

NEWSLETTER

5 December 2025

Ephesians 3:17 Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love

Message from Mrs Herrero

Beautiful things are happening around school during this period of advent.

Christmas rehearsals are filling the school with song, Mrs Scott's knitted nativity is back in pride of place, and the first candle of Mr Hunt's beautiful advent wreath has already been lit.

I had the pleasure of going on the Year 2 trip to Warwick Castle trip yesterday. It was an absolute joy and delight. The castle was adorned with all manner of Christmas ornaments and the children were very excited, yet impeccably behaved. I was so proud of our school. Thank you to all the kind parent helpers who gave up their time to be with us.

ATTENDANCE

Well done to the following classes who had the highest attendance since the last newsletter;

EYFS and KS1— Sparrows 98.3%

Lower KS2 – Llamas 97.3%

Upper KS2 – Hummingbirds 91.9%



Important Attendance Information to all Parents

All unauthorised Leave of Absence requests and any other unauthorised absences will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council

Please also note medical evidence is required for us to be able to authorise absences due to illness of more than 4 days.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Preschool update

We have been so excited to introduce the Preschoolers to this first week of advent, and it was amazing to see their faces as they came into a darkened Preschool on Monday morning and saw the lights shining on our Christmas tree.

The children have been in charge of making all of the decorations - a lovely opportunity to develop their pattern skills as well as their fine-motor control!



CLASS NEWS

Reception learning

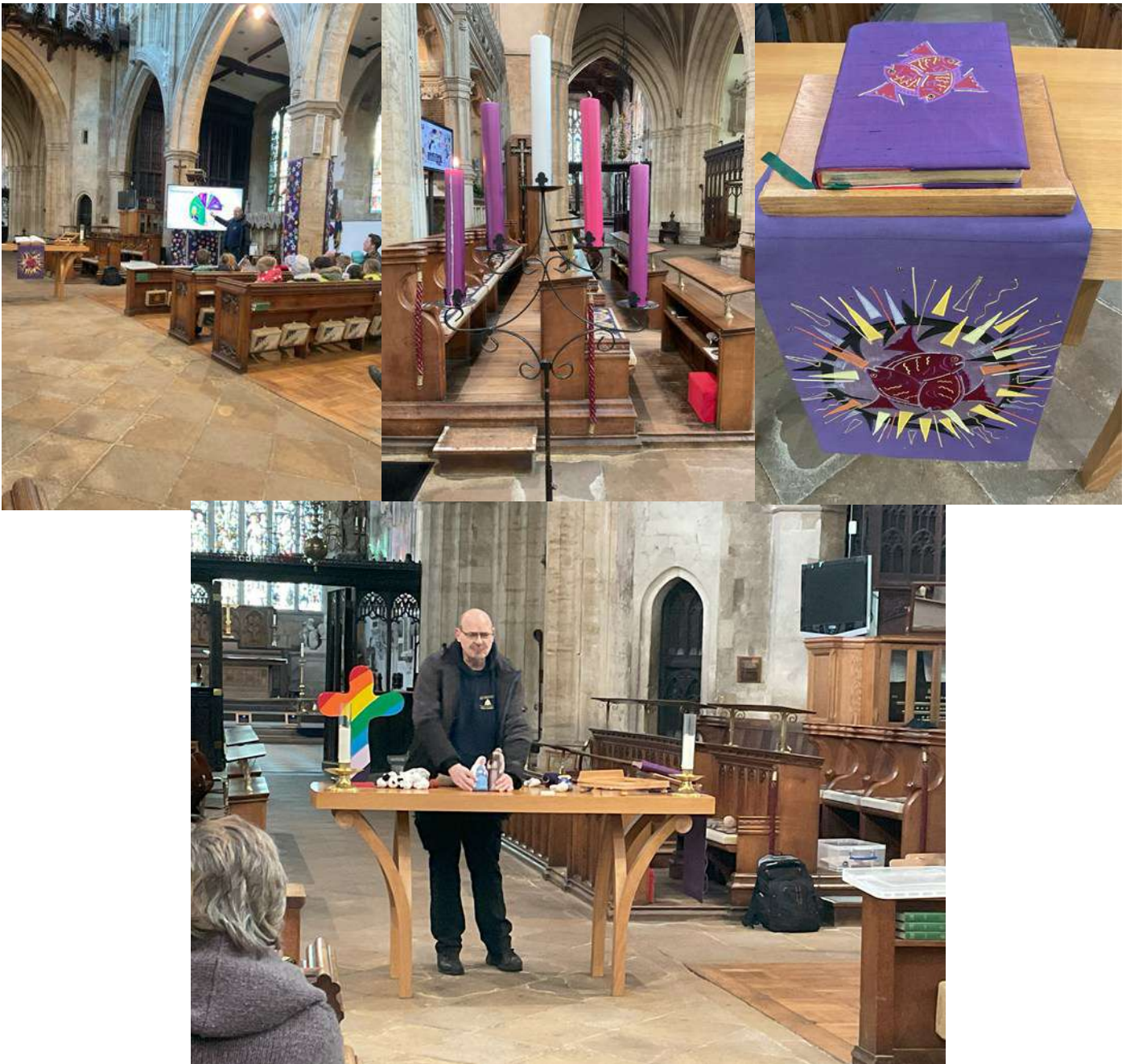
Sparrows and Robins have been working incredibly hard on their classroom and corridor displays. The children have enjoyed creating colourful artwork, practising their writing and helping to make our learning spaces bright and welcoming. The enthusiasm and teamwork shown by the children have been wonderful to see.



