

91 Redbrook Church of England Primary School Newsletter

No 91 December 21st 2023

Letter from Mrs Frey



Dear Families,

This time of year is extremely special in our Church of England school and it brings together our families and children to reflect on the Christian story of Jesus' birth as well as to celebrate through performances, song and prayer. Many of the children have become increasingly excited as the month of December has progressed and activities in our classrooms have at times moved away from our normal curriculum to reflect this: decorations have been put up, cards have been made and time to celebrate the successes of the term has been put aside.

None of this, of course, happens without the love and absolute dedication from the staff team and I couldn't be more grateful to them and those who have helped us to make our school successful over the past term. Their hard work and commitment to the children is remarkable and I'm sure you will join me in wishing them all a restful and very happy Christmas.

As we finish the term with our Christingle service, we pause as we light candles and a sense of calm falls over us as we sing together:

Hope of heaven, in our darkness,

you came to earth bringing peace and life.

Hope of heaven, full of kindness,

come shine your light in this candle that I hold.

This is one of my favourite events of the year, a final spiritual moment with the children, one full of hope and love, before going home to my own family.

May I wish you all a Christmas full of love, light, kindness and hope however you choose to spend the time together. I look forward to seeing everyone return in January with new resolutions and ready to 'Love, Learn, Live'.

With kindest regards

Natalie Frey

Robin Class



Robins have had a fun filled and busy half term!

In English, years 1 and 2 have been engaging with a twist on the popular tale of Little Red Reading Hood. They enjoyed writing letters to the Big Bad Wolf, persuading him to be good!

Reception have been learning all about People Who Help us, including vets, the police and fire fighters. They have loved dressing up in the role play and spending time in our outdoor area. Their phonics knowledge is coming along wonderfully and they are so enthusiastic to write, using the sounds they have learnt!

Robins have been learning all about the United Kingdom as part of our Geography topic. The children have engaged so well & are naming the 4 countries as well as their capital cities! Reception are so keen to join in with years 1 and 2, one of the great things of being such a small class is that Reception are exposed to so much great learning and discussions that they just soak it up!

We thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Drill Hall to watch Hansel and Gretel. The children were a credit to our school and beautifully behaved.

We have thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas festivities, with the Carol concert, Christmas lunch and decorating our class Christmas tree to name a few! We are practising songs ready for Christingle on Thursday.

Thank you so much to Tara and all at Redbrook Shop for donating over £40 to school, made from the Christmas trees you sold. We really appreciate it!

Our pre-school sessions are up and running on Friday mornings, 9.30 -11am. We do lots of crafts, reading, songs and outdoor activities! We have some lovely children joining us for these sessions and they are settling so well. If you know of anyone who may be interested in joining our Redbrook School family, please do ask them to get in touch.

I hope you all have a lovely Christmas break & a very Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you in 2024!

Best wishes

Miss Marfell

Fun in Robins Class!

