



# St. Leonard's CE (A) First School Newsletter

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

'From a tiny spark to a bright flame'



*'In him was life; and life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness'. (John 1:4-5)*

Executive Headteacher of St Leonard's CE (A) First School / Executive Principal of Manifold C of E Academy: Mrs Kelly Stanesby Chair of Governors: Mrs Sue Hey and Rev Jane Held: Designated safeguarding lead: Mrs Kelly Stanesby, Deputy safeguarding leads: Mrs Julie Amos and Miss Torr

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Full uniform  10am - Christingle service in school - All welcome!
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Full uniform  Peter Pan pantomime - The Regent Theatre
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2022  Welly Wednesday  	Welly Wednesday PE kit
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Full uniform  Christmas lunch
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Party clothes  Break up for Christmas holidays. Children back in school on Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2023

## Your lunch menu for the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December
Macaroni cheese, peas and carrots	Packed lunch 	Meatballs and pasta, cabbage and carrots		Fish fingers, chips, beans and peas
Ice cream		Oatie biscuit		Ice cream

## The Fireside Nativity

Wow! What an amazing evening!

We hope you all enjoyed the children's nativity show. We were blown away by them all and very proud, we're sure you were too!

This year's play had lots of lines that the children had to learn and they did so so well, especially as many were not feeling great but did manage to last until after the show! They did practise very hard in school and it really showed!

The professional recording of the show, by AP photograph, will be available to purchase on either USB or DVD for £10. Forms have gone out for orders which will need to be returned by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December please.

The sale of tickets, refreshments, programs and raffle tickets so far made a whopping £795 for the school fund. Raffle tickets should be returned by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December please.

Thank you to all who attended and supported us.

The children's nativity photograph will appear in The Cheadle and Tean Times on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2022.



## Strep A

Group A Streptococcus, or Strep A usually causes mild illness like sore throats and skin infections.

However, in rare cases, these bacteria can cause severe and life threatening illness called invasive Group A Streptococcal disease.

This is when the bacteria get into parts of the body that are usually free from bacteria such as the lungs, blood or muscles.

The symptoms of invasive Group A Streptococcal disease to look out for include:

- sore throat
- fever (above 38 degrees)
- severe muscle aches
- pain in one area of the body
- vomiting or diarrhoea

Precautions such as regular hand-washing and not attending school when your child is ill can both reduce the risk of infection, say experts.

The key message is that parents should always follow their intuition. If they are worried or feel that their child is getting worse from any upper respiratory infection, please do not hesitate to reach out to a GP or healthcare professional for further advice or assessment.

'Scarlet fever and strep A can be treated effectively when picked up early with antibiotics.'

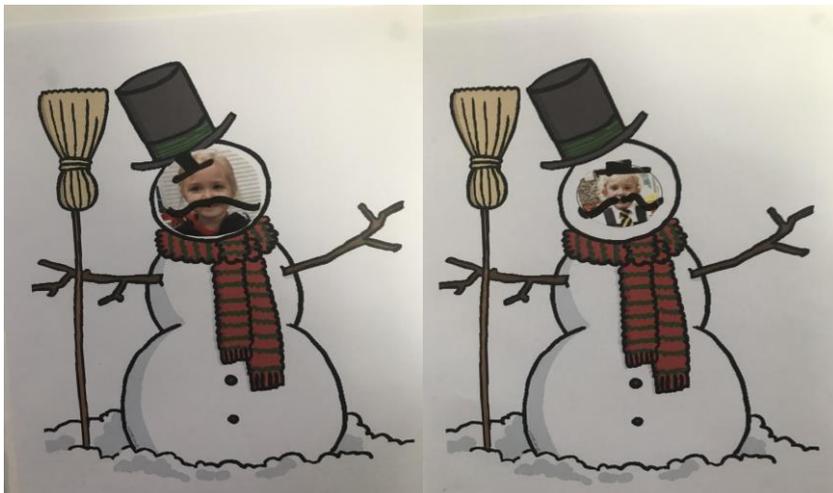
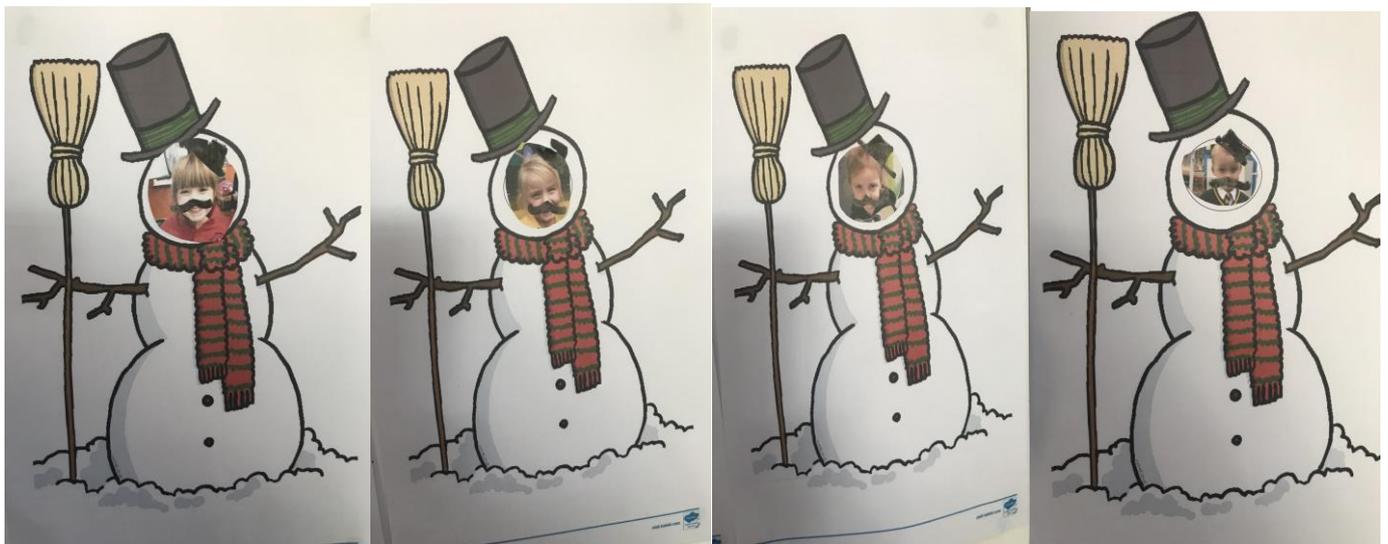


