



Friday Bulletin

Friday 8th December 2023

LOVE | TRUST | TEAMWORK | AMBITION

Message from Mr Dachtler



Dear Parents,

As I write this week's newsletter, I can feel the buzz of excitement around the Christmas Fair taking place on the playground this evening. Proceeds from this event will go directly towards paying for new outside play equipment so do give what you can!

The first week of Advent was marked wonderfully by Year 4 who shared the Christmas story at their service for parents earlier this week. I would like to say a big thankyou to all the staff in Year 4 for helping to make this such a special moment in our Advent journey.

Week 2 of advent is all about '*hope*'. Mark describes John the Baptist as a voice in the wilderness. Nothing special in terms of appearance or social standing but a fierce believer in God's power to save. May we too use this coming week to look towards the future with great hope and great faith in something greater than ourselves.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mr Dachtler





Advent



As we embark on the season of Advent, we are inviting you to set up a virtual Travelling Crib.

The virtual Travelling Crib consists of a picture of the Nativity but even better if you have your own crib at home feel free to set it up and perhaps light a candle which will remind you of Jesus who is the light of the world. Take some time to reflect and finish with a prayer.

We would like you to take a picture of you and your family praying around the virtual crib and print or email it into your child's class teacher by **Monday 11th December.**



Advent Liturgy



The word Advent come from the Latin advenio, "to come to", and refers to the coming of Christ.

We would love you to come to our Advent Liturgy which will take place on Thursday 21st December in our School hall at 9am.

After this celebration, we will finish by having our Chocolate Raffle draw and the lucky children will be able to collect their winning prizes.

Thank you in advance for your generous donations for our chosen charity this year, the Catholic Children's Society.



BOOK TALK - As Christmas trees are appearing everywhere our book choices this week are all about trees.



EYFS

Tree by Patricia Hegarty and Britta Teckentrup

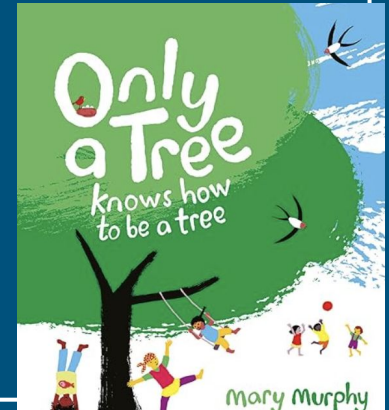
An owl peeks through a hole in the page and observes the changes the tree in which it lives undergoes during each season. The pictures are accompanied by a text in rhyming couplets.



Key Stage 1

Only a Tree Knows How to Be a Tree by Mary Murphy

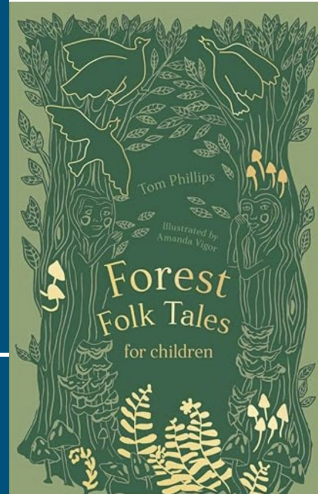
Beginning with a tree, this picturebook demonstrates in simple terms how all living things and phenomena have their own distinctiveness and individuality and yet all fit together as significant parts of life on Earth.



Lower Key Stage 2

Forest Folk Tales for Children by Tom Phillips, illustrated by Amanda Vigor

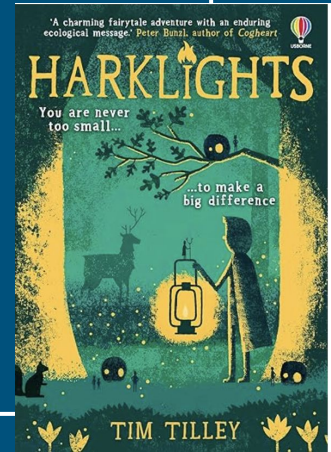
Storyteller Tom Phillips takes children on an arboreal tour of England, Wales and Scotland, introducing tales and folklore relating to the real and magical inhabitants of woods and forests as well as those about the trees themselves. They include hobs, faeries and dragons ending with the spirit of the forests, the Greenman.



Upper Key Stage 2

Harklights by Tim Tilley

When Wick rescues a tiny baby in an acorn-cradle, her family offer him the chance to escape from the orphanage where he lives and is ruled by the tyrannical Ma Bogey and live with them in the forest. These are the Hobs, miniature people who take care of the forest and they train Wick to be a Forest Keeper too, albeit reluctantly at first. He is determined to resolve the mystery of the Monster that is destroying the forest and the creatures who live there, including the Hobs.