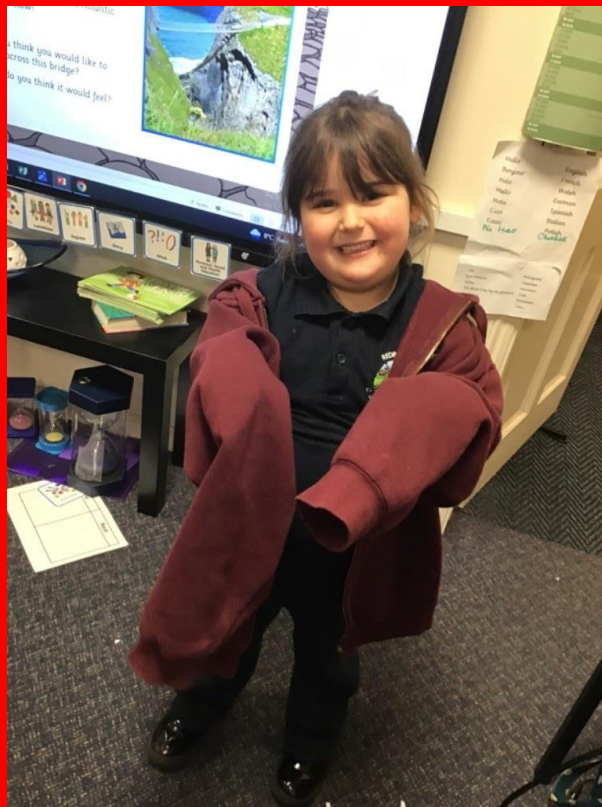








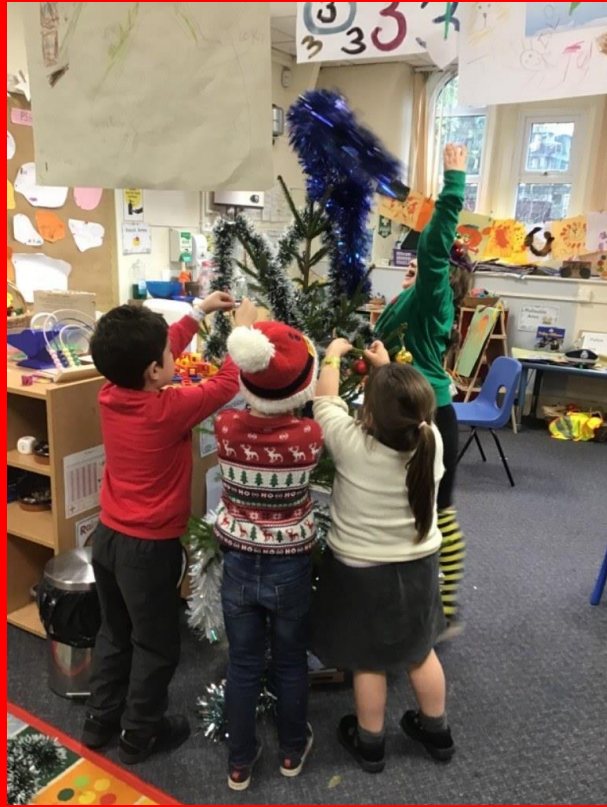






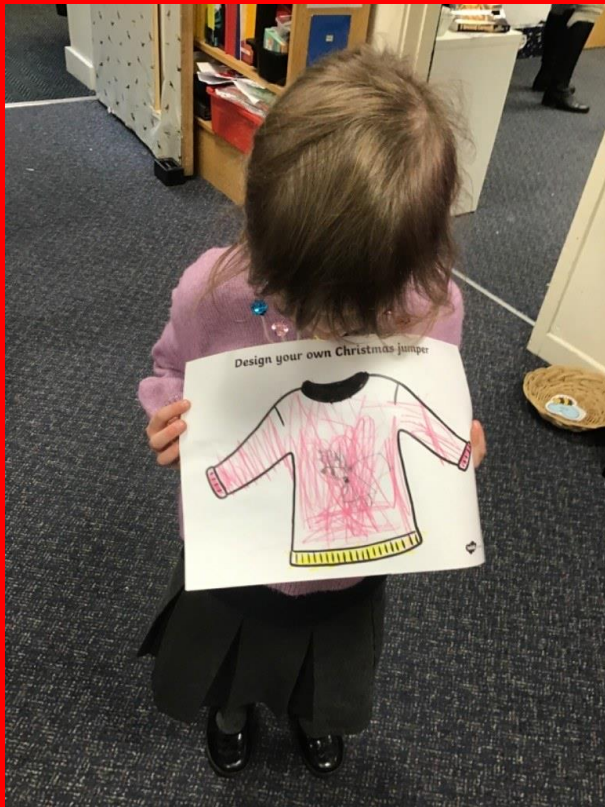
Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day













Kingfisher Class



The children have shown, passion, persuasion and perseverance this half term. They've adapted to new things, changes in routine, developed strategies for managing their emotional well-being and all whilst thinking about the highlight of the term; Christmas!

I have been particularly proud of how the Kingfisher's have conducted themselves whilst swimming on a Tuesday morning. Thank you for your support to ensure this happened each week! They have been a credit to the school, demonstrating excellent manners and organisational skills. Well done.

In the classroom, we have begun to embed essential 'SPAG' knowledge across our writing. Spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPAG) is a key part of the English National Curriculum in particular, but is a key skill throughout all writing. Handwriting has become an important focus too, recognising the impact it can have on the ability to read work as well as recognising the difference in letter size for capitals.

Kingfisher's have shown great passion in our geography focus this half term - the Amazon Rainforest. I combined one of our English focuses (persuasive letters) with our geography, resulting in some incredible pieces of writing. The President of Brazil should be contacting me any

day now. However, they didn't manage to convince Mrs Frey that we should take a trip to the Amazon. There's still room to improve our persuasive writing skills, Kingfishers!

Our DT projects are being finished this week. This has been a challenge for their ability to follow instructions and work as part of a team but the finished products are wonderful. We'll be evaluating our work and seeing how we could improve for next time. It was a good way to refresh our understanding of how a circuit works.

