



Newsletter 14



"Following God's path to flourish in life"

Mr P Hayward: Headteacher

Friday 8th December 2023

What a busy week the children in **Willow Class** have had! Our Reception children had a very soggy trip to Marquis Drive on Wednesday. The children enjoyed a craft activity, outside den building and teamwork challenges. They also enjoyed toasting marshmallows and drinking a cup of hot chocolate. The children were also treated to a visit from Santa! The children behaved brilliantly and had lots of fun! We have been really impressed by the writing from our Year 1 children this week, they have been busy writing Santa letters but have also created a book to explain the events of the Great Fire of London. The children wrote thoughtful sentences and designed their book covers.



In **Oak Class** this week, the children used a range measuring, cutting and sticking techniques to add details onto their fire engine models in DT. They added windows, stripy reflective strips, hoses and a ladder. Next will be the axle and wheels, which they have learned all about. A highlight of the week was of course writing to Father Christmas! Every child has written a lovely letter with some really kind comments and thoughtful questions, as well as some polite gift requests. Let's see if Father Christmas and his helpers have time to reply before the end of term!



The children in **Beech Class** have been working very hard on their autumn term assessments this week. For one task, they had to write an alternative ending to the traditional tale; Little Red Riding Hood. In PE, the children continued with their dance lessons. This week, they had to create movement phrases around the theme of deforestation. The children worked sensibly and creatively to incorporate movements that showed the effects of this process.

Once again, the children in **Elm Class** braved the cold, rainy, winter weather in the pursuit of knowledge by going on a bug hunt as part of their science topic. Although most of the bugs seemed to be hiding from the cold, some children found worms, centipedes, and slugs. The children took the insects back into the classroom, made some detailed drawings which they labelled using the correct scientific vocabulary they have been learning.



In **Sycamore Class**, the children have worked hard with their assessments, showing their understanding of their learning over the past term. Also, they have enjoyed gluing together the chassis of their cars in DT ready for next week when they will add an electrical circuit with a motor to make them move. The children have written excellent stories in English based on how animals develop their features e.g. how the elephant gets its trunk. In PE, they enjoyed having a game of basketball, showing off their dribbling and shooting techniques. In Forest School, they used wood and other natural resources to create a Christmas decoration.

The children in **Maple Class** have been tackling their assessments with a very sensible and positive attitude. Six boys represented the school at a wheelchair basketball tournament and came back very excited and triumphant! During their PE lesson, the children developed their balance, strength and agility skills using the large equipment in the hall. The children are nearing the end of their class novel 'Letters from the Lighthouse and are enjoying 'Popcorn Reading' around the class.



School Discos

On Monday, the children are warmly invited to attend one of two school Christmas discos. The first will be for the children in Willow and Oak Classes and will take place during the school day in the afternoon. The second disco will take place at 3.30pm and will end at 5.00pm. The second disco is for Key Stage 2 children only. Monday will be a non-uniform day to save the children having to get changed. Weather permitting, the children will be playing outside at break and lunchtime so please make sure they will be warm enough in their dance clothes.



School Dinner Menu for the week commencing Monday 11th December

MENU	WEEK THREE
MONDAY	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V)(WG) <u>or</u> Penne with Veggie Bolognese (Ve)(WG) Choice of Filled Jackets or Tomato Pasta Sweetcorn, Green Beans Vanilla Iced Shortbread (Ve)
TUESDAY	Pork or Chicken Sausages with Mash & Gravy <u>or</u> Veggie Sausage with Mash & Gravy (Ve) Choice of Filled Jackets or Tomato Pasta Sliced Carrots, Garden Peas Toffee Apple Sponge with Apple Custard (V)
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with Roasties, Stuffing & Gravy <u>or</u> Quorn Fillet with Roasties, Stuffing & Gravy (Ve) Choice of Filled Jackets or Tomato Pasta, Cabbage, Carrot Batons Chocolate Mousse with Mandarins (V)
THURSDAY	Chicken with Golden Vegetable Rice (WG) <u>or</u> Mac & Cheese (V) Choice of Filled Jackets or Tomato Pasta, Rainbow Veg Jammy Dodger Flapjack (Ve)
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips <u>or</u> Quorn Dipper with Chips (Ve) Choice of Filled Jackets or Tomato Pasta, Baked Beans, Garden Peas Vanilla Ice Cream with Fruit Cocktail (V)