School Library Wishlist - Thank you



We have recently received some beautiful books for the library from our wishlist. Thank you to the families of Alexander in 1KH and Angelo in RW. One of the books came with wonderful quote from Frederick Douglass, “Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.”

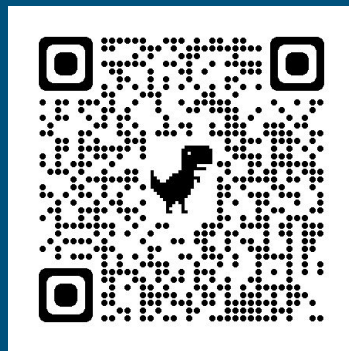
Frederick Douglass was an important figure in the anti-slavery movement in the USA; you can find out more about him [here](#).



School Library Wishlist

Our children at St Teresa's love to read, and by buying a book from our wish list, you will help to continually improve the range of books we can offer in the school library. Each book will be labelled with the name of the family who donated it, so please remember to add your child's name and class to the gift message so we know who donated the books. Click on the link [here](#) or scan the QR code opposite to buy and donate a book. Please choose the St Teresa's delivery option when you check out.

Thank you so much to everyone who has already donated books to the library.



Headlines of the week



Nursery



Christmas has arrived in Mini T's...

A festive week of activities, a brand new storybook 'How many sleeps till Christmas?' and lots of Nativity rehearsals! We can't wait to see you all at the show on Thursday. This week our class elf arrived, he has been up to lots of things in the classroom and we find him somewhere new each day. Miss Lawler also opened up our 'Christmas Bakery', we have been making special cakes and biscuits; christmas tree decorations too. Mini T's have been busy counting counters for Santa, writing a letter with a present they are hoping for, creating advent wreaths and using their fine motor skills to make their very own christmas lights!!



Reception



Nativity practice is in full swing this week and we hope you are enjoying all the songs being sung at home, as much as we are! We are very excited for you to see our performance on Thursday.

The Reception Travelling Crib has been sent home to some families and we hope you are enjoying that special time to pray together and to remember this special season of Advent that we are in.

The children have enjoyed making their own woodland creatures, counting spikes on Hedgehogs and writing descriptive sentences about the characters in our story 'One Snowy Night.'

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Year 1



In Year 1 we have been writing our own continuation of the story, 'A Way Back Home'. We have worked really hard to complete this writing independently. We have followed our plans from last week and made sure that we included everything we have been learning about in English.

Our RE lessons this week have allowed us to think about the colours and symbolism of the candles on the Advent Wreath. We also wrote our own Advent promises on handprints before sticking them altogether to make our own class Advent Wreath.



In computing, we learnt about algorithms and following instructions. We knew that we had to be precise and clear when we were giving instructions to our learning partner so that we could build the lego towers correctly.

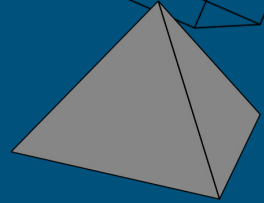
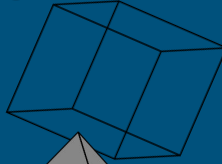
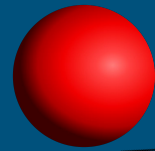
1LH NED Champion:

Elias is our NED champion this week. He has really impressed me with his teamwork skills, particularly during our ICT lessons when he he worked with is partner to create a number of different algorithms. Keep up the good work! :)

1KH NED Champion:

Emilia is our NED champion this week. She has independently written some amazing sentences based around our book, 'The Way Back Home'. She has also been showing teamwork skills by having some fantastic discussions with her learning partner. Well done Emilia.

Year 2



This week in **RE lessons**, our pupils have been thinking about **how Mary felt** when it was announced to her, that She was the chosen one and considered how her cousin Elizabeth felt when Mary visited her.

In **English lessons** we have been putting together our knowledge of **emperor penguins** in the form of a **fact file** about exploring our new text last week.

In **Maths** this week we have started looking at the different **properties of 2D and 3D shape**, considering the number of vertices they have and the lines of symmetry they demonstrate.

And in **Science** we have been exploring **different habitats**: coastal, urban, woodland and pond.

