

# St Ambrose Newsletter

Follow the example of Jesus

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022



0151 425 2306



[www.stambroseprimary.co.uk](http://www.stambroseprimary.co.uk)



@StAmbroseSpeke



## Weekly Attendance

Nursery 1	53.3%
Nursery 2	53.4%
Reception	80%
Year 1	88.7%
Year 2	90.3%
Year 3	90.7%
Year 4	91.9%
Year 5	91.1%
Year 6	91.5%

**Whole  
School:  
90.7%**

We aim for every child to have at least 97% attendance over the year. Children with this level of attendance will be rewarded each term.



## Golden Book

### Certificates

Congratulations to the following children who all received a golden certificate this week

Nursery	Gabriella R
Reception	Peter L
Year 1	Anastazja N
Year 2	Maya S
Year 3	Robert B
Year 4	Jack H
Year 5	Ryan E
Year 6	Ava P



## Nursery

This week, we have continued to read the class story 'Owl Babies'. We used pom-poms to make 'fluffy' prints of the three main characters, then added eyes and a beak. The pictures look fantastic! I am so proud of the way everyone has been completing their homework over the past few weeks; the owl puppets I've seen on Twitter, Teams and those brought into school have been amazing. On Thursday, it was very exciting to come into school and see everywhere decorated ready for Christmas. The children really enjoyed decorating the tree in the home corner and worked so well as a team to complete it. We have also been busy rehearsing for our Christmas performance next week. Sweet singing voices and fab-u-lous dance moves are making us smile every day!

## Reception

We've been going 'Baarmy in Reception' this week, with lots of rehearsals taking place for our Christmas performance next Thursday (8<sup>th</sup> December). The children are trying so hard to learn their lines and stage directions. We are very proud of them! Remember to check our class window 'Parents' Notice Board' for all upcoming events. We have enjoyed reading our class story 'Owl Babies' and used extra large pom-poms to make our very own representations of the main characters - Sarah, Percy and Bill. In maths, we have been ordering numbers 1-6 and understanding more about 0. We now know that 0 comes before number 1 on a simple number line. Remember as the weather is becoming much colder, hats and gloves are needed.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### CHRISTMAS DATES ARE INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December Santa's elf visiting EYFS (Shhhhhh! It's a secret!)

Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December - ASD Coffee Afternoon 2pm Dining Room

Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> December Y5 and Y6 singing at Cathedral Carol Service

Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> December EYFS Nativity for Parents and Families: 9:30 and 1:30

Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December - St Ambrose Feast Day Celebrations

## Year 1

The countdown to Christmas has officially begun in Year 1! We have loved preparing ourselves for Jesus' birthday by joining all of the other schools in our Trust each day to celebrate Collective Worship together. Remember to check out our school Twitter feed so that you can join us too. In English this week, we have enjoyed reading 'Where the Wild Things are' and thinking about the mischief that Max got up to. In maths, we have learned how to add numbers by using the 'making ten' strategy and we really had lots of fun finding out about how the weather changes from autumn to winter in our science topic. I hope you all saw us dressing 'Andy' appropriately for the cold weather. We have been practising really hard for our Carol Service and are really looking forward to performing for you.

## Year 2

We have had a very busy and exciting week in Year 2. In maths, we have started looking at presenting data in graphs. The children have collected information and used block graphs and pictograms to represent their information. They have also been able to interpret information from the graph. In English, children have been working hard writing their own version of 'The Promise'. It has been lovely to see everyone applying conjunctions and expanded noun phrases in their writing. On Friday, we carried out an investigation in science looking at different materials and how absorbant they were. There was great excitement on Thursday morning seeing our school decorated beautifully for Christmas. This put us in the festive spirit as we continue to rehearse for our Carol Service.

### Year 3

A really exciting and fun-filled week in Year 3. We enjoyed our 'Stone Age to Iron Age' workshop in school and learnt all about how life changed during these time periods. It was wonderful to see how engrossed and enthusiastic the children were! Subsequently, we have begun looking at how life changed in the Bronze Age and how metals like bronze were used. In maths, we have solved addition and subtraction word problems using bar models and understanding known and unknown facts. In English, we have looked at using fronted adverbials to improve our writing in retelling the story of 'Stig of the Dump'. We will use these ideas to write our own story next week. In science, we investigated different types of rocks using a flowchart and identified the difference between them. Have a lovely weekend!

### Year 4

As Christmas approaches, Year 4 have continued to impress with their hard work. In English, we have identified the features of a character description and discussed how we could describe the characters in our class novel. In maths, the children have immersed themselves into our work on data by interpreting and constructing time graphs. In RE, we have continued to reflect upon the meaning of Advent and how we can thank God for the gift of Jesus. We had an exciting science lesson, in which we investigated the melting points of various frozen liquids. A cold but enjoyable afternoon. In PSHE, the children discussed their personal features and how we can learn to love ourselves. Overall, a very productive week in Year 4.