CLASS NEWS

Year 1 Trip to Holy Trinity Church

Year One had a wonderful trip to Holy Trinity Church as part of our Religion and Worldviews learning about what Christmas means to Christians. We learned how the church prepares during Advent and spotted the special changes that happen at this time of year. The children loved helping to build the nativity scene and represented the school brilliantly during the walk, listening carefully and showing great curiosity in the church. A big thank-you to Phil Harper for answering all of our questions – including “How far did Mary and Joseph have to walk to get to Bethlehem?” It was also a fantastic chance to practise our Geography skills and explore our local area! Well done Year one and thank you once again to our parent helpers for joining us.



CLASS NEWS

Year 2 Trip to Warwick Castle

Year 2 had an amazing day at Warwick Castle. The children did our school proud. Their behaviour was outstanding. Thankyou to the parent helpers who helped on the day.



CLASS NEWS

Year 3 Learning

Year 3 has been learning all about wolves, based on our book Wolves by Emily Gravett.

We first learned lots of facts from our book. Then we researched even more interesting facts using our online research skills.

Finally, we put all our knowledge into information leaflets.

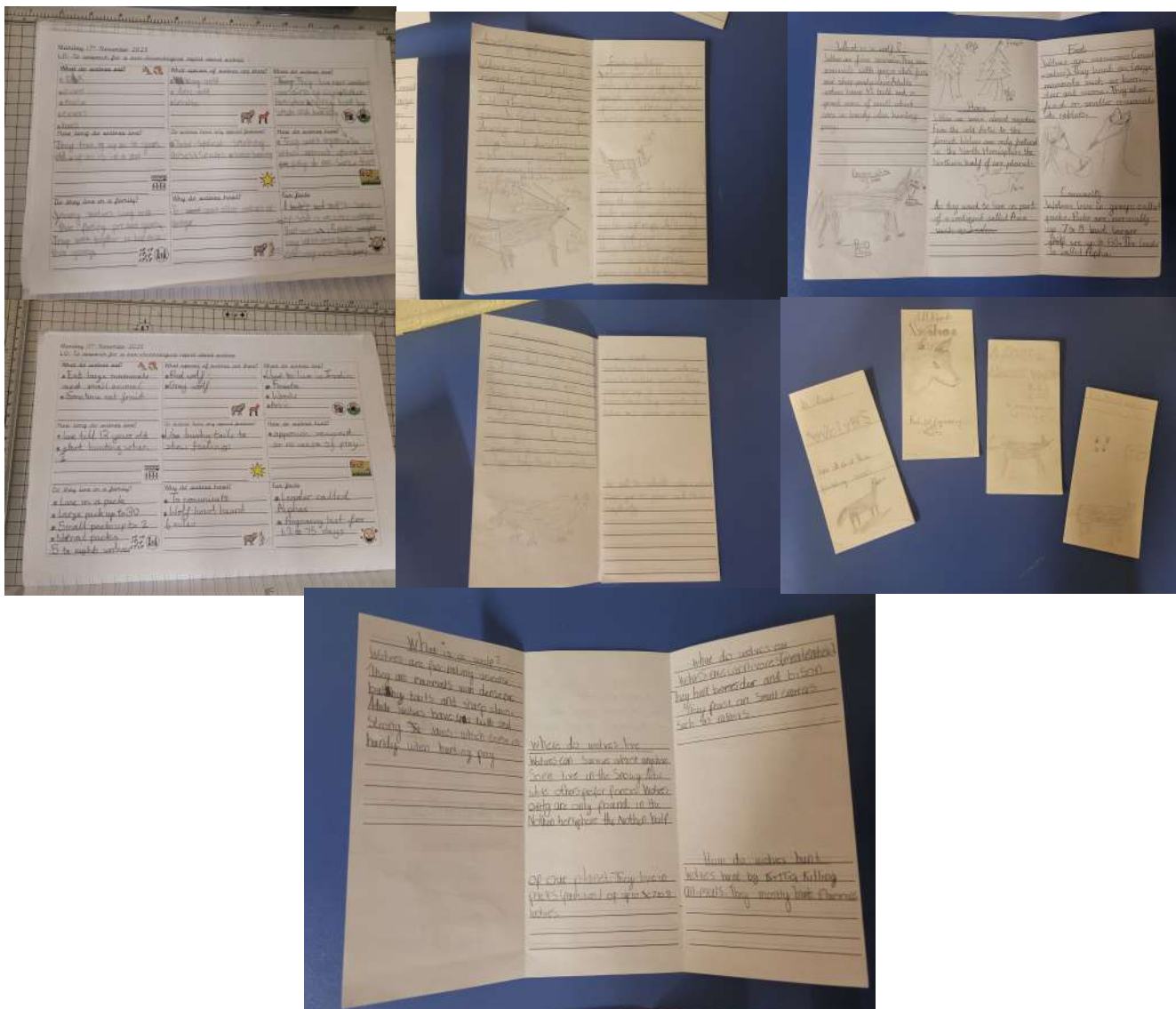
Look out for on displays around the school soon.

Did you know?

Wolves only live in the Northern Hemisphere of our planet.

They hunt in packs and mainly use their sense of smell and hearing.

They don't actually howl at the moon. They howl to communicate with their pack and to warn other packs.



CLASS NEWS

Year 4 Go Gogh-ing for Colour

Year 4 have been channelling their inner Vincent Van Gogh (pronounced properly, otherwise Mr Frerichs gives us *that* look) as they explored his expressive style and love of bold, swirling colour. They've been learning how complementary colours work together, even creating their own colour wheels to put their ideas to the test. To finish the unit, the children produced their own pastel versions of *Starry Night*, full of movement and bright, lively skies - just like Van Gogh himself.

