

Newsletter

20 December 2023

Dear families,

What a fantastic end to the term we have had with so many festive celebrations. Thank you to everyone who came along to our Christmas performances last week – I hope you will agree the children performed brilliantly and really got us in the mood for Christmas!

Just a reminder children return to school on Thursday 4th January.

If you haven't seen the letter about changes to drop off and pick up arrangements from Monday 22nd January please see more information [here](#).

In January we will be using Class Dojo throughout school. Teachers will use Class Dojo to promote positive behaviour in school. We will write to you in January with more information on how you can support your child.

Inhalers and medication

We have had a few children bringing in inhalers to the classroom and we do not have medical forms completed for them. If you need to send in inhalers and any medication, please go to the office to complete the necessary paperwork before sending them in with the children.

Year 5 notice

In January, PE/Games and swimming day will move to a Tuesday for Year 5.

Thank you.



On Monday we visited the church for our Christmas assembly and on Tuesday we enjoyed our delicious Christmas dinner.



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Thank you for all your kind donations for our Rudolph Dash. We raised a staggering £439.30 for Nelson's Journey.



We all had fun at the disco last week.

Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was %

Class	%	Congratulations to 5M who are our Attendance Winners this week!
3D	94.67%	
3E	94.64%	
3S	93.06%	
4BW	98.61%	
4B	92.31%	
4H	96%	
5JK	89.29%	
5M	100%	
5B	94.83%	
6T	95.68%	
6B	91.07%	
6W	91.03%	

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Celebrations

Pupil of the Week is awarded during our celebration assembly on a Friday. Awards are given to one child in every class by their teachers. The awards celebrate good work and behaviour, as well as examples of good citizenship and friendship to others or for any behaviour or activity that positively reflects the school values and show a good example to other children in school. This week...

Pupil of the Week	
3D	Theo
3E	Oscar
3S	Leyla
4BW	Ethan
4B	Jayden
4H	Isla-Lily
5JK	Leo
5M	Grayson
5B	Sam
6T	Jack
6B	Emmie
6W	Alice
Acorns	Gabriel

We also award two 'Recognition Awards' weekly which are children chosen by Miss Watling and Miss Cambridge because they have done something exceptional. This week they are awarded to... **Ella-May** (Year 5) and **Lilia** (Year 3).

Once a month (the last Thursday/Friday of every month) parents are invited to join us for celebration assemblies. In those assemblies we award 'Pupil of the Month' awards which are the awards where parents of those children receive a text to invite them along. However, all parents are warmly welcome to attend.

Pupil of the Month	
3D	Jenson
3E	Layla
3S	Oliver
4BW	Sophie
4B	Alissa
4H	Sarah-Grace
5JK	Theo
5M	Ellie
5B	Matilda
6T	Rupert
6B	Ruby
6W	Gracie
Acorns	Ella-May
Hive	Darcie

Our next celebration assemblies:

Thursday 25th January 8.55am
Year 5 & 6

Friday 26th January 8.55am Year 3 & 4

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Ask me about.....

Year 3

Maths	We continued to practice our multiplication and division skills. We have also been revisiting addition and subtraction to see which methods we can remember.
English	We finished our writing unit based around The Tear Thief. To end the unit, we wrote a poem using similes to describe the Tear Thief's appearance and movements.
Science	We have been building on our knowledge of the human body by learning all about muscles. We have learned the 3 different types of muscle, their jobs and some of their scientific names.
Geography	This week we have learnt all about tectonic plates and how they work, we completed a world map of all the plates and cut it out like a jigsaw and had to put it back together.
PE/Games	In PE this week, we have been creating balances and developing our throwing and catching skills.
History	We found out information about the Cheddar Man. We used this information to create a fact file.
Computing	We were practising our searching skills as well as our typing and mouse control.
RE	We have been looking at Advent and the meaning behind the five advent candles.
PSHE	We have completed our celebrating differences unit. This week's focus was about compliments and how they can make a person feel.

