best in her work
	Years 5 and 6	Freya	For beautiful manners and kindness

# Classroom News



## Reception Red Class

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas!  
We have been having lots of magical experiences  
occurring inside and outside the classroom!  
We have had magic trees and SNOW!



## Years 1 and 2 Orange-Yellow Class

This week we have been writing a poem about our class elf. We were closely observing what the elf had been up to though the week and we did our best to put it in the poem.

We also tried to make it rhyme – it was quite challenging but a lot of fun.

We have been also practising the songs for our school Christmas concert.



Looking at the pictures; can you guess what the titles of our songs are?



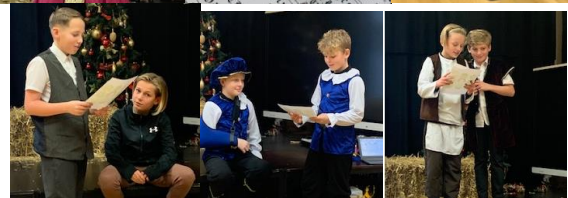
## Years 3 and 4 Green-Blue Class

We welcomed Mr. McLendon!  
This week we have been working on our times tables and adverbs in our writing. We also used our organising skills to complete construction projects. A highlight of our study was finding out about the first Christmas and the birth of baby Jesus in Nazareth.



## Years 5 and 6 Indigo-Violet Class

On Thursday, we had a great day! Everyone dressed up and celebrated our Tudor day. We took part in various activities such as dancing, taking part in a Henry VIII dating game and much more.



## Information

# Magic Reindeer Food

Reception children were tasked with making magic reindeer food today. They needed to recognise the quantities required and then carefully measure the amounts and pour them into the bags. The magic reindeer food is to be scattered on your garden on Christmas Eve (all ingredients are animal friendly and edible) to light the way for Rudolph to guide Santa's sleigh to your homes.



# Ready for our Christmas Disco

## Red



## Orange-Yellow



**Green-Blue**



**Indigo-Violet**



# Indigo-Violet Tudor Day



## Food Technology in school

As part of the Food Technology curriculum, Year 5 and 6 made and baked bread sticks; unfortunately, due to some technical difficulties the photos taken are not available for us to share with you.



## Librarian Prefects and Essex Libraries Winter Reading Challenge

Essex County Council Libraries

# Winter Reading Challenge

Saturday 25 November to Saturday 3 February

TRAVEL 123.90

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>



# Supporting your child with Reading

## Supporting your child with reading

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

There are two types of reading book that your child may bring home:

**A reading practice book.** This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently. This will be a book that they are familiar with because they have been reading this to an adult in school to develop their decoding, prosody and comprehension skills.

**A sharing book.** Your child may or may not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

### Reading practice book

This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised  
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



### Sharing book

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together.

Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, and explore the facts in a non-fiction book.

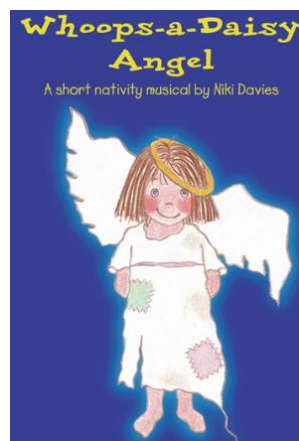
The main thing is that you have fun!



## Let's Read A Book!

## Upcoming arrangements for Christmas events

- 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 end of the afternoon performance. Tickets can be purchased on the day!
- Pupils will be asked to dress up for the concert day on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> 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 Concert at 10:00 and 14:00	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Musical performance (ukuleles and xylophones).</li> <li>• Christmas Carols</li> <li>• Concert</li> <li>• Contemporary Christmas songs</li> <li>• Christmas around the world (class presentations)</li> <li>• Raffle tickets to be drawn</li> </ul>
Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church at 09:45	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils to present Christingles (competition and prize per class).</li> <li>• Parents will be invited to join us.</li> </ul>

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

BREAKFAST FOR TWO @ HAZEL'S KITCHEN, HARLOW      X2 COMPLIMENTARY TICKET ENTRY FOR THE CUTTY SARK & ROYAL OBSERVATORY, GREENWICH

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

**Raffle will be drawn after the afternoon performance on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

# Christingles

Christingle services are held in churches, usually between Advent and Candlemas. It is an excellent opportunity for people of all ages to join in, using oranges to create visible symbols of the Christian message.

## Christingle



Our modern Christingle consists of:

An orange representing the world

- 1) a red ribbon, tied round the orange representing the blood of Jesus
- 2) fruits and sweets, skewered on 4 cocktail sticks which are pushed into the orange representing God's good gifts - the fruits of the earth and the four seasons
- 3) a lighted candle, pushed into the centre of the orange representing Christ, the light of the world

For many years churches all over the world have made Christingles to remind them that Christ is the light who came into the world at Christmas.

The Christingle orange represents the world, John reminds us that "Jesus was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognise Him. He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him". (John 1 v 10 - 11). The red ribbon of the Christingle represents the blood of Jesus which was shed for us so that our sins may be forgiven. "But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from every sin". (1 John 1 v 7). The fruits and sweets on the four skewers represent God's gifts to us, the fruits of the earth and the four seasons. "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease". (Genesis 8 v 22).

The lighted candle, pushed into the centre of the orange, represents Christ, the light of the world. "He [Jesus] said, "I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life". (John 8 v 12).

*Sources:*



# Christmas has come to Dr Walker's C of E Primary School

## Elves working at home...



## Elves at school...



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

Dr Lawson would like to invite all parents/carers to a FREE pamper 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.



# Christmas Crafts at Chipping Ongar Library

## Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**All children aged 3 – 10 years!**

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

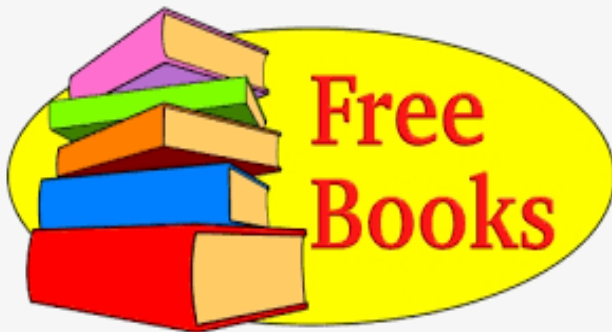
Make a snow globe ... decorate a bauble ...

**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

## Information



18.12.23	WESSP Whole School Sports Day in school
19.12.23	Christmas Concert
20.12.23	Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church at 09:45
20.12.23	Break for Christmas Holidays!
08.01.24	Children return to school