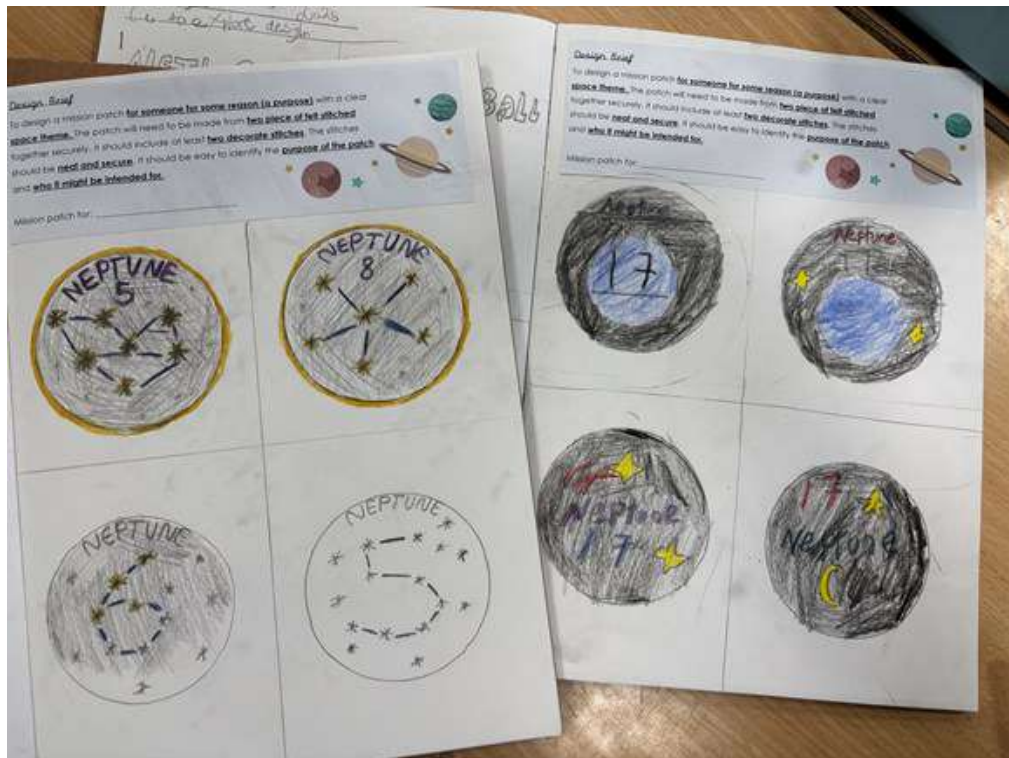
Best of all, everyone finished



CLASS NEWS

Year 5 Learning

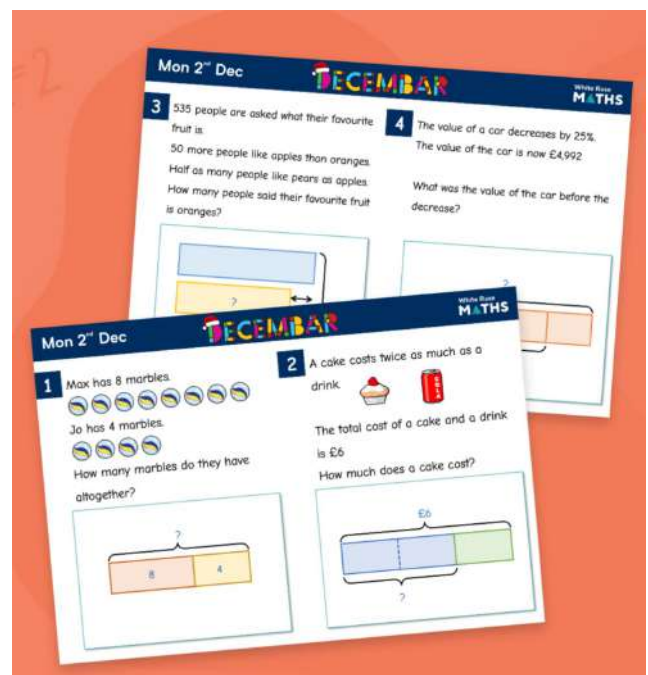
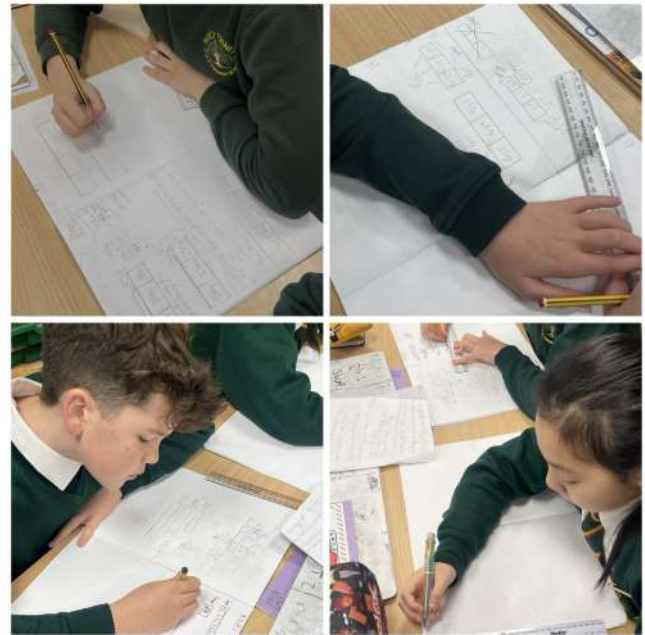
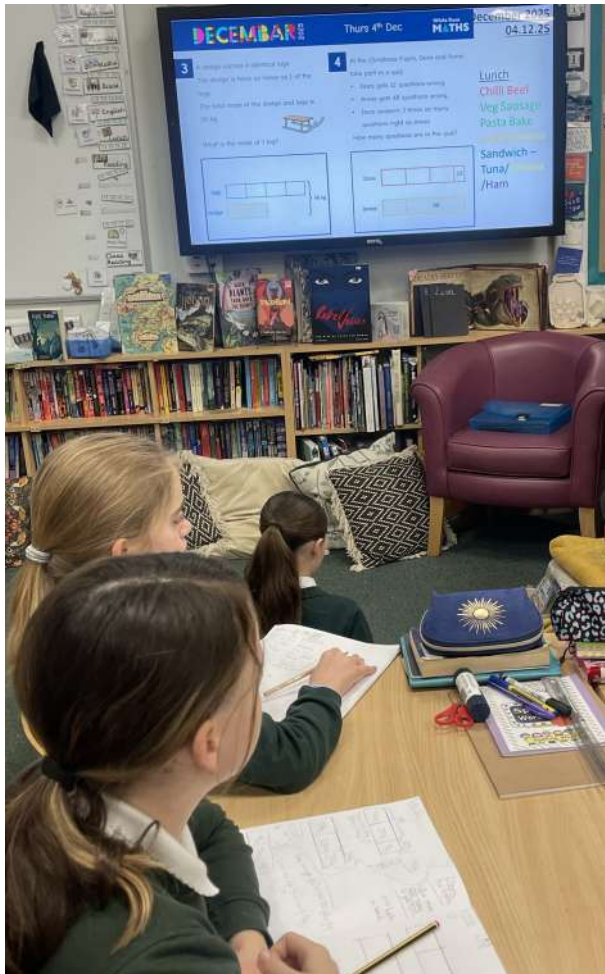
Year 5 have been tasked with the job of creating Mission Patches for a space mission. They have been assigned a mission programme to space and are busy preparing to sew and embroider a badge for the astronaut to wear on their suit. Sketched designs and prototype stitches have begun... Look at how impressive some of these patches are shaping up to be!



CLASS NEWS

Year 6 Learning

It is that time of year again when year 6 are challenged by White Rose Education to solve daily maths problems using bar models! The children are loving using these visual aids with their maths knowledge to solve these cryptic questions!



GENERAL NEWS

Year 3-6 Church Service rehearsals

Years 3-6 have been singing their hearts out, practicing for our church services next week at Holy Trinity Church which we are all very excited about. We were very honoured to be led by Luca Toney in year 6 who played the drums brilliantly during Calypso Carol.



GENERAL NEWS

Christmas tree decoration competition

We are giving children the opportunity to help decorate our school Christmas trees. This will be in the form of a design and make a tree decoration competition.

Our school Christmas tree is situated in the hall, the final day for entries being Monday 15th December. Each morning, the children will have the opportunity to hang their entry on the tree for the rest of the class/school to admire. During the final week of term, an esteemed panel of judges will then choose a selection of winners from a range of year groups.

