



December 2024

#002

## WREN CLASS NEWS

What a busy Autumn Term it has been in Wren Class.

This half term, we've had fun exploring two enquiries. First, we asked "What is Autumn?" and in the final weeks, we've been learning about "How do we celebrate?"

We have discovered that celebrations happen for all kinds of occasions and that they are often full of joy and involve special treats, parties, cakes, and gifts.

During December, our focus has been on Advent and, of course, Christmas. We've enjoyed exploring the Christian story of Baby Jesus' birth - especially in the transforming of our home corner to a stable in Bethlehem! We've also enjoyed learning lots of facts about Santa and his reindeer.

On the first day of December, two mischievous elves arrived in our classroom, from the North Pole, and they have been causing added chaos and fun into each day! The children have been eager to arrive each morning and discover what mischief has happened overnight!

This week, the children are busy taking part in their very first Nativity - Ralph the Reindeer. It is proving to be an incredible experience for them - learning new songs, dressing up and performing on stage in front of an audience. We are so proud of them all—especially as some found it quite emotional. They truly are little superstars!

It's hard to believe the Wrens are already at the end of their first term in school. We have loved getting to know each of them, they've learned so much and are all fabulous! We look forward to the next term and all the wonderful learning ahead.

We would like to wish all our wonderful Wrens, and their families, the very happiest of Christmases.

See you in 2025! *Mrs de Villiers, Mrs Turvey & Mrs Jones*





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## HERON CLASS NEWS

We have come to the end of another busy half term in Heron Class and everyone has been fabulous learners these past few weeks.

We have seen some wonderful historians, artists, mathematicians and authors, not forgetting some amazing athletes.

Our Enquiry this half term, "What have we learnt from the Ancient Greeks?" has been lots of fun and we have discovered many

interesting facts about the Ancient Greeks from artefacts, books and the internet. We have had a chance to discuss our ideas,

sketch Ancient Greek vases and find out all about daily life in

Ancient Greece. We were surprised to find that lots of things that

we use today have originated from Ancient Greece, including

democracy, the Olympic Games and even some of the games we

still play such as marbles. Although not specifically part of our Enquiry, the class were really

interested to find out more about the different Greek Gods. They worked in groups to research and

then present their God or Goddess to the rest of the class. This was followed, in true Ancient Greek

style, with a democratic vote to decide upon the winner.

In Maths, we have continued to practise our arithmetic skills, improving our knowledge of fractions

and investigating different mathematical concepts through lots of mathematical talk. The class' oracy

skills are really improving and we will continue to practise these next term.

In addition to all of the above, Heron Class have also been playing both football and hockey this term,

developing their skills and game play. They have made huge progress and taken part in some very

competitive games against one another!

We are looking forward to another action-packed half term after Christmas with lots more fun trips

and visitors to the school to help us with our Enquiry learning. Well done Heron Class! Have a very

well deserved break and a fabulous Christmas.

Mrs Rose







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## KINGFISHER CLASS NEWS



Wow, what a busy time we have enjoyed in Kingfisher Class this term. We enjoyed our enquiry entitled 'How can we find out about the past?' We spent time investigating the census, old maps of Gillingham and other historical evidence. We loved asking questions and finding clues about our past. We had a fantastic visit to Gillingham Museum where we learned about the artefacts and completed a quiz. The highlights were the fire engine and the skeleton! The final challenge for this enquiry was a personal history box that tells other people interesting facts and information about us. We enjoyed filling the special boxes with fact sheets, drawings and historical information.

We also started a new enquiry called, 'How can you feel the Force?' In this enquiry we have been scientists and engineers. As Scientists, we investigated forces as pushes and pulls, testing toy cars on different surfaces and exploring magnets. The practical exploring has been fantastic fun. We then used all this learning to help us design and make Christmas-themed magnetic games for younger children. As engineers we have worked together as teams, used our construction skills to create the games and written rules for our games. The games look amazing and we had a superb time making them all!

Our netball skills and achievements have been superb this term. During the first week we had a lot of laughter with the netballs hitting our faces. However, with practice, determination and resilience we have become brilliant at passing, dodging and working together as a team. We played small sided end ball games and remembered all of the skills we had been taught. Well done everyone.

As mathematicians we have learned about written addition and subtraction and then moved onto multiplication and division. We have been practising our multiplication tables in school and we even made 3 times table fortune tellers this week so we can quickly recall them at home with our families. We thought it would be fun to challenge our adults at home!

We have also been authors this term, performing and writing poetry, finding facts about Sir David Attenborough and Sir Isaac Newton to use for creating biographies and writing the rules for our games.

We are very proud of all the fantastic learning that Kingfisher Class have completed this term. You superstars! We wish all the Kingfishers and their families a very Merry Christmas and we will look forward to seeing you back in 2025!

*Mrs Abbott, Mrs Simpson, Miss Long, Mrs Marchlewicz and Miss Pollard*





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## FALCON CLASS NEWS

We've had a fantastic term in Falcon Class! Our Enquiry over the past seven weeks has been 'How can we show what we believe in?', and as Historians we've been delving into the past to learn all about the Maya Civilisation. Some of our discoveries include: when the Maya Civilisation was at its peak, where the Maya were located, and how they built their city-states. We then focused our learning on Maya beliefs, and were interested to discover they had many different gods and thought the world was a giant turtle!

After that, we became Artists and were lucky enough to be visited by a professional ceramicist, who taught us different ways of adding relief and colour onto clay. Then, for our final challenge, we used our knowledge of Mayan art and sculpture to help us create artworks based on our own beliefs.

As Authors, we've been busy writing lots of non-fiction this term. First, we discovered the Mayan game of Pok-A-Tok, and had a go at playing this ourselves on the playground. This inspired us to invent our own playground games and write a set of instructions so that we could teach these to other classes. After that, we became experts on magical and mythical creatures as we wrote information texts about elves, gnomes and sprites. We had lots of fun sharing our ideas for our creatures as we were planning and writing our texts. In Maths, we've been working hard to learn all about fractions, including: comparing fractions, converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers, as well as adding and subtracting fractions.

The whole of Falcon Class can be really proud of themselves for all of their effort and determination this term, well done all of you! Have a well-deserved rest over the holidays and Merry Christmas!

*Miss Cheetham*

