



A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM MR BIRKETT

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

As the term comes to a close and we prepare for the festive season, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the fantastic memories we've made together over the past year and to express our school's thanks to everyone who makes up our Wyke school community.

Congratulations to our brave and talented children in Wren, Robin and Owl Classes, who brought Ralph the Reindeer to life in such a magical way this week. Their performances shone, creating fantastic memories for all who attended.

I would also like to extend a huge thank you to our incredible staff, whose hard work and dedication make everything possible, and to the Friends of Wyke for their diligent fundraising efforts to ensure we can offer those extras that otherwise our children would not be able to enjoy. We are delighted to report that the recent Friends festive Fun event Bazaar made an incredible profit of around £1500! Your generosity supports the extras that make such a difference to our children's experience—we are especially excited about the prospect of a new play trail for the school grounds!

Looking ahead, I hope you've had a chance to note down the dates for next term, as we have plenty of exciting activities planned alongside our usual jam-packed curriculum. It's shaping up to be another fantastic term, and we can't wait to see what the children will achieve.

We will also have a 'new' staff member next term—'Miss Albone' will return as 'Mrs Hodge'! We wish Miss Albone and Mr Hodge the happiest of wedding days and I am sure you will join me in wishing them a very happy future together.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

May your holiday season be filled with joy and rest with loved ones.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 6th January, refreshed and ready for the term ahead.

Ed Birkett





December 2024

#002

OWL CLASS NEWS

Wow, what a fantastic term it has been for Owl Class!

The children have completed some amazing learning, performed in a wonderful nativity and been all round superstars this term.



Busy learning in Maths, Owl Class have been adding and subtracting and are now able to 'exchange' and 'borrow' a ten using a place value grid, working so hard as it has been a little challenging at times. We have recently been learning about shape and can name and label lots of 2D and 3D shapes, including knowing the vertices, edges and faces.

During Literacy, we have enjoyed writing creatively. Using our book 'The Koala Who Could' as a focus, Owl Class have written fantastic diary entries, about a Koala called Kevin and the day he left the comfort of his safe tree.

Our enquiry, 'How are schools the same?' has seen Owl Class become Geographers. We have loved looking closely at schools around the world and noticing similarities and differences. We have been learning new geographical terminology such as 'physical features', and are able to name and locate some local to us in Gillingham.

I want to finish by saying how proud I was of all of Owl Class, performing in their nativity. With all of the songs and words to learn, Owls were smiley and positive throughout and did such a fantastic job! Well done Owls! I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Miss Albone





December 2024

#002

ROBIN CLASS NEWS

It has been another busy half term in Robin Class and we have completed three Curious City enquiries! We started the term with 'What is our hat made of?', where we were Scientists and Engineers. After Investigating materials, we wrote design criteria for our Autumn hats and then drew our own designs. We then made a hat and some of us decorated them with lovely Autumnal leaves and colours.

Our next enquiry continued with the Autumn theme where we continued to be Scientists, and also Artists. We learned about seasons in 'How does our school change in the Autumn?'. We made observations of the school environment and looked for signs of Autumn. We took brilliant photos and created oil pastel pictures - we will do the same in the Winter, Spring and Summer, before creating a timelapse video of the images and an art exhibition of seasonal change which we will share with you in the Summer.

Our third enquiry this term has been 'Where is my school?'. We have been Geographers and have learned about globes, atlases and maps. We have created simple maps of our school grounds and learned about using a key to find landmarks on maps. We found out about the countries that make up the United Kingdom and where we are within it. We looked at Gillingham using Google Earth and described what we could see. We also found out about the seven continents and five oceans of the world. We have compared Gillingham with Bondi in Australia by using Google Earth to compare the two locations. We will be writing comparative sentences about them and then sending messages about what we have found out to a school there. Before we can send the messages, we have to work out the directions to the post box and use directional language and a simple map to find our way there.

We have been amazing authors this term - all of the grown-ups are so impressed with how we are learning our sounds in Phonics. We are becoming such good readers! In Curious Quests, we have enjoyed picture books, poetry and short films sent to us by Professor Klunk, Noodle and Titch. We have been writing sentences to share with Professor Klunk for his big, dream story machine. We have been brilliant at 'inventuring'!

In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting, using part-whole models and number sentences and have found fact families. We also described and sorted 2D and 3D shapes. We have been very busy!

It was so lovely to enjoy two special days together. We loved filling up Pudsey Bear with our donations for Children in Need. Christmas jumper and dinner day was also LOTS of fun - especially the singing and dancing! We are also very proud of our performances in Ralph the Reindeer and hope our families enjoyed it as much as we did!

Robins all deserve to have a fantastic Christmas filled with fun and laughter, and we cannot wait to see everyone in 2025!

Merry Christmas Robin Class, from Mrs Beales, Miss Bryan and Mrs Scammell





December 2024

#002



WOODPECKER CLASS NEWS

Woodpeckers have enjoyed getting out and about this half term. Our enquiry 'Why Do We Live Here?' led us to finding out all kinds of information about our local area. We had a fascinating local history walk with our local historian Mr Woodcock, who taught us all about the special clues to the past you can find in Gillingham. These included old factories, a doctor's night bell, a prison and even some buildings which were two different colours after they had been bombed in the Second World War. Our learning all about this topic is now being displayed in Gillingham

Museum, please do pop in and have a look!

As part of this enquiry, we also found out lots about Ancient Egyptians where we enjoyed writing instructions to play the game of Senet and we also learnt some revolting facts about mummification!

We also managed a little visit to Gillingham Library where the kind librarians allowed us all to borrow a book to share at home. We enjoyed seeing the huge range of books they have to offer and the children impressed the library staff with their very sensible behaviour.

In Maths we have been working really hard on multiplication and whizzing up the levels on Times Tables Rockstars. We have also really enjoyed taking part in TTRS competitions against other schools.

We have now moved onto a new enquiry, 'What is Creativity?' As part of this, we have enjoyed giving our opinion on famous artwork, sculptures and even songs. We then used what we had found out about what makes something creative to analyse Christmas cards and used these ideas to design our own which will hopefully make their way home!

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2025.

Mrs Turner & Miss Sheere