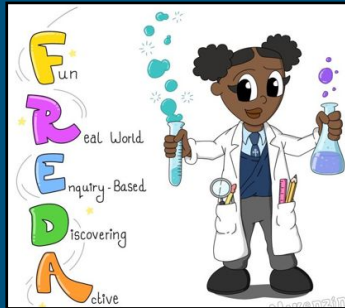
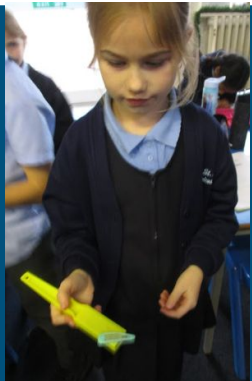
We also enjoyed **Year 4's wonderful Advent Service** on Tuesday morning, reminding us about the **special time of preparation** during this important time of year.

This week, our excellent **NED champions** this week are: Eva in 2LM and Mia in 2CM, well done to you both! :-)

In science, year 3 explored the Big question: **Are all metals attracted to magnets?**

Children made predictions and had **fun** choosing and using magnets to identify and sort metals that were or were not attracted to magnets. They then got **active** finding everyday metals in school and used their describing skills to identify the properties of metals before sorting and classifying.

They classified some metals as magnetic and some as non-magnetic and **discovered** that the behaviour and characteristics of elements in some metals determine whether a metal is magnetic or not!



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Year 3



★ NED Champions ★

3EW - Hanna

Hanna ALWAYS works extremely hard. She listens attentively, contributes some amazing ideas and produces such great pieces of work.

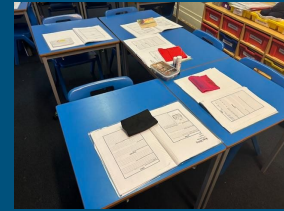
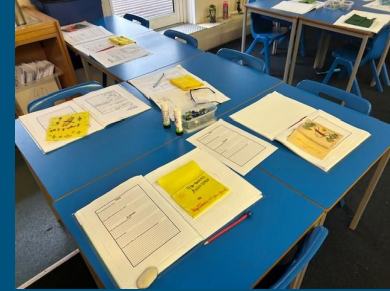
3M - Lawrencia

Lawrencia's perseverance and hard work are shining through in every aspect of her work. She always wants to do her best.

Congratulations and keep up the great work Hanna and Lawrencia!



Year 4



Year 4 performed their Advent service for the whole school and parents too, making their teachers and support staff very proud. The collective singing, soloists, and actors demonstrated performance skills beyond expectations, so should be very proud of themselves!

In Design and Technology, we made Anglo Saxon purses following design requirements, learning and using sewing skills in the process. The children then had to evaluate whether their purse was fit for purpose and how they would improve it next time.

In English, the children used creative sentences to write their own version of the poem 'And Still I Rise' by Maya Angelou. They showed creativity and flair in their use of language.

What a great week of teamwork, love, trust and ambition!

Well done to our NED champions in Year 4

In 4D, Joaquin is our NED champion this week for his exceptional skill, resilience and effort in sewing! We made Anglo Saxon purses and Joaquin demonstrated how dexterous he is in every stitch! Well done!

In 4P Lidvina show consummate composure and confidence as a Wise Man in the Year 4 Advent Service this week, despite having missed a lot of rehearsals through sickness. She did her best and didn't give up!

Year 5



This week in Year 5 we finished reading the exciting adventure story of Ada and her journey through the Benin Kingdom. The children are now tasked with writing an informative non-chronological report detailing all they know about the ancient kingdom! Yesterday, we were lucky enough to be invited to watch Sister Act Junior at Harris Academy. We had great fun seeing the show come together!



NED

5G - I have been very impressed with Amber's confidence and independence this week, especially in Maths when subtracting mixed numbers. It has been great to see Amber's hard work and dedication paying off. Fantastic!

5C - Alicja is out NED champion! She is a delight to have in 5C. Alicja consistently is consistently organised and will always present her work beautifully. She is kind hearted and will be there to help her friends. Keep up the good work!

Year 6



Year 6 visited the House of Parliament this week for the end of their crime and punishment topic, delving into the history, roles and infrastructure of parliament, including the House of Commons and House of Lords. The children also met Siobhain McDonagh who is the Labour MP for Mitcham and Morden.



THIS WEEK'S NED CHAMPIONS!

6W-Zach

NED could be awarded to Zach every week - and the reason is simple. He is always, always, always doing the right thing. He works hard, he is polite and he is ALWAYS kind to the people around him. Zach is a real inspiration and role model to his peers. Well done Zach!

