

The KET Newsletter

Autumn 2024 Update 2



ISSUE #04
December 2024

Greetings from the CEO

We have enjoyed a very busy and exciting Autumn term across the Trust.

Oulton First School welcomed Ofsted for an ungraded inspection on the 15th of October which went well.

Two inspections took place on the 26th of November. Ofsted visited Christ Church First for an ungraded inspection and Oulton underwent the long-awaited SIAMS inspection. It was a busy day however we were pleased with the outcomes of both inspections. We await the final reports.

We were thrilled to welcome both St. Mary's CE Primary and St. Peter's CE Primary Schools into full membership of the Trust on the 1st of December 2024. We look forward to working alongside them in years to come.

Children and staff across the Trust have achieved so much over the term and they should be very proud of all that they have done.

I wish everyone a wonderful Christmas break.

Merry Christmas!



Mr. Chris Wright
CEO - The Key Educational Trust



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Christ Church Academy



CHRIST CHURCH ACADEMY
Excellence in Education

Autumn Term Antics

Since October half-term, the music department have been very busy helping us all to prepare for Christmas. In music lessons, we have been learning to sing some traditional carols such as 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' and 'God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen' ready for our Christmas church service.



The Choir were very excited to perform in Lichfield Cathedral as part of the Entrust Christmas Celebrations. Ben H (Y6) and Mrs Thorn were privileged to play in the orchestra and Maria K (Y7) sang a fantastic solo! We were so proud of all of their performances.



As part of the town's Advent Window Trail, pupils in various year groups created the 18th window display down at Shear Genius Hairdressing. This year, we went with a black and white theme, with newspaper lettering representing 'good news'. The choir also sung beautifully at the unveiling! Thank you to all of the staff at Shear Genius and everyone that came to support us.



Key Stage 2 returned to the New Vic Theatre this week for their Christmas performance of 'The Three Musketeers'. As part of the school's attendance, we were invited to create some artwork for the theatre's foyer. We decided to go with a Pop Art theme, with the 'four' musketeers included. Well done to all of the pupils involved - it looks great on display in the theatre.

There has been lots of artwork created across all year groups for the Christmas service, Christmas concert and the school's Christmas card. We look forward to seeing some of the wonderful designs in church on Friday!



STAFFORDSHIRE CRICKET AWARDS

We are immensely proud to announce that CCA have won the 'Staffordshire Cricket School of the Year Award 2025.'

A big thank you to Claire Bailey for our nomination and her continued support to developing and improving opportunities for girls in Cricket.



Last year, our Go Lead girls were chosen as a Spotlight School for their amazing commitment to girls' football.

Here are some of the professional shots taken from their festival at Springfield First School. Some images will now be used across the England Football channels as well as featuring in the new Go Lead promotional video. A huge well done to all involved.

GO LEAD



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Christ Church First School



CHRIST CHURCH FIRST SCHOOL
Be the best you can be in God's beautiful world

The build-up to Christmas has been action-packed at Christ Church. It is always a busy time as we have all the Christmas performances, a church service and choir engagements in amongst the building excitement of a school full of young children!

We started off with the Stone Christmas Lights Switch on Thursday 21st November. The school choir joined the other schools in Stone for a festive sign-along and it even snowed this year.

On 26th November, we welcomed Ofsted into school and will share the final report in the New Year.

On 6th December, we had multiple engagements. The choir went to sing at the University Hospital North Midlands and were also invited to the Children's Ward which was wonderful.



On the same day, Year 3 headed into town to open our Advent Window in the Cats Protection League shop. This was a lovely event and well-attended.



We also held our Christmas fair on the 6th December and each class designed a Christmas tree for our annual competition. This year, we had card trees, generously donated by Swanline Group in Stone. The winners were Reception class which is the middle tree! They made paper garlands and baubles with their faces on.



During the week commencing 9th December, we held all our Christmas nativity plays. All classes did a wonderful job.

Reception and Year 1 did a fabulous job remembering all the words and songs. They performed 3 times in one day as they had 2 performances for parents and then allowed the rest of the school to watch.

Year 2 performed a play called the "Fleece Force" which centered around a police force of sheep keeping order in Bethlehem. Year 3 and 4 performed their play in church in the evening and they did "Superstar" which, as the name suggests, is focused in the star leading everyone to the stable.