## Teddy, Eddie's and Jingle Jangle's Elf adventures

This week Sparks, Flickers and Flames discovered that their cheeky elf friends have been up to all sorts!

In Sparks class Eddie turned all the children into snowmen!

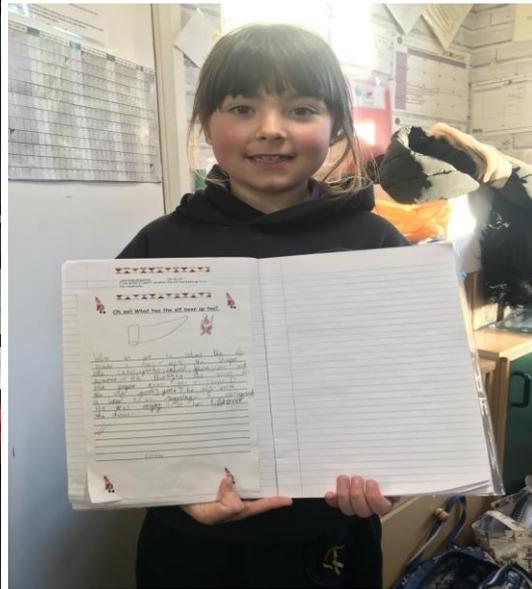
The next day he drew moustaches on them too! The children had to look really hard for Eddie on Wednesday as he had found an excellent hiding place in the roof!



## Teddy, Eddie's and Jingle Jangle's Elf adventures

Teddy elf made a bit of a mess in Flickers classroom by overturning chairs, tipping pens out and throwing toilet roll around!

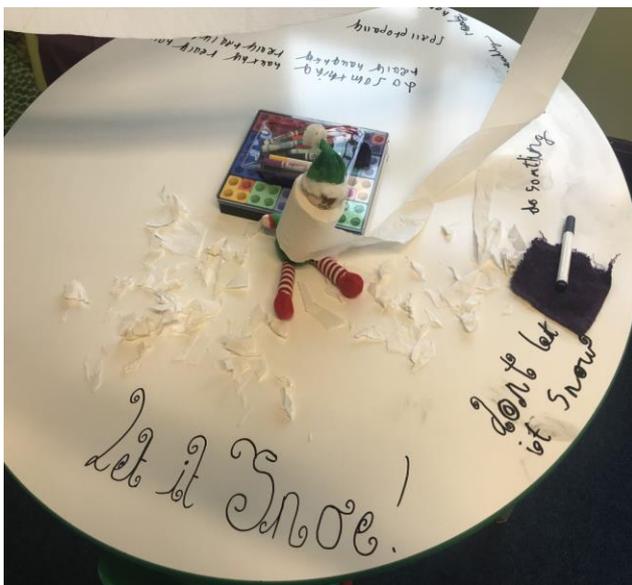
Upon closer inspection, whilst it looked like Teddy had made a mess, he was in fact looking for 2D shapes such as squares, triangles, rectangles and circles and 3d shapes such as pyramids, spheres, cylinders, cones, cuboids and cubes so he too could learn about what Flickers have been learning in their lessons. He then fell asleep and was found by the children when they entered the classroom this morning. The children wrote a report on their findings. They had to decide if he was good or naughty for making such a mess of their classroom., They decided that he was in fact good for wanting to learn!



