Newsletter No. 11 20th December, 2024

Dear Parent/ Carer,

As we reach the end of term, I want to take a moment to thank you for your ongoing support throughout the year. It has been a term full of hard work, creativity, Class 6 22nd January laughter and growth. I am so proud of all the children for their achievements. I would also like to express my thanks to our dedicated staff for their tireless commitment to providing the best possible education and care for our pupils. Together, we have made this term memorable and successful. I hope you all enjoy a peaceful and joyful Christmas time with your loved ones. We look forward to welcoming Inset Day the children back in the New Year, ready for another exciting term. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Mrs Stoddart

**Forest School** Wednesdays Class R 8th January Pre-school 15th January Class 5 29th January Class 4 5th February Class 3 12th February

+ Diary Dates

Monday 6th January 2025

School Opens to Pupils Tuesday 7th January

Year 4 Swimming resumes Monday 13th January

Class 6 Trip to see **Bournemouth City** Orchestra, Great Hall, Exeter University Friday 31st January

**KS1** Fossils and Dinosaurs Workshop Friday 7th February

Half Term Break Monday 17th to Friday 21st February

Year 6 Residential to Charterhouse Tuesday 18th to Friday 21st March.

**Class 5 Sports Festival at** Kingsmead Thursday 20th March

**Easter Break** Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April.

**Class 5 Residential to Kilve** Court Monday 28th to 30th April

House Points	Weekly Total	Half Term
London Plane	148	1767
Cork Oak	159	2078
Blue Cedar	144	1915
Horse Chestnut	148	1716



Last Thursday the children of Class R gave Hollywood a run for its money and put on a fabulous Nativity: Oh Crumbs! It is not possible to be more proud of every single one of the children. They learned lines (sometimes other people's as well as their own!), belted out songs and had such a good time doing it. It was an honour to direct you all and...you did make me cry - well done! Mrs Atterton



in a big festive party in the hall on Tuesday. Thanks to all the parents for supplying the party food!





### **OUTSTANDING LEARNERS OF THE WEEK**

**Preschool Evie** for being so independent, joining in with everything and always having a smile.

- Class R All of Class R for an absolutely brilliant first term at school.
- Class 1 Lyla for your excellent progress in writing.
- Class 2 Joshua for your outstanding knowledge and ideas in DT!
- Class 3 Siena for thinking of others and being helpful.
- Class 4 Rory for your fantastic DT work on pneumatic devices this week.
- Class 5 Isla and India for using a growth mindset in your learning this week.
- Class 6 Toby, Sophia and Dougie for their lovely art work based on the work of artist Lowry.

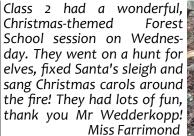


On Thursday, the Drama After School Club did an amazing job performing a 15-minute Wizard of Oz! Everybody had an exciting part to play; Amelie, Sophia and Olivia all played Dorothy, the North Witch was played by Sophia and Amelie, Scarecrow was played by Henry and Sophia. The Tin Man was played by Harry and Nicholas, the Wizard was played by Nicholas, the

West Witch was played by Evelyn and Erin, Guard was played by Eva, the Lion was played by Benjy and Eva and, finally, Toto was played by Eva, Erin and Evelyn. We would like to thank Dean, our Drama teacher, the parents and everyone who came to watch, including Mr Coupe and Miss Storey. by Sophia and Amelie, Class 6

Thank you for all the lovely logs that your children bring in to our Forest School sessions. We are economical with the wood, only burning what we need to warm and power our sessions. Your logs are invaluable! If anyone has a decent sized camping kettle, basic binoculars, or an old frying pan, we'd be most grateful. Ours, after years of good service, have finally given up the ghost. Happy Christmas all.

Mr Wedderkopp







Class 1 have been using the map and key they created of our school and grounds to find our missing bucket of dinosaurs! Luckily, Class 1 are very good at map reading, and using the clues and keys to find those cheeky dinosaurs.