French	We have been the French artist Henri Matisse and created animals from shapes in different colours then talked about our choices in French.
Art	We have been building on our skills in clay modelling and pattern making.

Year 4

Maths	We have been continuing with our unit on Multiplication and Division. This week we have been multiplying by 100, dividing by 10 and dividing by 100.
English	We have continued to answer questions on our fact book Skygazing - the book is very interesting - it has one section at the front for the day and one section at the back for night. We are also continuing with our writing using Winter's Child.
Science	We experimented how we could change the pitch of a sound. We used a range of bottles filled with water to blow across the top, recorders covering a different number of holes and ukuleles plucking with different string tension.
History	We have been using our research to write a double page spread presenting information on everyday life of an Anglo-Saxon Village.

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Music	This week we performed as individual classes and as a year group, reading, performing and singing successfully in our Christmas performance. We also had the opportunity to share recordings of us playing the ukeleles.
PE/Games	In PE we have continued with dance and gymnastics, and in fundamentals we explored skipping using different styles and skills, individually and in groups.
Computing	We have continued to explore emails and have been adding different types of attachment.
RE	We continued with our Buddhism unit of work and learnt about how the Buddhist monks retreat at the monasteries or temples during Vassa for the three-month monsoon season.
French	We looked at how to use adjectives when describing different clothing.
Art	We have been trying to finish our shape weave. We would appreciate any spare wool that you have please. Please bring any wool to Mrs Wacey. Thank you.

Year 5

Maths	We have been adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators. These have also included mixed number fractions and improper fractions.
English	We have been planning and writing our own heroic stories based on a similar theme to Beowulf.
Computing	We combined this with our DT unit we have been learning about. We created our own Greek Temple using Sketch Up and then evaluated it against our design brief that was given.
Science	We learned about reversible and irreversible changes. We created a double page spread explaining the differences and included some examples of them both.
Geography	We used atlases to located different capital cities around the world. We then researched one capital city and created a double page spread about it.
RE	We have continued our learning about the Golden Temple and Sikhism.
PSHE	This week we have investigated 'What is Racism?' and designed anti- racism awareness ribbons.
DT	We designed a Greek Temple using the computing program Sketch Up. We then evaluated this against the design brief we were set at the start.

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Year 6

Maths	This week, we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes. We created our own Top Trumps. We have also looked at co-ordinates and created some Christmas pictures.
English	We have been finishing our chapter on the Last Bear. We are looking forward to reading them!
Geography	We learnt about climate change. The children created a double page spread about things which climate change affects.
Computing	
PE/Games	We had our final games for our units. We played games and worked in teams.
Art	We looked at four different types of art: impressionism, expressionism, fauvism and realism. We looked at the colour palettes and created colour palettes for that picture.
In some of our afternoon lessons this week we were rehearsing our fantastic Christmas play!	

Acorns

Over the past 3 weeks we have been exploring the emotion of anxiety, how it feels physically, how it can present itself in the behaviours we exhibit externally and the strategies we can put in place to help ourselves when faced with a challenging situation.

The children created their own worry monsters and talked about challenges they have and do experience in their lives. They were able to identify strategies to support themselves while in school.

We have completed some work using the book *After the Fall* by Dan Santat, this book has allowed for open conversations between the children themselves about how they manage their big feelings. Some of the children from Acorns have adopted some of the strategies to enable themselves to be successful in their mainstream settings including participating in their year group Christmas performance.



I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate their success. Anxiety is something everybody experiences, sometimes successfully, sometimes not and I am positive that everyone will agree it can be difficult to discuss and manage at times. If you feel you need any further support Just One Norfolk is a fabulous website of information.

[Health Advice & Support for Children & Families \(justonenorfolk.nhs.uk\)](https://justonenorfolk.nhs.uk)

On behalf of everyone at Caister Junior School we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy Year.

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