Jingle Jangles has been practising his spellings in Flames class but not doing a very good job!

He wrote "Let it snoe" on the whiteboard table so the children had to correct his spellings.

He ripped up toilet roll to make snow and threw toilet paper all around the classroom.

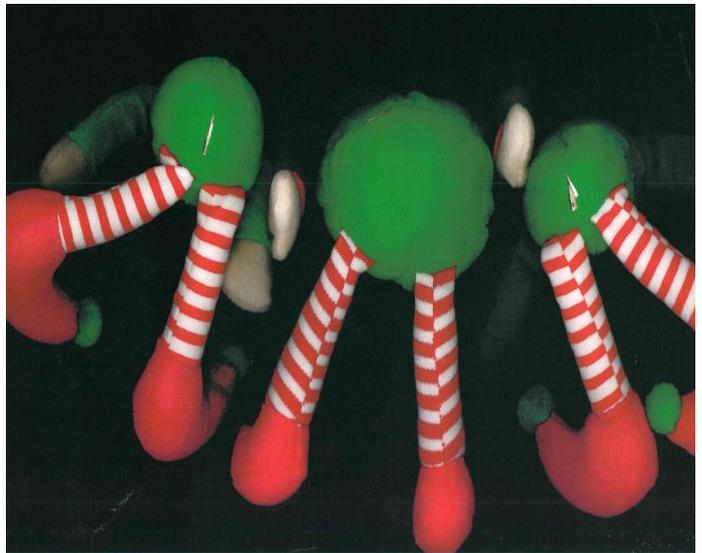


## Teddy, Eddie's and Jingle Jangle's Elf adventures

Lastly the cheeky elves all got together and took a number of sELFies and dotted them around the school!

They photographed themselves sticking their tongues out and they photographed their bottoms!!!

To top it off they all clambered over Mr Bones and fell asleep there until the children discovered them this morning. Jingle Jangles fell off and injured himself unfortunately. The children were most concerned but practised their knowledge of the skeleton by reporting to Miss Torr he had broken his femur and humerus.



## Calpol

We have made the decision to administer Calpol in school as appropriate and with consent from parents and carers.

We will only administer Calpol if we deem it strictly necessary (ie. High temperature). We cannot give Calpol to a child at regular intervals throughout the day. The new procedures are for emergency measures only.

Forms have gone home requesting your permission. Please could you send the signed forms back into school as soon as possible.

## Welly Wednesday

On Welly Wednesday Mrs Goldstraw was making ice lanterns using natural materials collected from the school fields including fir cones, berries and fir tree twigs.

They used the bottom of plastic water bottles, put a paper cup in the middle to create the shape then filled the voids with their décor and water. They then put them outside to freeze. Once frozen the bottles were removed and voila!!! There were beautiful ice lanterns!

The finished product will be showcased for the Christingle service on Monday.



## Spare tights and socks

If you happen to have any grey tights or socks (any colour) that no longer fit we would be most grateful of any donations please.

Many Thanks



### After school club

Just another little snippet of what the children have been doing at after school. They have been fencing!

Fencing is a great sport for balance and posture, using the brain as well as the body, improving concentration and of course it is fun!



## Christmas Services

at

### St Leonards

18<sup>th</sup> December - 3.00pm Carol  
Service (joint with Chapel)

24<sup>th</sup> December - 2.00pm The Crib  
Service

24<sup>th</sup> December - 11.30pm Midnight  
Service

25<sup>th</sup> December - 10.00am Joint  
Benefice Family Communion Service  
AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S  
BUTTERTON - bring your gifts to  
show everyone

*See the magazine or facebook for full list*

## Winter mini reading challenge 2022



Many of the children enjoyed taking part in the Summer reading challenge over the school holidays. Now there is an opportunity to join in with an online only Winter reading challenge. Winter days offer a great opportunity to curl up with a good book.

The winter mini challenge encourages children to keep up with their reading habits over the Winter holidays with a free to access website featuring rewards for reading and reviewing books.

