



The Vineyard School

The Vineyard School
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Dear Families,

Unbelievably this is the last newstetter of the half term. It has been a fantastic half term with so much going on: Explorer Dome workshop, evacuee day, trips to the zoo and Butser farm, Victorian day, forest school, design & technology cooking projects, Nativity plays. Not forgetting maths, English, geography and the rest of the curriculum! The children have certainly been busy and have learnt a lot. Do ask them about what they have learnt over the holidays as it really does help the knowledge they have acquired transfer from their short-term to long-term memories.

I am so proud of all our reception children. The Nativity plays have been fantastic. The children all learnt their lines, stood on the stage and entertained us by taking on the roles of the fairy tale characters who then retold the Nativity. Little Miss Muffet was an innkeeper, the three bears were shepherds, the Three Little Pigs were the three wise men and goldilocks was Angel Gabriel. There wasn't a dry eye in the house!

Time for a rest now (or at least a change of scene) and a chance to break the routines. I hope you have a good break and manage to find time to relax with your families, enjoy playing games and chats round the table. It's also a great opportunity to pick up a book to share with your children.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and I look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Frances Bracegirdle

Upcoming Events

Fri 10 Dec	Extra Curricular Booking links released at 7pm for Spring 1
Mon 13 Dec	Year 4 Saxon Workshop Come dressed as a Saxon
Mon 13 Dec Wed 15 Dec (back up)	Carol Singing Evening Years 1-5 (although everyone is welcome), 4.30-5.30pm
Wed 15 Dec	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch
Thu 16 Dec	Carol Service, St Matthias, Kyanite, 11am Carol Service, St Matthias, Garnet, 1.30pm
Fri 17 Dec	Carol Service, St Matthias, Jet, 11am
Fri 17 Dec	LAST DAY OF TERM - 12 pm pick up
Mon 3 Jan	BANK HOLIDAY - School Closed
Tue 4 Jan	FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM
Wed 19 Jan	Parent Teacher Consultations, 1.30pm-4pm
Thu 20 Jan	Parent Teacher Consultations, 4pm-7pm
Tue 8 Feb	Safer Internet Day
Mon 14 Feb - Fri 18 Feb	HALF TERM

Christmas - last week of term

Carol Singing Evening

We are planning to go ahead with the Christmas singing event on Monday (weather permitting). This event is for year 1 to year 5 although **all** children are welcome.

The plan is that you will pick up your children at the normal time (except Koosa) and then return to school wrapped up warmly to sing some carols. The children will be asked to stay with their parents and we will sing together.

Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Come dressed in your Christmas jumper on Wednesday 15th. For those who have school dinners it is also Christmas lunch on that day.

Carol Services - Year 6 (see dates list)

We will send out more information to Year 6 next week.

Help your child foster a love of reading and writing

Don't miss the opportunity to attend some fantastic free online parent workshops to support your child with their reading and writing. These include top tips for fostering a love of reading with your child and getting to grips with grammar.

These workshops are targeted at any parent or carer who has a child at primary school. All sessions are scheduled in the evening to fit in with work and parental responsibilities with an option to attend in the Spring or Summer term.

To find out more and to book onto a free course follow thlink <https://www.dandelionlearning.co.uk/training/>

Useful links

Please see below some links to our website that parents may find useful:

[Calendar](#) [Absence and Attendance](#) [Koosa](#)

[Kids](#) [Extra-Curricular Clubs](#)

[Library](#) [Report and Absence](#) [FAQs](#)

[Website](#) [PTA](#)

Get the latest updates and photos by following the school on Twitter
[@Vineyard_School](#)



Class News

Reception

The reception children have been enjoying the festive season making many fun crafts and visiting Santa in his grotto with his very helpful elves. They worked very hard to learn all the songs and lines for their Christmas production to bring joy to all.

Year 1

It's been a lovely two weeks in Year 1, with the Christmas Fair happening we made our Christmas crafts ready for last weekend! The children have enjoyed painting their clay ornaments and practicing Christmas songs ahead of the concert. In science this week we have continued our learning of animals diets, focusing mainly on omnivores. The children identified and grouped different animals using pictures, to discuss in groups where they belong.

