



Weekly Newsletter: 19th December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a fun festive week we have had! After all of the excitement of the Nativities and disco (thank you FOAS for another fantastic event) last week, we have ramped the Christmas Spirit to 11!

Sadly, on Wednesday, we were unable to visit church as Rev. Faith was unwell (we hope that you are feeling better now!) which meant that we had extra time for a Carol Concert rehearsal ahead of today's performance on the playground. The rest of the morning was an extravaganza of [Christmas jumpers](#), glitter and excitement as the delicious scent of Christmas dinner wafted through the building.



When lunchtime arrived, we all donned our party hats and headed in the hall to sound of our festive favourites. As always, we were treated to a delicious [Christmas dinner](#), with a chocolate dessert which was described by one child as 'a taste of Heaven'. As is tradition on Christmas Day, the classes then relaxed in front of a Christmas film or played games. Thank you Sarah, Jo and their team of Elves who prepared, served and washed up nearly 200 meals for us.





Yesterday, the festive theme continued with a Christmas singalong (both traditional and modern classics) in the morning before the choir braved the rain to visit the Village Hall to sing for local residents. This was the second year that they have performed at the [Acton Good Neighbour Christmas Lunch](#) and, as always, the children brought a smile to the audience's faces and they were a credit to our school.

We then rushed back to school for a performance of a different nature as we rocked out at our end of term [RockSteady concert](#). We were treated to three band performances, who sung, strummed and drummed their way through the songs that they have been learning this term.

We also had a very special visitor in school yesterday (no, not the big guy in the red suit). The School Council have been running a '[Most Christmassy Class Door](#)' competition over the past fortnight and yesterday lunchtime entries were judged by the Tinsel Fairy. She visited the classrooms and inspected the doors. There was an animal theme to many of the doors but some classes went a bit further with flashing lights and eyes that seemed to follow you as you walked past. After much thought and consideration, the Tinsel Fairy chose the Caterpillar entry as her favourite.



As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, today we said [goodbye](#) to two much-loved members of staff. We will miss both Sarah and Samo hugely but wish them all the best for whatever they get up to next.

This afternoon, the sun will hopefully be shining, for our [Carols on the Playground](#). I look forward to welcoming you to join us from 2:20pm. After the concert, while the children are collecting their things, FOAS will be drawing the raffle tickets to win one of the Christmas Hampers – thank you for all of the kind donations – so make sure you have your tickets handy.

On behalf of all of the staff, I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and prosperous new year. Thank you for all of your support in 2025 and I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Kind regards
Jonathan Gray
Headteacher

House Points

Willow	Cedar	Oak	Lime
351	301	316	331

Accelerated Reader

Well done to all of the children who have achieved their Accelerated Reader target this term.

Bronze award	
Year 2	Phoebe, Lucy, Lula-Mae, Peggy, Florence B, Nina, Elodie, Esme, Tillyanna, Arabella, Florence M, Isla, Jacob, Lily
Year 3	Jack, Lucas, George, Marley, Rupert, Phoenix, Bobby, Althea, Bella, Patrick, James, Rishaani, Kira, Addy, Reuben, Libby, Harvey, Jacob, Olivia, Nancy
Year 4	Amelia B, Lula, Poppy, Travis, Corinne, Aquila, Zara, Dexter, Ruby, Isabella-Rose, Arthur, Phoebe, Ava, Theo, Lilly, Albie, Lincoln, Isla
Year 5	Olivia, Daisy B, Evie, Jude, Rosie, Mia, Jack, Luna, Amelia, Oscar K, Nyla, Daisy R, Azalea, Caleb, Miguel, Albert, Freddie T, Kit, Annabelle,
Year 6	Ted, Alissa, Sophia, Archie, Peaches, Oscar, Bethany Cl, Alfie, Harry, Bethany Cu, Ollie, Amelie, Lottie-Beau, Bonnie, Ivymay, Freya, Jack Hannah, Max, Finlay, Isabella, Mya, Billie-Mae, Annabell, Owen, Aurora, Charlie, Frankie, Charlotte

Poppy Appeal



Thank you to everyone who supported our [Poppy Appeal](#) collection on behalf of the Royal British Legion. We raised the fantastic total of £172.22.