This year's Christmas dinner will take place on Thursday 21st December. Please note that only the Christmas meal will be served on that day. A vegetarian option will be offered but sandwiches, pasta and baked potatoes will not. To help prepare, a Microsoft Form will be sent out this week to gauge numbers of children wishing to order a Christmas meal.

This week's attendance

Willow	Oak	Beech	Elm	Sycamore	Maple
97.8%	95.9%	91.7%	99.2%	95.0%	95.9%

Well done to the children in Elm Class this week. Nearly perfect attendance.
27 days of education were lost to absence this week.

CHILL – Wrap-around-care

Online booking forms are available on the school website. Please make all bookings by 1pm on Friday the week before and ensure payment has been made in advance via Parentpay or childcare vouchers activated.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS SCHOOL WEB PAGE FOR BOOKINGS](#)

Chill emergency phone number – 07535042629

Enquiries to Sue McCoskry - chill@st-andrews-weston.staffs.sch.uk

And finally...

It was lovely to see so many of you at this year's Christmas fair. A heart-felt thank you to everyone who contributed to, helped out at and supported the event. STAA, as ever, were on hand to offer their support leading up to and during the event and Santa arrived too. Perfect!

Don't forget, Christmas message cards are now available. As soon as a donation is made on ParentPay your child will receive a message card to peg up onto the message board. Every message will be read out to the school on the last day during the school talent show. All money raised will go to Oxfam to support families abroad. Thank you.
Mr Hayward.

Prayer Space

A prayer for advent

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world,
to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

Amen.

[CLICK HERE to access our FACEBOOK page](#)



Term Dates and Events for the Year 2023 - 2024

Autumn Term 2023

Monday 11 December	School Christmas discos – Non-uniform day
Wednesday 13 December	Year 1 & 2 visit to Ford Green Hall
Thursday 14 December	Christmas pantomime in school
Tuesday 19 December	Willow and Oak Children's Christmas Performances
Wednesday 20 December	KS2 Carol Concert in Church 1.30pm
Thursday 21 December	School Christmas Dinner
Friday 22 December	Last day of term

Christmas Holiday: Monday 25 December – Friday 6 January

Spring Term 2024

Monday 8 January	Term starts
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Half term break: Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February

Thursday 14 March Governors' Local Academy Committee meeting 6.00pm
Wednesday 20 March
Friday 31 March

Easter Holiday: Monday 25 March – Friday 5 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 31 March

Summer Term 2024

Monday 8 April Term starts
Wednesday 10 April Elm Class (Year 4) to Laches Wood – Residential visit
Friday 12 April Elm Class return from Laches Wood
Monday 22 April Stafford's Gotta Dance 6.00pm – 9.00pm
Monday 6 May School closed – May Day
Thursday 16 May Governors' Local Academy Committee meeting 6.00pm

Inset day: Friday 24 May

Half Term Break: Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May

Inset day: Monday 3 June

Thursday 20 June Governors' Local Academy Committee meeting 6.00pm
Thursday 4 July Mid-Trent MAT Board meeting
Friday 19 July Leavers assembly 2.00pm

Inset day: Monday 22 July

Summer Holiday: Tuesday 23 July – Friday 30 August 2024

Term Dates for 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term 2024

Inset day: Monday 2 September

Term Starts: Tuesday 3 September

Holiday: Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

Term Ends: Friday 20 December

Holiday: Monday 23 December – Friday 3 January

Spring Term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 6 January

Holiday: Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

Term Ends: Friday 11 April

Holiday: Monday 14 April – Friday 25 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 20 April

Summer Term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 28 April

May Day: Monday 5 May

Holiday: Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May

Term Ends: Monday 21 July

Holiday: Tuesday 22 July – Friday 29 August