Year 2

It has been a very busy and fun two weeks! We have been busy with our mock SATs, Read Write Inc assessments and our Phonics screening. The children worked so incredibly hard and showed all of the Vineyard Values over the course of the week. Last week was very exciting as we went to visit Santa's grotto and we even received a small present from him! We had a lovely arts and crafts afternoon where we made our own Christmas ornaments for the Winter fair and raised loads of money for the PTA. In PE last week, we have been practicing our fantastic gymnastic skills. Finally, we have been working hard in both maths and English. In maths, we have started our new topic on money and have been enjoying getting to know what coins and notes look like. In English, we have started reading a new book called 'The journey home'. This book is all about animals who lose their home, so they work together to try and find a new home. It is a fantastic book which allows us to discuss how to preserve and protect our planet for endangered species. All of the children have been working so hard and we are so proud of them!

Year 3

Ever wondered why sloths are known as the sleepest and slowest animals on Earth? After a busy week of thorough researching and writing informative non-chronological reports, it is safe to say the Year 3 children are officially sloth experts! They will be delighted to share their funny sloth facts with you at home. In science, we put our learning about light to the test as we built our very own periscopes. What fun we had experimenting with reflections and discovering hidden treasures! There has been much excitement as we put our creative hats on to design and make our model chairs in DT. We definitely have some incredibly talented inventors. Big thanks to our wonderful parents and carers for all the cardboard you have donated, it has made these enriching activities possible.

Year 4

Year 4 have had an exciting time exploring non-Newtonian fluids in science! We mixed cornflour with water, and observed how unlike any other matter it was that we have been studying in our States of Matter topic – it was two states at once! Non-Newtonians can appear to be a solid when pressed and they can also be poured like a liquid! We also had the pleasure of watching a fantastic presentation from Noam, Jonathan and Mia who told us all about the Jewish Holidays, it was really interesting and they did a great job at presenting their slides.

Year 5 & 6

Year 5 and 6 have had a slightly different week so far – they have been back with their own class teachers for all subjects! All the teachers have been so impressed with what all the children are able to do in the different subjects. Year 6 have been doing some printing to make Christmas cards in art; Year 5 have been learning how to 'snap' in PE, where they have been playing a miniature version of American Football; and both year groups have been writing an alternative version of 'Father Christmas Goes on Holiday'. All the children have been rehearsing their carols too and we're looking forward to the services taking place next week!

Photos



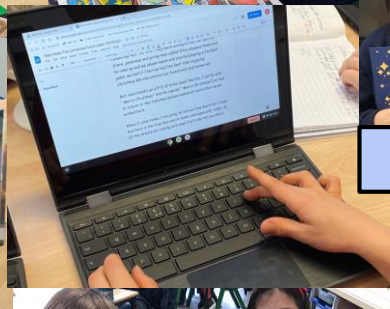
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Y6



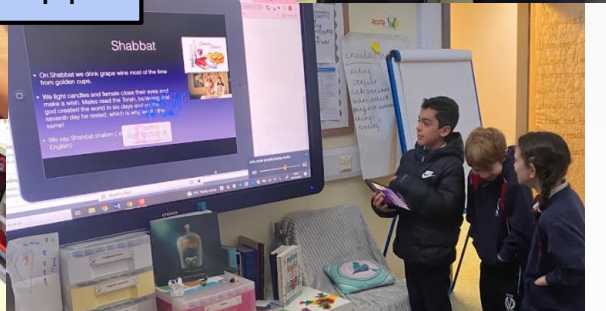
Y1



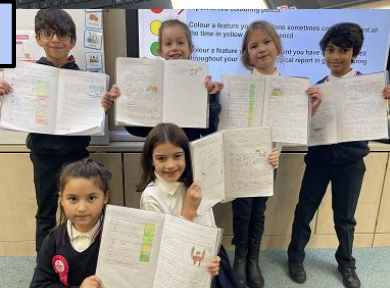
Y4



Y3



Y2



Sports News



Y3/4 Basketball Tournament -
at the start of the day



Y3/4 Basketball Tournament -
at the end of the day!



Tag Rugby Team Vs St Elizabeths
at Home



Y5/6 Girls Football Tournament Team



Y5/6 Basketball Tournament Team



Congratulations to Galise on achieving
her Red Tag belt (3rd Kup) of British
Taekwondo