An entry contribution of 50p would be most helpful to cover the cost of the prizes awarded.



GENERAL NEWS

Year 5 and 6 PE Lesson at Stratford High School

Year 5 and 6 were given the opportunity to have their PE lesson at Stratford High School on their inset day. The children participated in basketball, table tennis, football and rounders. As you can from the photos, the children had an energetic morning enjoying the fabulous facilities in the glorious sunshine, albeit a little chilly!

Many thanks for the high school for their kind generosity.



GENERAL NEWS

Pupil Achievement

Please see message below from Annie Jones in Geckos:

Hello I'm Annie and I am donating my hair! It's for a charity called The Little Princess Trust. We need to raise some money and our goal is £100 so we have made some Christmas decorations to sell and that's where you come in!

We would appreciate if you would buy one. The price will be £1 or less, we have many designs to choose from. We will be selling them next week. Thank you for reading.

The Reflection Garden

We have recently planted a small Christmas tree in The Reflection Garden to brighten the area up in the winter time.

We have decorated it with Christmas lights and will be adding decorations one day at a time throughout December. We are decorating it with Jesse tree decorations, showing important people throughout the Bible. We have starting this week with Adam and the Creation story, Noah, Abraham and Isaac and will go all the way through the Bible until we get to Jesus.



GENERAL NEWS

Our Reverse Advent Calendar is Under Way!

We've kicked off our tenth Reverse Advent Calendar and the entrance hall is already looking wonderfully festive. The children have begun filling our 24 advent boxes with donations for Stratford Foodbank and the generosity shown so far has been brilliant. As you can see from this photo, we're making good progress, one cheerful box at a time.

If you would like to donate, we're especially looking for long-life items from the Foodbank's urgent list, such as tinned vegetables, noodles, handwash, coffee, savoury snacks and UHT fruit juice. Donations can be brought to classrooms any time between now and the end of term and children are welcome to contribute as often as they wish.

It's a simple but meaningful way for our school community to mark the countdown to Christmas, remembering those who may need an extra helping hand this year.



Movember Challenge

Congratulations to Mr Woodfield who has been doing the Movember Challenge this year!

Whilst he has found it a little uncomfortable, he demonstrated real resilience and has raised awareness and an amazing cash total of £E415 towards Men's Mental Health and Suicide Charities.

A huge well done!

GENERAL NEWS

Christmas Lunch

On Wednesday 17th December, our kitchen team are providing a Christmas menu. Willows Friends will be providing crackers and Christmas music will be playing to make it a really festive occasion. If your child has a packed lunch, they will still be able to join in. They will also be providing different festive menus each day on the final week of term, more details to follow nearer the time.

If your child would like to order a lunch from this menu, they are able to do this in class on the day as normal, the cost of the lunch remains the same. Please ensure there are enough funds on your Parentpay account to cover the cost of the lunch. To help us with numbers, please could we ask you to complete the google form below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tU_WW3EKaRoxB7DxHpjQcDSZh7m33_8rcs9HeJ7_iQ

No payment is required for reception, years 1 and 2 who are covered by the Universal free school meals and any child on free school meals.

If your child has an allergy, they are able to choose either roast chicken or jacket potato on Wednesday 17th November but for the rest of that week they will choose from their Special Diets Menu.





Save the Children

Christmas Jumper Day



Be part of it!

Where Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

When 11 December 2025

Other details



Registered with
FINANCIAL
REGULATOR

Save the Children Fund is a charity registered in England & Wales (133400), Scotland (SC039572) and Isle of Man (1191)

GENERAL NEWS

Children & Families Service Useful Links

The Children & Families Service have asked us to share the following links:

Parenting support (universal) - <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/parentingprogrammes>

Family Support drop in sessions and helpline (universal) - <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/children-families/service-changes-children-families/2>

Family information service (universal) - <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/children-families>

Former Holy Trinity pupils **Hal Sandle-Keynes, Harry Sinclair, Alice Sedgwick and Eva Mason** are starring in *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* at The Bear Pit Theatre from **5-14 December 2025**. Hal plays Edmund, Harry is Peter, and Alice appears in the ensemble. And our very own **Mr Frerichs** is Mr Tumnas!