Spring Term Dates

- PD Day: Monday 5th January
- **Children return to school: Tuesday 6th January**
- Half-term: Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February
- Easter Holidays: Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April

All dates for the Spring and Summer Term can be found on the [calendar](#) on our school website.



Stars of the Week!



Class	Strive	Support	Succeed
Caterpillars	Juno	Henry	Lily
Leopards	Nora	Indie	Archie
Pandas	Nina	Tillyanna	Lily
Llamas	James M	Nancy	Phoenix
Orcas	Ava	Isabella-Rose	Albie
Penguins	Mia	Jude	Amelia
Wolves	Annabell	Finlay	Ted

Class News

Caterpillars

What a busy week it has been! Caterpillar class have enjoyed a variety of Christmas crafts this week from sparkly bauble Christmas cards to reindeer hats. It has been a fun filled Christmas week with the children enjoying their first school Christmas dinner - they all looked fantastic in their Christmas jumpers and Christmas hats. Unfortunately, the whole school Christmas church service was cancelled but the children enjoyed singing all of the Christmas songs with the rest of the school. In Phonics this week, we have focused on Phase 2 Tricky Words, playing a variety of games that have helped us to practise reading and writing the words: I, to, the, no and go. Our Maths focus this week has been finding 1 more and 1 less within 5, the children have used multi-link and 5 frames to support their learning. Well done to all of the Caterpillars for a fantastic first term at school. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas.

Leopards

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of the Autumn term. It has certainly flown by! This week, we learnt to recognise and name both 2D and 3D shapes. In DT, we learnt to identify and name a range of fruit and vegetables before moving on to think about where different fruit and vegetables grow. This week also saw us take part in lots of Christmas themed events. It was lovely to spend time together eating Christmas dinner and singing carols on the playground. Next term, we will turn our attention back to History as we consider the question 'Who were the greatest monarchs?' In English, we will learn about traditional tales and instructions and, in Maths, we will start the term by learning more about 2D and 3D shapes. The Year 1 team would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support throughout the term. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas break.

Pandas

This week in Year 2, we started the week by finishing off our addition and subtraction unit in Maths, and our learning all about Jesus as the saviour in R.E. Once we'd recapped our learning from the half term, it was time for the festivities to begin! We enjoyed making bauble decorations, making cards, playing a quiz, doing lots of colouring and most importantly, enjoying our Christmas dinner! Thank you Sarah and Jo for our delicious feast. Also this week, we had lots of musical entertainment. We loved practising and performing our carol concert, as well as supporting our friends in RockSteady, and finally having a good old sing song with Mrs Hammond in assembly. Thank you all for your support and kindness this term, and for the kind gifts and cards this Christmas. I hope that you all have a fantastic Christmas break with your family and friends and look forward to seeing you back in January for our first class trip!

Llamas

What a festive week we've had in Llama class to finish off our first term in Year 3! In English, we marked the end of our African tales unit with our hot write based on 'Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters'. We got into character and wrote a letter to Father as one of the sisters, explaining what had happened in the city and how we felt about it. Our focus was to use conjunctions to join our clauses and we all smashed it! On Monday with Mrs Fisher, we completed our RE unit for this half term and made some lovely Christmas tree cards for our families. In PE, we all enjoyed a Christmas-themed yoga session before the excitement of Christmas dinner and jumper day on Wednesday. We spent our morning creating our fabulous elf hats ready for lunch then, after break, we got into teams with hopes to score the most points in our Christmas quiz! The highlight of our Wednesday was definitely our delicious Christmas dinner - complete with a chocolate cake the size of our faces, of course! We've had a fantastic first term as Year 3s and we're sure 2026 will be just as successful! Have a lovely Christmas, Llamas and a happy new year!

