

Newsletter

News from Mrs Patchett

In Collective Worship this week we lit the first of our Advent Candles on our Advent Wreath.

As a community we thought together about Advent and remembered that it is a time of waiting as well as a time of getting ready.

We talked about one of the stories that Jesus told, of servants awaiting their master's return. Together we thought about how those servants needed to watch and wait so that they were ready. We then reflected how that can help us to approach Advent, thinking about the importance of keeping living out our Vision and Values, even in the busyness of the coming weeks.

We really enjoyed talking about the ideas in this poster and sharing the differences between the two lists. Whilst everyone agreed that the crossed-out list contains lovely things, the new list will really make a difference to our friends and families.



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Our school Christmas tree has gone up and Advent calendars have appeared in every classroom.

If your child would like to send Christmas cards to their friends, they can post them in our school post box, next to the Christmas tree. Some of our Year 6 elves will empty the box each day and deliver the cards around the school. To help our elves with their delivery, please make sure that cards are clearly labelled with each child's full name and their class.



Creams and medicines

From time to time, many children need to take medicines when they are in school. Other than in exceptional circumstances, only medicines prescribed by a GP can be administered in school – you can find details in our [school policy](#).

If your child does need medication in school, you must hand it in to the main front office and complete an 'Administering Medication' form. For the safety of all your children, please do not leave any medicines in your child's bag or pockets.

Christmas at The Blake

This week, Christmas begins in earnest at The Blake. Details of upcoming performances and events are below.

This week and next, children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be performing in our school hall. These performances are ticketed events. It is vital that every 'body' at these performances has a ticket, whatever their age. We regret that it is not possible for younger or older siblings to attend performances, unless they have a ticket. For this reason, please make sure that have your ticket with you when you come to performances.

Wednesday 7th – Years 1 and 2 perform Manger Mouse at 2.30pm. Please enter the school via the gate onto the school playground.

Thursday 8th – Christmas jumper day. Children can wear a Christmas jumper or festive top, or they can decorate themselves with tinsel. Other than their top (or festive decoration) children must be in school uniform.

Thursday 8th - Years 1 and 2 perform Manger Mouse at 5.45pm. Please enter the school via the gate onto the school playground.

Wednesday 14th – children in Years 4 and 6 will sing carols at St Mary's Cogges at 2pm.

Wednesday 14th – Early Years children perform their Nativity at 5.45pm. Please enter the school via the gate onto the school playground.

Thursday 15th – children in Years 3 and 5 will sing carols at St Mary's Cogges at 2pm.

Thursday 15th – after school on the front playground, come and listen to the choir sing carols and stay for the Christmas raffle draw.

Friday 16th – Christmas lunch day, the deadline for ordering has now passed.

Monday 19th – children in Years 1 – 6 will be watching Saltmine Theatre company perform Rapunzel. Please pay £3 via ParentPay.

Tuesday 20th – end of term at 1:30pm

Back to school – Wednesday 4th January 2023

Values Awards

Congratulations to the children who were awarded a Values certificate this week.

Children this week were recognised for taking responsibility, demonstrating perseverance and showing respect.



The School Choir

The School Choir is having a very busy few weeks, being much in demand for helping people get in the Christmas mood.

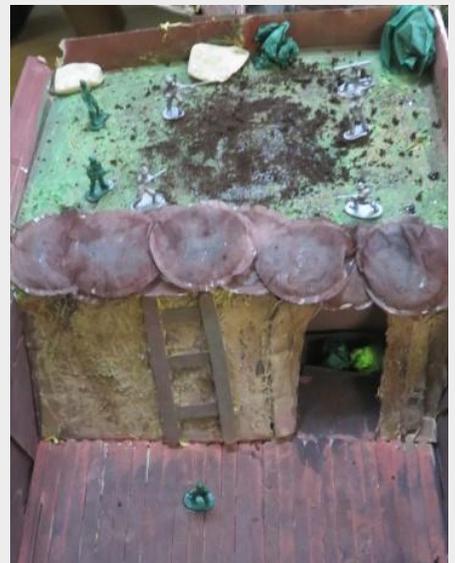
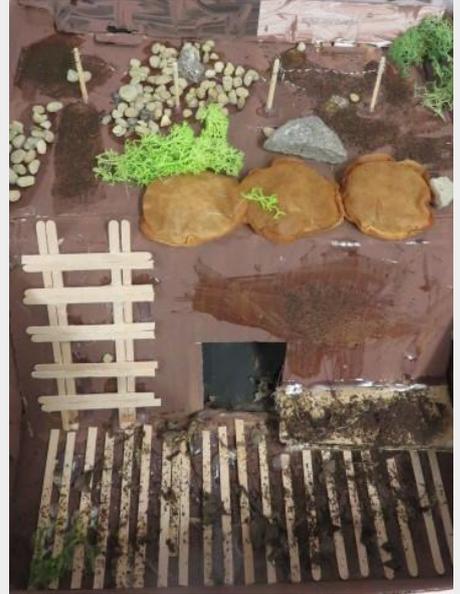
Last weekend, the choir entertained visitors to Cogges Manor Farm as part of their weekend of Christmas events.

On Thursday, the choir performed at the Chatterbox coffee morning in Witney, stopping on their way back to bring Christmas cheer to people on the footpaths.



News from Around the School

As part of their topic work, the children in Year 6 have been very busy this week making World War 1 trenches. It is clear from the finished results that the children have paid really careful attention to all that they have been learning – we think the results are really impressive and reflect the children’s hard work. Well done to them all.



Loving, learning and flourishing in community