

Headteacher's Update – 12.12.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we break up on Thursday next week, this will be my last headteacher's update of the year. It has been a busy and festive week and here are some highlights and reminders.

Christmas and Nativity Plays

What a joyful start to the festive season we have had in school! This week, Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 treated us to the most wonderful Christmas performances. Each show was full of enthusiasm, singing and super acting, and it was fantastic to see the children so confident and proud on stage. A huge thank you to all staff for their hard work in preparing the children, and to parents and families for your support and warm applause. These moments really do make the season feel special.

Thank you to everyone who bought a raffle ticket – all money raised goes to the PTA who do such a great job raising funds for the benefit of all our pupils.

Sharing Joy in the Community

Representatives from our school choir visited Lakeside Care Home this week to sing carols with the residents. The children sang beautifully and brought real joy to everyone there. The residents were delighted to welcome them, and it was lovely to see our pupils spreading kindness and Christmas cheer beyond the school gates.



Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner

On Wednesday we enjoyed a wonderfully festive Christmas Jumper Day, with children and staff arriving in a marvellous array of colours, patterns and sparkle. It was also our school Christmas Dinner Day, and the hall was full of excitement as everyone sat down together for a traditional festive meal. A huge thank you to our kitchen and lunchtime teams for making it such a special occasion.

Pantomime Visit – Beauty and the Beast

We were thrilled to welcome a visiting pantomime company into school this week for a performance of *Beauty and the Beast*. The children absolutely loved it—there was laughter, singing, shouting out in true panto style, and plenty of wide-eyed wonder. Experiences like these help make the Christmas season magical for our pupils, so thank you for your contributions enabling this to happen.

Reception Superheroes

The Reception children were delighted by another visit from their real-life superheroes—Jack the postman, Mrs Humphreys our school site manager, and Mrs Dodd who helps at St. Clare's Church. Each hero shared stories about how they help others every day, showing the children that real superheroes do not need capes—just kindness, hard work and a caring heart.





Illness and Children in School

As we move through the winter months, we are seeing a rise in seasonal illness. We continue to follow NHS guidance to help keep everyone healthy.

- **Coughs and colds** are common at this time of year; children can usually attend school if they feel well enough to do so.
- **If your child has a high temperature or is feeling too unwell to take part in normal school activities**, please keep them at home until they feel better.
- **If your child has sickness or diarrhoea**, they must stay off school for **48 hours after the last episode**.

Thank you for helping us keep our school community safe and well.

Looking Ahead to Next Week

We are very much looking forward to celebrating Christmas with our Key Stage 2 pupils next week, including the Year 6 Carol Concert, which will take place at St Clare's Church. We warmly invite you to join us for your child's event—your presence always makes these events even more meaningful.

The whole of the KS2 choir will be singing for their parents on Wednesday 17th December at 2.30pm. I may be biased, but I think they are sounding amazing and if you are able to join us then you are in for a real treat.

We hope to see many of you either in school or at the church as we continue our festive celebrations together. Please remember that although you do not need a ticket for these events, we can only accommodate 2 guests per child.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you on behalf of the British Legion who have let us know we raised £498.78 during the poppy appeal.

End of Term Reminder

A reminder that **school finishes at 12.00pm on Thursday 18th December**. All children must be collected promptly at midday. Please note that **there will be no hot dinners on this day**.

As we approach the end of term, I want to thank you all for your continued support over the past term. The warmth, generosity and community spirit shown by our families makes this time of year truly special for the children and staff alike. We wish you a peaceful, joyful and restful Christmas break, and look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year.

Merry Christmas, Mrs Machin





Learning at St Louis

Nursery

We have been learning: about kindness and how we should be kind to each other here in nursery and at home with our family.

You can help at home by: talking to your child about kindness. Encourage your child to be kind to siblings and friends too.

Reception

We have been learning: how to work as a team and listen to other people's ideas.

You can help at home by: working with your child to build/make something together.

Year 1

We have been learning: to read and write tricky words.

You can help at home by: practising tricky words with your child.

Year 2

We have been learning: about 2D and 3D shapes.

You can help at home by: seeing if your child can spot any shapes in your home and when you are out.

Year 3

We have been learning: the 8 times tables.

You can help at home by: practicing the 8 times tables with your child.

Year 4

We have been learning: about a Tudor Christmas and the feast that Kings and Queens would eat including many birds.

You can help at home by: asking which birds were stuffed inside each other as a Christmas feast.

Year 5

We have been learning: how to multiply a 3 digit by a 2 digit number.

You can help at home by: asking your child to show you the method used e.g. 568×24

Year 6

We have been learning: about whether Ancient Maya should be remembered.

You can help at home by: asking your child to tell you some reasons from both points of view.

