



I am delighted to share with you the highlights and achievements from our recent half term, which has been both busy and successful. There are many things to celebrate across our school community.

Our Open Mornings for Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) in September were very well-attended, with our Year 6 children serving as outstanding ambassadors for our school. The EYFS nativity performance was a wonderful celebration of our youngest learners' talents, bringing joy and festive spirit to our school. Additionally, our Open Classes were very well received, providing an opportunity for children to showcase their learning. The performances were engaging, and we were pleased by the positive response. As a result, we will be scheduling similar events during the Spring Term.

Our whole-school Christmas Service was a significant moment of collective celebration, allowing us to come together and share in the spirit of the season.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge Mrs Gee, who is retiring. Her dedication and contribution to our school and the children have been immeasurable, and she will be deeply missed.

There are several notable achievements to highlight. Our children have excelled in sporting events, particularly in cross country and dodgeball. I extend my sincere gratitude to the staff who supported these activities and enabled our children's participation and success. We have also received very positive outcomes from our end-of-term assessments across the school, which is a testament to the hard work of both our children and staff. Today, we will be sending a termly attendance report to you via email. I kindly request that you read this document carefully. As a school, we maintain high standards for attendance, with an expected rate of 97%.

It is crucial to note that any late arrivals after register closure will be recorded as unauthorised absences. Parents should be aware that accumulating more than 10 unauthorised sessions could result in a penalty notice being served. We are committed to supporting every child's educational journey and ask that you do everything possible to ensure good attendance.

I am grateful to Davidson's Homes and Graphic Packaging in Bardon for their generous donations of pallets to support our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) provision. These contributions are invaluable in enhancing our children's play and learning experiences.

Important Notices:

- We are hosting an 'OPAL Family Build For Play Day' on Saturday, 24th January. We urgently need volunteers to help build play equipment for our children. Please follow the link below to complete the volunteering form. <https://forms.office.com/e/yetem0Yj10>
- I recommend checking the dates for diary section for Spring Term events.
- We are currently in desperate need of resources for our OPAL provision. If you are having a clear-out and have any toys or suitable items, we would greatly appreciate donations to the school.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement with our school community
On behalf of all staff and Governors I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

A Wiggly Nativity Success!

Our three EYFS classes recently performed A Wiggly Nativity, and it was a fantastic success! We are so proud of every child who shone on stage.

Thank you to all parents for supplying costumes and for your generosity in helping us raise funds towards our new pirate ship. So far, we have raised £621 – thank you!

Please see photos on your child's Tapestry account.



Year 5 Trip to the National Space Centre, Leicester



Year 5 had a fantastic day at the National Space Centre in Leicester. The children loved exploring the different zones, learning all about space and our universe. One of the highlights was visiting the planetarium, where they experienced what an astronaut sees while in space and all of the rigorous training they have to undergo. This was a truly unforgettable experience, even if it did leave us all feeling a little queasy!

The children also got to see a real piece of the Moon up close, which created lots of curiosity and questions. Throughout the day, they were exceptionally well behaved and respectful of their surroundings, showing themselves to be a real credit to our school.

A big thank you to the staff and parent volunteers who helped make this trip possible.

OPAL Resources Needed

Parents, Carers and Staff— if you're having a pre-Christmas toy clear out, or receive any unwanted gifts (toys, scooters, ride-ons, etc.), we would love them for OPAL!

Your donations help us create fun, active play opportunities for all our children.

☛ Please hand any donations into the school office.

Thank you so much for your continued support.



SPOTLIGHT

**Hark the Herald Angels sing!
Spotlight stars for the newborn King!**

Spotlight were very excited to perform at our Christmas church service where we bid a fond farewell to our lovely Reverend Jackson.

They performed as angels, discussing with God in heaven just before baby Jesus came down to Earth on that first ever Christmas! We are very proud of your drama and sparkle!

Spotlight will be performing their angel play again on Sunday December 21st at 10:30am at Marlborough Square Church at which you are all very warmly welcome

**Spotlight sprang over to Fairfield Court to spread Christmas cheer in our community. They sang their hearts out and made us very proud! Thank you to parents and grandparents who supported us!
Jingle all the way 🎵👏**



Year 3 Spinney Hill Visit

Year 3 children enjoyed a visit from Spinney Hill Primary School on Monday 8th December. We played Christmas party games, collaborating well with new friends, we made Christmas cards to one another and also made some wonderful Christmas decorations. It was wonderful to meet our linking classes in person and we look forward to continuing the Link School project and seeing them all again soon.



Year 3 4 Mandir Temple Visit

Another fantastic visit this morning. We have now in Y34 visited the BAPs Shri Swaminarayan Mandir. A Hindu Temple on Gypsy Lane in Leicester.

The visits have helped bring the learning in our RE lessons to life and each time we have felt warmly welcomed.

Today, again the children were super respectful and listened to the guide. Well done y3 4 - you have been a credit to the school.

Meet our Reading Champion Bear

This term, EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 have welcomed our Reading Champion Bear!

He has already enjoyed many visits to the classes and welcomes more travel opportunities in the New Year!




The classes win our bear by being the class with the most reads at home. Please support your children by reading with them at least 4 times a week.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas!

Mrs Partner
KS1 Lead



ATTENDANCE

| | |
|---|------|
| LADYBIRDS | 97.5 |
| BUMBLEBEES | 94.6 |
| BUTTERFLIES | 97.1 |
| 1DP | 97.2 |
| 1NS | 95.7 |
| 1LC | 96.9 |
| 1MP | 96.1 |
|  1JW | 97.5 |
| 1SS | 96.4 |
| 2DB | 96 |
| 2GH | 96.8 |
| 2CT | 96.7 |
| 2LB | 94.9 |
| 2MD | 96.2 |
| 2KT | 96.3 |
| 2SR | 94.9 |
| 2LR | 96.6 |
| 2ZN | 96.8 |
| 2JN | 94.8 |
| 2RW | 96.5 |

DIARY DATES



January 2026

6th- Children return to school

8th - Young Voices

14th- Year5 - Snibston Visit

20th- EYFS - Ash End Farm Visit

28th - 30th Year 6 Residential

More dates to follow in the New Year



Reminder

- Please label every item of your child's clothing as lost property is increasing significantly. All named items found are returned to your child's class.
- If you have not yet paid for the Panto, the payment item can be found on your Parent Pay account.
- We are a nut free school, please do not send any form of nuts into school with your child, this includes Hazelnut Chocolate spread.
- All Breakfast Club, Dinner Money and Pitstop fees should be paid by 4th January 2026. Wrap around care places will not be available next term with an outstanding balance.