This classic tale by C. S. Lewis (adapted by Adrian Mitchell) swirls us through winter's icy grip, magical wardrobes, talking beasts & the ultimate battle of good vs evil. It's perfect for all ages.

Tickets are selling fast — snag yours soon before they disappear! <https://www.thebearpit.org.uk/whats-on/the-lion->

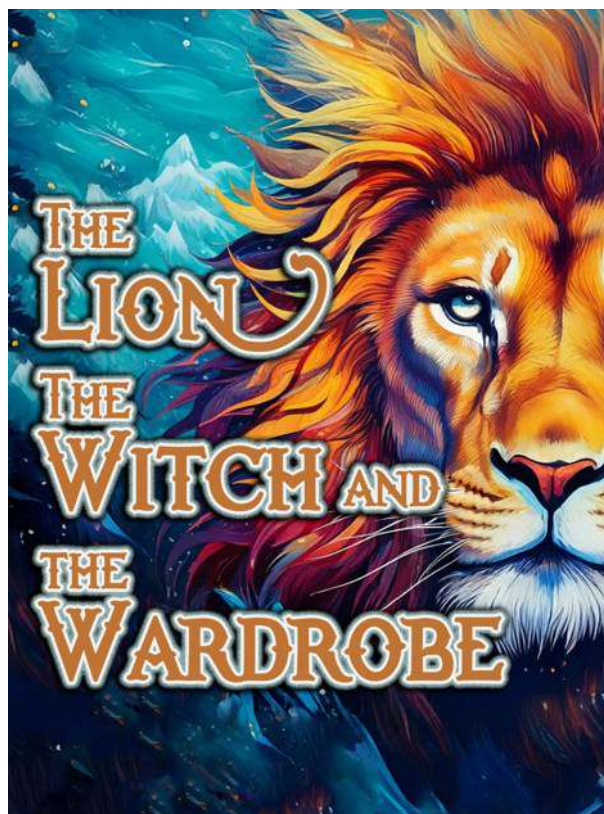
Bear Pit Community Cinema presents:

 **Elf**

 **Sunday 21 December 2025 · 5 pm (with activities from 4pm) · £6**

Celebrate Christmas the Buddy way! Will Ferrell stars in this modern festive favourite as a human raised by elves who brings his unstoppable cheer to New York City. With snowball fights, syrup-topped spaghetti, and endless Christmas spirit, *Elf* is pure joy from start to finish.

Come early from 4 pm for children's activities, crafts and a special visit from Father Christmas himself - straight from Narnia!



FUNDRAISING NEWS

Rags to Riches Clothing Collection

Many thanks to parents who very kindly donated clothing to Rags2riches organised by The Willows Friends. They raised £42.53.



Easy Fundraising

If you haven't already, please download the easyfundraising app and search for 'Willows Friends Association' to support us.

Every little bit helps! Whilst you are shopping, you can help our school.



DATES FOR THE DIARY 2025/26

2025

7 December	Singing Group at Christmas Market @ 10.15am
9 December	Years 3 & 4 Church service @ 2pm
11 December	Years 5 & 6 Church Service @ 6pm (arrive @ 5.30pm)
11 December	Christmas Jumper Day
12 December	EYFS Nativity at 9.30am
15 December	KS1 Nativity (Years 1 & 2) - 2 performances at 9.30am & 2.30pm
15 December	Reception trip
22 Dec—2 Jan 2026	Half term—School closed

2026

5 January 2026	Training Day—School closed
6 January 2026	Return to school
9-3 February	Year 6 residential
13-15 February	Willows Friends Panto
16-20 February	Half Term
23 February	Return to school
30 Mar—10 Apr	Half term
13 April	Return to school
4 May	Bank Holiday—School closed
25-29 May	Half Term
1 June	Training Day—School closed
2 June	Return to school
17 July	Last day of school year
20 July	Teacher training day—school closed