6F-Ethan

Ethan earns the title of NED champion this week, for his thoughtful contributions in lessons, demonstrating a mature approach to learning and consistently making good choices. He diligently works hard to complete his tasks to a high standard and always helps his peers out both inside and outside of the classroom.



Advent preparation opportunity at St Teresa's.



How will you be ready for the coming of Jesus this Christmas?

The Faith team would like to invite you and your children to join them to pray a decade of the rosary every Tuesday morning in St Teresa's church from 8:15am. During week 2, we dedicate the prayer for peace.

Why not come a little earlier or stay a little later to talk to Jesus privately?

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament also happens at this time and Jesus is there waiting for you to spend a little time with Him.

Noticeboard



Reminders

EYFS/KS1 Stay and Pray sessions every Monday - see the next slide.

Please use the following link if you would like to sign up as a Library Helper

<https://forms.gle/wXUw5zrU7dq6xAuS8>

Polite reminder - The playground toilets are for use by children **only**, if you are in need please go to the front office where there is an adult toilet.

Please note - The Family Coffee Morning on Friday 15th December 2023 has been **postponed**.

Upcoming key dates

- Every Tuesday during Advent, Rosary prayer in St Teresa's church from 8:15am
- 13 Dec - School Christmas Dinner day and Christmas Jumper day.
- 20th Class Christmas Parties - Children can wear christmas jumpers
- 21 Dec - Advent Service at 9am.
- 21 Dec - School finishes for the Christmas holidays at 1.30pm

Useful links

- [Contacting the school](#)
- [Term times](#)
- [Reporting absence](#)
- [School menu](#) (New for Autumn Term)
- [Religious Education](#)



EY/KS1 Stay and Pray Sessions

This will be a chance for us to share with you more about the faith life of our school and how we plan to help parents 'unpack' the Gospel each week in our brand new weekly 'Stay and Pray' sessions Every Monday 8.50am - 9.20am.

Where? [Tiny T's Nursery room](#)

(Please use the Nursery side entrance after drop off)

Coffee, Biscuits and a time
to meet and reflect!



St Teresa's

**Library helpers/volunteers
needed.**

Scan the QR code below if you are
interested in helping in the library
after school.

Thank you :)



FOST

Autumn 2023
event schedule...



**Tuesday
10th
October**

**Cake and
uniform sale**

in the
ground
3pm



**Friday
3rd
November**

Spooky Disco
in the school hall
EYFS/KS1 3:30-5:15
KS2 5:30-7:15



Scan the QR code or
[click here for tickets](#)



**Friday
24th
November
Film Night**

in the school hall

Click the year
groups for tickets
below

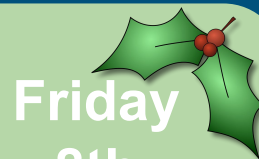
[EYFS/KS1 3:30-5:15](#)

[KS2 5:30 - 7:15](#)



**Friday
1st
December**

**Whole School
bottle tombola
'Mufti Day'**



**Friday
8th
December**

**Christmas
Family Fair**
after school in
the hall



FOST

Autumn 2023 event schedule...



What?	Where?	When?	How?
<p>Thank you parents and carers for your cake donations and for supporting our uniform and cake sale on Tuesday where a wonderful £415.50 was raised!</p>			
 Spooky Disco	 School Hall  	 EYFS/KS1 3:30-5:15 KS2 5:30-7:15	 Click on this link to start purchasing your tickets now and join us for a spooky boogie.
 Film Night	 School Hall	EYFS/KS1 3:30-5:15 KS2 5:30-7:15	Click here for EYFS/KS1 tickets Click here for KS2 tickets
Mufti Day	In school 	All day	Children wear their own clothes to school and bring an <u>unopened</u> bottle of pop/other (alcohol permitted) or a £1. 
Christmas Family Fair 	School Hall	After school	Look out for further information and join us to enjoy numerous Christmas themed stalls at the Family Fair , see Father Christmas and enjoy the festivities.

Family Coffee Mornings - Spring Dates 2024

Family Coffee Morning



The sessions will have a short presentation which will include different strategies, support and information on how to support your children. The sessions will be fun and informal. There will be lots of time to ask questions and share experiences.

Spring Term Dates

Friday 26th January 2024

Friday 23rd February 2024

Friday 22nd March 2024

Time: 8.45am-9.30am

Location: The School Library

Miss Gregory (SENCo) and
Mrs Cain (Jigsaw4u) will be at
the session.

No need to book, just turn up!



Please note - The Family Coffee Morning on Friday 15th December has been postponed.