This week Class 1 had a Design and Technology day. We explored different vehicles to find out how they move using their wheels and axels. We designed our own carts to help Santa and the elves deliver presents. We all built our own carts. We thoroughly enjoyed doing this and there were many kind friends helping each other. I'm sure Father Christmas will have noticed these kind friends, and now he will have so many carts to help him deliver all those presents! Well done Class 1. Ms Boullin A HUGE THANKS from the MSA for all the wonderful donations brought in for the school Christmas Fair, and to everyone who helped in the run up to the event and on the evening itself. Without the dedication of these amazing volunteers the event couldn't have gone ahead, and it was great to see so many adults and children enjoying themselves. Other MSA fundraising this term has included the Halloween Disco, children's Christmas cards and the fantastic self-portrait tea towels. This brings the total raised this term for extra school resources, class music lessons and class trips to £2500 - a fantastic start to the **2024/25 year!** Merry Christmas and look out for news of more MSA fundraising events in James, Rob, Brent and Claire 2025!

### Class 5 PE Enrichment—Fencing

Year 5 were not new to Fencing so the session began with a recap of footwork and foil swordsmanship. The children were challenged to hit precise objects to refresh their striking skills. The children were put into groups for fencing duels. Fencing is a very technical invasion game but Ethan and Isla shone throughout with their palpable enthusiasm in embracing a new sport. They improved their attack and defence as well as encourage their classmates.



#### Class 2 PE Enrichment—Ultimate Frisbee

As the Year 2 children were not overly familiar with this sport we spent a while focusing on throwing technique and throw accuracy. The children were tasked with hitting an object, like in a coconut shy. Finally, we had multiple hoops as targets with varying points to score and the pupils were able to land their frisbees in the them. Rafa and Amelie clearly stood out from their peers for their expertise in accurate throwing and hitting or landing in their targets. Mr Aldwin









# FESTIVE FUN

FREE

After several weeks of festive cheer, the Digital Leader Christmas comic competition has come to an end. Children were challenged to put their digital skills to the test by creating a Christmas themed comic that used visuals and text. Again this year, we've had an incredible response with a lot of creativity and imagination. Our winners, as judged anonymously, by our Digital Leaders, are:

1<sup>st</sup> Alfie - with his 'Santa vs Lionel Messi' comic 2<sup>nd</sup> Willow - with her 'Christmas Thief' comic 3<sup>rd</sup> Freddie - with his 'Goalkeeping Santa' comic 3<sup>rd</sup> Elsie - with her 'Christmas Goes Wrong' comic

Well done, and a big thank you to everyone that entered! **Miss Downer** 



## **GOLDEN MILE LEADER BOARD**

## Aggregate Miles Per School

- 1. Wellsprings Primary School, Taunton 3167 miles
- 2. Milverton Community Primary School 2577 miles
- 3. Minerva Primary School 1313 miles
- 4. Kingston St Mary PS 1215 miles
- 5. Norton Fitzwarren Church School 1033 miles
- 6. St Andrew's Church School, Taunton 1078 miles
- 7. Herne View Primary School, Ilminster 507 miles
- 8. St John's Catholic Primary School, Tiverton 499 miles
- 9. Rackenford Primary School 229 miles
- 10. Winsham Primary School 170 miles
- 11. St James' Church School, Taunton 130 miles

## <u>Miles Run Per Pupil</u>

- 1. Wellsprings Primary School, Taunton 14.1 miles per pupil
- 2. Milverton Community Primary School- 11.8 miles per pupil
- 3. Minerva Primary School 11.5 miles per pupil
- 4. Kingston St Mary Primary School 10.7 miles per pupil
- 5. St Andrew's Church School, Taunton 5.8 miles per pupil

Well done, Milverton!! Your little legs have been working hard to reach 2nd place!

Do you think we could get to first place next term?