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2025

SUNDAY 14th DECEMBER
Christingle: 5pm

SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER
Christmas Bubble Church,
Parish Centre: 9am
Quiet Christmas Service: 5pm
Christmas Presence: 7pm

TUESDAY 23rd DECEMBER
Lessons and Carols: 7pm

WEDNESDAY 24th CHRISTMAS EVE
Walk-through Carol Service:
3.15pm – 5pm
Midnight Mass: 11.30pm

THURSDAY 25th CHRISTMAS DAY
Holy Communion: 8am
Parish Eucharist for all ages: 10am

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



Christingle Service

Sun 14th Dec 5pm

All Welcome



An informal service, in Holy Trinity church, with a free Christingle for every child. A great way to get into the Christmas spirit and support the work of the charity

The Children's Society!

Service lasts about 45 minutes.

 Lives changed through God's love



Christmas Services for Families at Holy Trinity

Bubble Church Dress up Nativity
Sun 21st Dec 9am
Our Christmas puppet-packed, Jesus-centred, coffee-and-food-fuelled, 30 minute kids and families adventure. Come dressed as a Nativity Character. Book at www.stratford-upon-avon.org/bubble-church



All Age Christmas Eucharist
Christmas Day 10am
This service of Holy Communion is for anyone, whatever your age! It's a joyful celebration of Christmas. Bring your favourite new toy to show.

Christingle
Sun 14th Dec 5pm
Holy Trinity lit by the candles in the children's Christingles and supporting the charity The Children's Society.

Walk Through Carol Service
Christmas Eve 3.15-5pm
Follow the Christmas story through Holy Trinity with cut out figures helping tell the story. Walk around the decorated and candle-lit church listening to carols. Arrive any point between the advertised times.



www.stratford-upon-avon.org

Lives changed through God's love



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



BUBBLE CHURCH

Church service for little ones.

DRESS-UP NATIVITY
Sunday 21st Dec, 9 am




Book NOW at stratford-upon-avon.org/bubble-church

COMMUNITY NEWS



A FAMILY AFTERNOON TEA WITH



SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER 3.30-4.30
INCLUDES A MEET AND GREET, CRAFTS AND LITTLE
GIFT FOR THE CHILDREN.

AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WE KNOW SANTA EXPERIENCES CAN BE
EXPENSIVE, SO WE'RE OFFERING A FREE FAMILY TEA WITH SANTA
FOR FAMILIES WHO MIGHT OTHERWISE BE UNABLE TO ENJOY ONE.

PLEASE ONLY BOOK IF THIS WOULD TRULY HELP YOUR FAMILY

Email: caf@saintandrewsshottery.org
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/stampchoir/t-glknppv>



CAROLS AT WARWICK CASTLE

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL CHARITY FUNDRAISING EVENT!
SING ALONG TO FESTIVE CAROLS WITH THE CHOIR OF ST MARY'S,
ACCOMPANIED BY THE FANTASTIC ROYAL SPA BRASS

SAT 20.12.2025 GATES OPEN **6.30 - 9 PM**

EVENT LOCATION:
WARWICK CASTLE
WARWICK, WARWICKSHIRE, CV34 6AH

TICKET
PRICES

£10
ADULT

£5
CHILD

FOR MORE EVENT INFO AND TICKETS VISIT: WWW.CAROLSWARWICK.ORG.UK

@CAROLSWARWICKCASTLE



SEND Help!

@ The Gap Community Centre, 10:00-12:00

Once a month on the following dates in 2025:
10th December.

An adult led SEND support
group for parent's/carers,
whose child(ren) may or
may not have a diagnosis.

Facilitated by
Family Support
Workers.

A chance to meet
people who may be
going through the
same things as you.

Signposting to
helpful services &
professionals.

Have open and
honest
conversations, in a
safe space.

Please contact Family Support Worker, Sylvia
Mckenzie at sylviamckenzie@warwickshire.gov.uk for
more info/to book.