On 11th December, staff from CCA visited for "Arts on Tour" and the children made Lego creations of online dangers as well as balloon-powered cars.



We ended the festive season with a carol concert in church on Tuesday 17th December for friends and family. This is always a lovely event and this year, we had drummers, glockenspiels, percussion alongside songs in French and the whole school singing to "We wish you a Merry Christmas."

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Oulton First School



OULTON FIRST SCHOOL
Hand in hand Learning together

Ofsted and SIAMS inspections

The 15th of October saw us welcome Ofsted for an ungraded inspection – we were really pleased with the outcome and the report is on our website.

On 26th November, we had our long awaited SIAMS inspection which was a positive experience for the school. The report is yet to be published but the festive season certainly demonstrates our Christian Values – *Trust, Thankfulness, Friendship, Forgiveness* and in particular *Koinonia*. We have been very active members of our school and local community!

Oulton First School Choir

The school choir have been extremely busy over the festive season singing at the Stone Light Switch On, Alzheimer's Society, Christmas Fayre, Advent Window, Advent Concert, Oulton Abbey and at the school carol service. They are a real credit to the school!



Oulton First School Choir singing with the C-K Community Choir at St John's Church

Fundraising

The PTFA Christmas Fayre raised an amazing £1500 and a wreath-making event raised £100!



The choir opening the Advent Window

Christmas Nativities

Each class retold their own version of the Christmas story to parents and did an incredible job. Class 2's play was Prickly Hay and Class 3's A Midwife Crisis.



Class 1 – The Sleepy Shepherd

Youthnet:

On 16th December Youthnet visited Oulton and each class spent time exploring Christmas with a carousel of activities.



Our annual Christmas Crafts was another success this year. Parents were invited into school to make Christmas Crafts with their children, which is kindly organised by our PTFA.

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St Mary's, Muckleston



Christingle Service

Members of the church community came into school to help the children to create Christingle oranges. Children attended the family Sunday service to share the Christingle oranges with the congregation. Pupils confidently discussed how parts of the Christingle represent Jesus being the light of the world, his world and the fruits of the earth and what this means to Christians.



Nativity Performance

The whole school performed 'Whoops-a-Daisy Angels' at Tern Hill Hall. The hall created the most perfect and atmospheric backdrop for a wonderful whole school production. The narrators spoke with confidence and the acting was superb! Our choir and percussion group, led the range of wonderful songs to accompany the play – depicting the birth of Jesus. The staff team and governors were so proud of all of the children. Their behaviour was impeccable. Well done St Mary's! Another fabulous Christmas event for our families and community to enjoy and celebrate.



Christmas Music Concert

On Friday 16th December the children performed a wonderful Christmas concert to friends and families. We were very proud of their musical talents. The audience enjoyed performances from a range of musical instruments and listened to many of our favourite Christmas songs. As always – the children performed with enthusiasm and confidence. Thank you to Martin Jones and all of our music teachers - a really special event showcasing our musical talents.

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St Peter's, Caverswall



Early Year's nativity production was 'Our First Nativity'. The children acted the story out and sang their hearts out. They all did an amazing job and the audience loved seeing the children.



North Pole Adventure

We had a fantastic time visiting the North Pole Adventure. All the children had a ride on a tractor and had the chance to see some animals. We had to complete lots of activities to save Christmas and fix some of the machines that the naughty elves had broken. We even met Santa's best friend, Marty the polar bear. The children were all so excited to sit with Santa and told him what they wanted for Christmas. They were lucky enough to each choose a gift



Breakfast with Santa

All children have been able to have breakfast with Santa this week. The children choose sausage or bacon sandwiches and cheesy oatcakes. Santa spoke to every table to find out what the children would like in their stockings. The children were so welcoming to Santa and spent lots of time speaking with Santa. He left us with a range of presents to share.



Lights, Camel, Action!

Year One and Two performed a strictly themed nativity show called Lights, Camel, Action! They did two performances of the show during the last two weeks of term, an afternoon and evening performance. The children loved learning their lines and the words to the very catchy songs. All the children gave their very best in each performance finding their big voices and disco moves.



John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."