### PE AT ST AMBROSE

Our Key Stage 1 children have been working hard on their body tension in Gymnastics while Key Stage 2 are finishing their Indoor Athletics topic so that next week we can record our results and compete! Our stars this week have been: Nursery AM - Lucas, Nursery PM - Bobby, Reception - Peter, Year 1 - Aoife, Year 2 - Arthur, Year 3 - Robert, Year 4 - Filip, Year 5 - Jada, Year 6 - Ryan.

### Year 5

Our Christmas preparations are now well and truly underway. We have been getting ourselves into the festive spirit by decorating our classroom and rehearsing our Christmas carols. On Tuesday, we visited the World Museum as part of our history topic on 'Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.' We had an amazing day, during which we were able to bring our learning to life by investigating a range of different Anglo-Saxon and Viking artefacts. A massive thank you to the parents who volunteered for the trip, as without your support the trip would not have been as successful as it was. For our Collective Worships this week, we have been using our online Advent calendar - each day led by a different class from our Trust.

### Year 6

The countdown to Christmas has started in Year 6, with our Christmas tree, Advent calendar and carol rehearsals underway. All this and great learning taking place! In English, we have been exploring fairy tales, as we prepare to write our own in the style of those told in 'A Monster Calls'. In maths, we have been representing fractions as decimals, using our understanding of what we already know. Sustainability has been the focus of our geography, discussing the advantages of alternative forms of resources around the world. In science, we have been learning how to classify invertebrates. 'Hope' was our Advent theme this week, as we expressed our hopes for Advent and for the year ahead. We have loved opening our Trust online Advent calendar each day, sharing Collective Worship with other academies across our Trust.

# CHRISTMAS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Time
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EYFS Nativity</li> </ul>	9:30am
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EYFS Nativity</li> </ul>	1:30pm
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Ambrose Feast Day Celebrations: Children are to wear yellow/black with their school uniform</li> </ul>	All day
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christmas Party Day/ Own Clothes Day</li> </ul>	All day
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents' Coffee Morning</li> <li>Santa Grotto Day £1</li> </ul>	9:00-10:15am All day
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christmas Dinner/ Christmas Jumper Day with school uniform</li> <li>Christmas Movie Magic £2</li> </ul>	All day 3:15-5:00pm
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y1-Y6 Carol Concert (whole school in Church). All parents and families welcome to join us to say goodbye to Mr White.</li> </ul>	1:30-3:15pm Children will be dismissed from Church on this day.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School closes at 2pm for Christmas Holidays</li> </ul>	2:00pm

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

As we prepare for Christmas, we begin to think of those less fortunate than ourselves. Rather than sending Christmas cards to each other, please send in a small loose-change donation (the money that you would have spent on the cards). We will then use this money to buy hats and gloves for the homeless. Also, by not sending cards, we are protecting our wonderful world. **Money will be collected on Christmas Party Day: Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December.**



## DLA FUNDING

If your child is receiving DLA (Disability Living Allowance), school has the opportunity to apply for additional funding to purchase resources/equipment that will support your child and help to enhance/refurbish the sensory room. All that we require is a copy of the confirmation of the award letter confirming that your child is entitled to DLA. This will then be used as evidence to support our funding application. Mrs O'Grady will take a copy of your confirmation letter and pass it to our School Business Manager, Mrs Leach to process.

## SAFEGUARDING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Christmas should be a time of joy but for millions of families struggling to cope with rising food, fuel and energy bills this winter, there is a concern that ruthless loan sharks will try to cash in on the festive period.

Figures show that one in ten people who borrowed from loan sharks last year did so to cover the cost of Christmas. They know how to spot people who are vulnerable and need money. Loan sharks create a vicious cycle of debt and can lead to people losing their homes and being pushed in to extreme poverty. For more information visit: <https://www.stoploansharks.co.uk/>

## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

### Reminder

Our ASD 'Question & Answer' session takes place in the school dining room on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 2:00 pm. All parents with any concerns are encouraged to come along for further advice.

### Further Information

If your child experiences any of the following, and this results in a big impact on their life this may be an indication that they have sensory processing difficulties:

- Difficulties concentrating in school
- Cannot sit still and fidgets a lot
- Struggles with food textures, tastes or smells and has a limited diet
- Has difficulty wearing certain textures or dislikes tags and seams
- Experiences regular meltdowns
- Struggles to manage their emotions

### How to get help

Support for children with sensory processing difficulties is received through parents attending SPD awareness sessions and do not require a referral. They are delivered by the Children's Occupational Therapy Service in partnership with ADDvanced Solutions. You can contact ADDvanced solutions via email: [info@addvancedsolutions.co.uk](mailto:info@addvancedsolutions.co.uk) or visit <https://www.addvancedsolutions.co.uk/>

## ADVENT

We are now in the season of Advent. Each day there will be a moment of reflection that you are most welcome to join in with from home. Please follow this link <https://www.stjosephmat.org.uk/news/advent/> each day at any time after 10:30am.