Orcas

Well, that's it... Term 1 complete! This week, we dedicated some time to finishing our RE unit, which focused on *Salvation* and Jesus as a saviour. During these lessons, we explored the idea of Jesus being similar to a superhero and discussed superheroes that we enjoy watching or reading about. We also considered what it means to rescue people and identified jobs that involve helping and saving others. Finally, we shared the story of Zacchaeus, learning how he was forgiven for his sins, and looked for references to Jesus as a saviour in Christmas carols. In PE on Thursday, we concluded our WW2 unit by celebrating VE Day. This has been a great unit, hopefully the class has gained a small insight into life during the 1940s. As it is the final week before Christmas, we have spent lots of time getting into the festive spirit. We created incredible elf hats for our Christmas dinner (including big ears!), which looked truly elf-tastic. We also made Christmas cards using pointillism to create a snowy effect. We had great fun completing a Christmas class quiz (including a music round, of course) and enjoyed a small class party with some treats. Well done to all of the Orcas for working so hard this term. I hope everyone has a *whaley* wonderful Christmas!

Penguins

A festive and busy week for Penguin Class this week. In RE, we finished our Gospel unit by answering the four key questions. In Maths, we completed our multiplication and division unit by working through our hot assessment, before attempting an array of maths mosaics, co-ordinate pictures and other Chris-maths activities. In English, we completed our spelling focus and enjoyed completing comprehension questions about an illustrated version of "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. We all enjoyed answering a range of "Flashback" recall quizzes about all of our topics over the last term, encompassing Viking and Anglo-Saxon history, Norwegian geography, Space science and memories about materials. In PE, we loved tournament hockey and Two Ball Benchball. In PSHE with Mrs Fisher, we finished off our "pink" assessment questions and, in DT, we loved our Christmas Craft session - all the Penguins would like to say a huge "THANK YOU!" to Mrs Gray for leading us through three beautiful Christmas Card creations. After a successful Christmas dinner and carol concert, the Penguins would like to wish everyone a happy, fun and restful Christmas break!

Wolves

Well Wolves, we've made it! What a busy, fun-filled Christmassy last week we've had. On Monday with Mrs Fielder, we calculated areas of triangles and parallelograms in Maths before finishing our Christmas posters for Cook Sarah. On Tuesday, we finished our RE unit on The Gospel by looking at the life and drawings of Annie Vallotton, who drew the pictures that now appear in the Good News Bible. We used her ideas as inspiration to draw our own before finding quotes from the Bible to support our drawings. Wednesday was dedicated to making Christmas hats, eating Christmas lunch, finishing our advent calendars on Purple Mash and having a wonderful time! On Thursday, we made our Christmas cards - a huge thank you to Mrs Gray for providing all the materials as well as the gift of black and silver sparkly pens! Finally, on Friday, we enjoyed making 3D snowflakes in the morning and our carol concert in the afternoon. It's

been such a great term, Wolves- thank you so much for all your hard work and laughter. Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



[@actonprimary](https://www.instagram.com/actonprimary)

Support and Advice

School's Early Help Webpage

A range of websites and sources of advice on Emotional Wellbeing, Health, Sleep and Parenting Support can be found [here](#).

Free, Virtual NHS Parent/Carer Workshops

Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation NHS Trust are running free virtual workshops (Zoom) designed to provide up to date advice and guidance on how parents and carers can support the young people in their life. The workshops are 60-75 minutes long.

Visit <http://www.nsft.uk/workshops> for more details

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Parent Workshops

Free virtual workshops:

- Anxiety
- Big Feelings
- Self-harm
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
- Tourette's symptoms (TICS)

Access here: <https://www.nsft.nhs.uk/parent-workshops>



To book onto a workshop visit [nsft.uk/workshops](https://www.nsft.uk/workshops) or scan the QR code

There are also a number of NHS podcasts and webinars available on YouTube, these can be accessed anytime via <https://www.youtube.com/@NSFT>

Sudbury & District Citizens Advice
is here to help.

We give free, up-to-date advice to everyone. You don't need to be a British Citizen. If you need help with benefits, work, money worries, rising energy costs, housing or anything else please get in touch.

Click the image or visit <https://www.sudburycab.org.uk/>