



Higher Walton C.E. Primary School



'Life in all its fullness'

Friendship ● Forgiveness ● Creativity ● Courage ● Respect ● Responsibility ● Trust ● Tenacity

19th December 2025

As we come to the end of a busy and rewarding term, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our children, families and staff a very happy and peaceful Christmas. This special time of year reminds us of the Christian values at the heart of our school community and it has been wonderful to see these lived out so clearly by our children throughout the term. Thank you for your continued support and love for our school. I hope the Christmas holidays provide time for rest, reflection and joyful family moments together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year, refreshed and ready for the spring term ahead.

Mrs. Clarke ☺

Class News

Explorers: The children in Explorers have had a wonderful and busy term, learning about special celebrations such as Hanukkah and Christmas. They especially enjoyed taking part in the Nativity play, where they showed great confidence, teamwork, and enthusiasm, and the festive Christmas party was a lovely way to celebrate together. It has been fantastic to see how much they have grown and how well they have engaged with their learning this term. We are very proud of all they have achieved and look forward to welcoming them back in January for another exciting term.

Discoverers: It was a great final week before Christmas. The Christingle was a truly magical experience, and the children loved preparing, and eating, the Christingles! The Santa Dash this morning was a super way to start our final day in a great and positive mindset! The Discoverers class really knew how to party this morning, and a great time was had by all with everyone cheering each other on and showing some expert dance moves.

We wish you a merry and restful Christmas and we look forward to welcoming you back in 2026!

Adventurers: This half term, Adventurers have been busy across the curriculum. In writing, we have been using '*The Polar Express*' as inspiration, exploring descriptive language and developing our storytelling skills. In science, we have completed our unit on balanced diets, learning about the different food groups and how our bodies use food to provide energy. In computing, the children have been designing and creating their own games using Scratch, showing fantastic creativity and problem-solving skills.

Finally, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the parents and children at Higher Walton. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time teaching here and will miss everyone terribly. I would like to wish you all a very lovely Christmas and a happy new year.

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Navigators: This week Navigators have been writing our own Grimm Fairytales, trying to include comparative adjectives and noun phrases. In maths we have been comparing the properties of shapes, finding missing angles and reading timetables. We have also had lots of fun making Christmas cards and calendars to take home. We hope you love them!

School worship

In whole-school worship we have spent time reflecting on the Christian values of **hope, peace, love and joy**. Through stories, prayer and shared discussion, the children explored how hope helps us to look forward with trust, peace guides us in making kind choices, love encourages us to care for one another, and joy reminds us to be thankful for the many blessings in our lives. Our school worship helps us to reflect on how we can live out these values each day, both in school and beyond.

It's never goodbye but a see you soon...

We would like to take a moment to say 'see you later...' to Mrs. Proctor, who will be leaving us to begin a new chapter in her career. She has been a valued member of our school community for 16 years, bringing dedication, creativity, and enthusiasm to everything that she does. We are grateful for the positive impact she has had on our children and staff and wish her every success in her next step... She will be missed and we hope she will stay in touch 😊

Christmas through the Keyhole at church

Last week, our children had a wonderful visit to All Saints Church to explore the story of the Nativity in a unique "Through the Keyhole" experience. The church was set up with different scenes from the Nativity story, and the children moved from one area to the next, discovering and learning about the events leading up to the birth of Jesus. It was a magical and interactive way for the children to deepen their understanding of the Christmas story and experience it in a memorable, hands-on way.

Santa Dash

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Santa Dash this morning. Although it was cold, the children kept warm dashing between activity stations and raising a whopping **£207.22** in donations. This money will be going towards some new outdoor play equipment in the New Year.

Rocksteady Concert

Thank you to our Rocksteady Band for performing for us on Thursday with their band leader Jakob. The children have practised hard this term as always and continue to improve their skills. The band is open to children in Year 3 onwards and if your child is interested in joining we have sent a leaflet home today giving further information on how to join.

Infant Nativity Show

Our youngest children in school delighted everyone with their wonderful performance of '**The Sleepy Shepherd**' nativity play! The children's enthusiasm, singing, and acting truly brought the story to life, filling the hall with joy and festive spirit. Families enjoyed seeing the children shine on stage, and it was clear how much effort, creativity, and teamwork had gone into making the performance so special. It was a perfect start to our Christmas celebrations and a memory we will all treasure!

Christingle service in church

Our children enjoyed a wonderful Christingle service at All Saints Church this week. The church was filled with the joyful sounds of singing, and the children's bright Christingles added a special warmth to the celebration. It was a lovely opportunity for everyone to reflect on the meaning of Christmas, share in a sense of community, and celebrate the festive season together. Thank you to all the families and staff who joined us to make this such a memorable occasion.

Thank you's

We would like to extend our warmest thanks to all the parents and carers for the thoughtful Christmas gifts you have given to our staff. Your generosity and kind words are truly appreciated and have brought so much joy to our team during this Christmas time. It is wonderful to feel so supported by our school community, and we are very thankful for your kindness 😊

Weekly awards

Awards in December				
	Star of the week	Values VIP	Star reader	Times Table Rock Star and Numbots
5.12.25	Olivia, Louie, Willow C, Nicole and Olivia M_B	Malacai, Noah, Delilah, Theon and Jessica	Elsie, Filip, Vanessa and Bella	Autumn and Bobby-Jo
12.12.25	Nursery/Reception class, Discoverers class, Blake, Jack and Oliver	Lena, Zander, Erin F and Eva	Nora, Teddy, Izzy and Millie	Kayleigh and Jack R

Attendance

Attendance December 2025	Explorers 16 on roll	Discovers 12 on roll	Adventurers 23 on roll	Navigators 29 on roll
Attendance	90.29%	92.22%	94.93%	95.06%
Lates	5%	7%	3%	3.5%
Well done Navigators class with the highest percentage attendance this month!				

This month's reminder

On each newsletter we will focus on a specific reminder which is having an impact on school or our children, and would ask for your support in helping with the smooth running of our school.

Forthcoming payment deadlines:-

Chester Zoo – outstanding payments are now overdue. Texts have been sent to those parents whose payment has not yet been received. The deadline has been extended to 9am Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Crucial Crew (Y5/6) - the deadline for completion of forms and payment is 9am Monday 12th January 2026.

Please also make sure that payments for nursery fees, before and after school club fees and school meals for the first two weeks back, plus any outstanding balances, are paid by 9am Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Newsletter attachments

The following documents have been sent with the newsletter this month:-

- 2025/26 Lancashire SEND roadshow flyer for parents of children with special educational needs.
- All Saints Church 'Breakfast with Santa and Nativity' flyer

Diary dates

You can now find all the diary dates and holiday lists on our website. Reminders and updates are as follows:-

DATE	TIME	EVENT
5.1.26	-	INSET DAY – closed for pupils
6.1.26	8.50am	School re-opens - Spring term 1
13.1.26	-	Chester Zoo trip
15.1.26	9am	Phonics Workshop – details to follow
15.1.26		Y5-6 Crucial Crew visit
15.1.26	-	Final day for primary applications – Reception 2026
20.1.26		Dance from the Heart training – details to follow
22.1.26	3.30pm	PTFA movie night – details to follow
29.1.26	9am	Y5/6 Class Worship – parents invited
9.2.26		Mental Health Week in school
13.2.26		School closes for the half term break
23.2.26	8.50am	School re-opens – Spring term 2
18.3.26		Let's Go Sing Concert – Blackburn Ice Arena