The Carol Concert was a beautiful event. The children performed beautifully; speaking, singing, dancing and playing instruments. It really got me in the festive mood!

I hope you all have a wonderful festive break. A few reminders for next half term; no more swimming! We will resume PE on Friday's (Monday's will continue as normal as well). Please can children wear appropriate kit. We have a dance festival on Friday 2nd February at Parkend - more details to follow.

Best Wishes

Miss Chambers











Pig Race - Malvern Garden Team

Thank you to everyone who came to support our pig race at Redbrook to raise money for the Malvern Garden competition.

We raised £580 which will help greatly in transporting children to the Malvern show ground during the competition

We all had a fantastic evening!

With thanks

The Malvern Garden team.





Thank yous

Thank you to everyone who has helped Redbrook School throughout the year, including:

- The Village Trust - who donated money to help us buy tables to have lunch in the church, and also did a great job revamping our outdoor play area
- Mark Bick - for all his support through the year and help in setting up school lunches in the church
- Mr and Mrs Winter who have given a generous donation to the school
- Halls Charity who have given a generous donation to the school
- Redbrook Shop who are donating part of their profits from selling Christmas trees to the School
- Alan and Bridget Purvis who are our emergency keyholders throughout the year



Forest Foodbank Hours

During the Christmas week the only centre that will be open will be Cinderford on the 28th December at the Forest Community church 1-3pm. It doesn't matter which centre a voucher has been issued to, people can still collect their food from Cinderford. Lydney and Coleford distribution centres will be closed on 26th and 27th December.

To get help look on our website <https://theforest.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/>

We would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and thank you all for the tremendous support that all schools in the area give to us.

From the Foodbank

Dates for your diaries

Please check letters home for more details about events. Dates may change.

FIRST DAY OF TERM - Monday January 8th

Friday 2 Feb - Kingfisher Dance Queens trip to Whitemead - More info to follow

Wednesday 7 February - School Photos

HALF TERM - Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February

Tuesday 5 March - Parents Evening 3:30-6:30pm - More info to follow

Thursday 7 March - Parents Evening 3:30pm-6:30pm - More info to follow

Thursday 7 March - World Book Day - More info to follow

Friday 22 March - Easter Service - More info to follow

EASTER HOLIDAY - Monday 25 March – Friday 5 April

FIRST DAY OF TERM - Monday April 8th

We update key dates on our website (www.wyeforestfederation.co.uk), please check there and in your emails for notifications.

Term Dates 2023-2024

SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER					NOVEMBER								
Mon		4	11	18	25	Mon		2	9	16	23	30	Mon		6	13	20	27
Tues		5	12	19	26	Tues		3	10	17	24	31	Tues		7	14	21	28
Wed		6	13	20	27	Wed		4	11	18	25		Wed	1	8	15	22	29
Thur		7	14	21	28	Thur		5	12	19	26		Thur	2	9	16	23	30
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	Fri		6	13	20	27		Fri	3	10	17	24	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	Sat		7	14	21	28		Sat	4	11	18	25	
Sun	3	10	17	24		Sun	1	8	15	22	29		Sun	5	12	19	26	

DECEMBER					JANUARY					FEBRUARY							
Mon		4	11	18	25	Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon		5	12	19	26
Tues		5	12	19	26	Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues		6	13	20	27
Wed		6	13	20	27	Wed	3	10	17	24	31	Wed		7	14	21	28
Thur		7	14	21	28	Thur	4	11	18	25		Thur	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	2	9	16	23	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	3	10	17	24	
Sun	3	10	17	24	31	Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	4	11	18	25	

MARCH						APRIL						MAY					
Mon		4	11	18	25	Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon		6	13	20	27
Tues		5	12	19	26	Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues		7	14	21	28
Wed		6	13	20	27	Wed	3	10	17	24		Wed	1	8	15	22	29
Thur		7	14	21	28	Thur	4	11	18	25		Thur	2	9	16	23	30
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	3	10	17	24	31
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	4	11	18	25	
Sun	3	10	17	24	31	Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	5	12	19	26	

JUNE						JULY						AUGUST					
Mon		3	10	17	24	Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon		5	12	19	26
Tues		4	11	18	25	Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues		6	13	20	27
Wed		5	12	19	26	Wed	3	10	17	24	31	Wed		7	14	21	28
Thur		6	13	20	27	Thur	4	11	18	25		Thur	1	8	15	22	29
Fri		7	14	21	28	Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	3	10	17	24	31
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	4	11	18	25	

Term Time		Holidays	
Bank Holiday		INSET days	