

# Newsletter

## News from Mrs Henderson

This week we had two special Collective Worships, both looking at the Christmas story. It was very exciting this morning to light all of the candles on our Advent Wreath.

Over the past month we have thought about our Value for the month of Humility and how it relates to the Christmas story. We have all been reminded that greatness often comes through simple and humble acts.

Together we have thought about questions such as –

- What present would you give a King?
- What simple thing could you give someone this Christmas?
- How can you be humble, like Jesus was?

The children's answers showed that they had really understood that small acts of love can make a really big difference. I hope that over the holidays the children will remember to show kindness and to take joy in the simple things, not just shiny and expensive presents.

It was great fun this morning to draw all our thoughts together and to sing. It was a particularly raucous rendition of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' to bring Collective Worship to a close!

Thank you to everyone who donated to SeeSaw, to whom we will send the collection from our Carol Services. We raised just short of £200, which will support the charity as they continue to support children who have experienced bereavement.

Thank you to all of you who have given cards and gifts to staff over the past week, your kindness and thoughtfulness has been much appreciated. We really value the support of our wider community and have been very touched by your generosity.

Thank you and have a peaceful and happy Christmas break.

## Values Awards

A huge well done to the children who have continued living by our Values right up to the end of term. It was a joy to recognise them in Collective Worship this week.



## Mobile Phones and Smart Watches

We have recently re-written our policy on Mobile Phones and Smart Watches.

We know children are likely to get new devices for Christmas. Before they bring them into school, please make sure that you have read the [policy](#).

Children should only bring mobile phones into school if they are walking to or from school without an adult. Both mobile phones and smart watches will be placed in a box when children arrive in school and will be returned to children when they leave to go home.

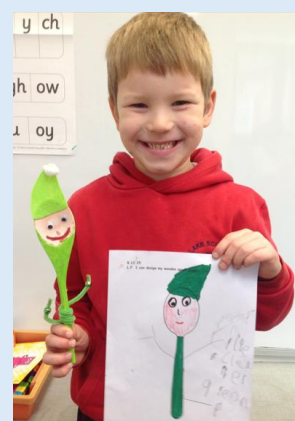
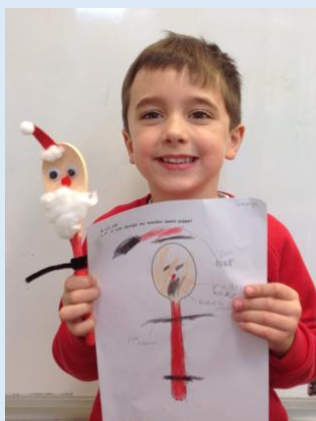
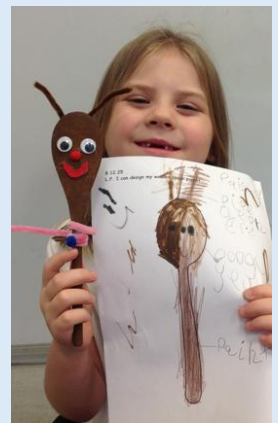
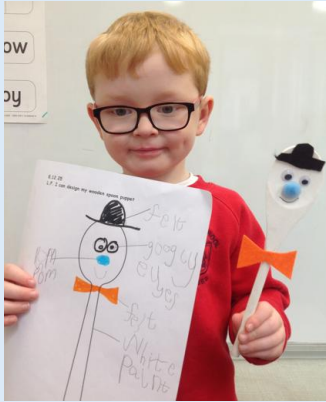
Please use time over the holidays to check the security settings on your child's devices, and to think about how your child can be supported to use them safely.

As parents you may find it helpful to look at material produced by '[Smartphone free childhood](#)', who are encouraging parents to delay giving their children smartphones.

In the New Year look out for details of an online safety production which will be delivered in school by the company who yesterday performed the pantomime.

## News from Around the School

This term, the children in Year 1 have been learning about old toys. They learned that toys in the past were often made from wood, and children would make their own toys from things they found around the house, or outside. With that in mind, the children designed and made their own wooden spoon puppets, being careful to follow their plans. We love what they have created!



## Lates and Absences

In the New Year we are going to be launching a new sign in system for staff, children and all visitors to our school site. The system will allow us to log everyone who is on our site with a greater degree of accuracy, whilst also speeding up signing in and out for staff each day.

As they do now, all our visitors to site will be required to sign in, though in the New Year they will sign in electronically, rather than on paper.

The most significant change will be for parents who are bringing their children into school late (after the start of the school day). Parents will need to sign their children in electronically, the number of minutes late a child arrives will then be automatically logged.

Classroom doors are opened at 8:40am. Doors are closed at 8:50am, which is when registers are taken and the day begins. If your child is late to school, they are missing crucial learning time and opportunities to consolidate key learning. Whilst it may feel like only a few minutes, if you do not get your child to school until 8:55am each day, across the year they will have missed 3 whole days of school.

Please do make it a New Year's resolution to get your child into school on time. All children should be taken to their classroom doors unless you (or your child) are disabled, or they are late into school.

In the winter, children suffer from a lot of coughs and colds. Although children should not come into school with a temperature, children are often able to manage a school day with a cough or a cold. If your child becomes unwell at school, we will always call you to let you know and ask you to come and collect them. Attendance at school is important and we would ask that you support your child's learning by bringing them into school every day.

### My Child at School (MCAS)

Over the coming months, we will be changing the way that we communicate with you.

Our Management Information System (Bromcom) has a feature called 'My Child at School'. If you have a child at Wood Green, you will already be familiar with it.

We will be giving you a countdown to the rollover to the new system, with plenty of time to prepare. We hope to have rolled over to the new system by Easter 2026 and will use it for communication and for ordering lunches.

If however you want to get ahead, you could spend some time over the holidays downloading the 'MyChildAtSchool' app.

### Parking

We were very saddened this week to be contacted by our near neighbours complaining about inconsiderate parking. We were sent photos of parents blocking people on their drives as well as parking on the pavements. A member of our staff also reported the difficulties they had getting into work because of parents parking.

If you need to drive a car to get your children to school, please, PLEASE use the large car park. We know there is not always space for everyone, but parking carefully and considerately will maximise the space. If you need to wait for a space, please be patient.

Do consider walking, scooting or cycling to school instead of using the car.



## More News from Around the School

Christmas at school has been a lot of fun! Enjoy photos from over the past few weeks of a number of different Christmas events and fun being had by the children. We particularly like the children in Year 4 having a relay race to decorate their 'Christmas tree' with objects from around the hall. Our choir have been a wonderful soundtrack to so many of our Christmas celebrations and have brought a smile to us all, thank you to Mrs Raven for all her hard work to make it happen!



Loving, learning and flourishing in community