Taking part in the Winter challenge is simple. Children read at least three books between December 2022 to February 2023 and add to an online profile at [www.wintermini.org.uk](http://www.wintermini.org.uk)

Reaching their online goal will unlock a limited edition virtual badge and special Winter mini challenge certificate to print off and keep.

You'll find loads of other great stuff on the website too, including games, books, reviews, reading activities and content from the best children's authors and illustrators around. For parents there is a home zone and library zone on the website with more information and top tips.

We would love to see the certificates from any children that take part so please send them in to school!



## Online Safety

Here's some quick guidance on how to set up parental controls on any new consoles that Santa may bring:

**Xbox:** <https://www.xbox.com/enGB/community/foreveryone/responsible-gaming>

**PS5:** <https://www.playstation.com/engb/support/account/ps5-parentalcontrolsspendinglimits/>

**Nintendo Switch:** <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-SwitchParentalControls/NintendoSwitch-ParentalControls-1183145.html>



## National Online Safety

At the time of writing, the chat app HiPal was among the App Store's top 20 trending downloads in the social media category. Effectively turning someone's phone into a walkie-talkie for instant audio communication, it offers the possibility of quick contact with new friends - which will ring alarm bells for most parents but is clearly having considerable appeal for younger users.

With features including photo sharing and private conversations available to children as young as 12, HiPal has attracted concerns around its use as a potential platform for sexting - while there are also worries about the mental health consequences of teens receiving negative feedback about their pictures.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one app of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HiPAL

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
**12+**  
(with reduced functionality for under-12s)

HiPal is a trending social media app which turns phones into walkie-talkies, allowing people to have voice conversations with friends or strangers. There are two account options: one for users aged under 12 and one for those aged 12 or above. The former has fewer features and limits interaction with strangers, enabling use of the walkie-talkie feature or photo sharing with friends and family only. The 12+ accounts offer more options, including adding strangers as friends, sharing photos and videos publicly, sending private messages and holding voice chats with strangers as well as friends.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

HiPal's under-12 accounts don't allow direct connections with strangers (although children seeking more friends can share their 'Friend Code' on other platforms), but for older users, chatting with strangers seems to be the app's main appeal. The 'Public Square' shows nine online users (hitting 'refresh' replaces these with another nine), and clicking on someone's profile starts a conversation.

#### NO AGE GATES OR MODERATION

Although users are given an initial choice of the under- or over-12 profile, there is no verification method to confirm someone's age; it is quite clear that the 'older' option offers a more complete experience on the app, but there seems to be no content moderation in place. Likewise, there is a reporting button for users to make a complaint but these reports do not appear to be followed up.

#### INTRUSIVE FEATURES

HiPal's walkie-talkie gimmick is no different from a normal phone call and seems rarely used; although it allows conversations to still be heard while a phone is locked, which could have awkward results. HiPal also offers 'Boom' messages: unmissable large-text notifications which are highly distracting and briefly take over the phone - users can't access other apps until the message fades.

#### LARGE GROUP CHATS

The app offers group chats with up to 100 people - both friends and unknown users. This not only means excessive 'Boom' messages taking over your child's device, but near-constant notification alerts and - most worryingly - the potential for walkie-talkie chatting and sharing photos with strangers outside parental supervision and apparently with no moderation from the platform itself.

#### NEED FOR VALIDATION

Some users - particularly girls - post photos on apps of this type hoping for positive reactions and comments to boost their self-esteem. Suggestive images tend to attract more flattering feedback, encouraging the user to post more frequently and with more explicit content. Conversely, receiving unkind comments about their picture can impact a young user's confidence and sense of self-worth.

#### SEXTING AND SUGGESTIVE PICS

Almost immediately after our expert downloaded the app, strangers began to message privately - asking for provocative images or sharing explicit photos of themselves. Likewise, in the 'explore' feed, many of the pictures and videos are innocent - but some are far more salacious. There is always the risk of other users secretly saving a revealing photo and re-sharing it elsewhere.

### Advice for Parents & Carers

#### EMPHASISE CAUTION

Remind your child of the dangers of connecting with strangers online. Some may be using the app innocently; others may have more sinister intentions. Encourage your child to consider what information they disclose in private messages and emphasise that they should inform a trusted adult if someone on the internet ever attempts to persuade them to meet in person.

#### TALK ABOUT SEXTING

It can be an awkward conversation (which young people are often reluctant to have), but it's vital to talk openly and non-judgmentally about sexting. Discuss the legal implications of sharing explicit images, as well as the emotional impact. Make it clear your child should never feel pressured into sexting - and that they should tell a trusted adult if they receive any unwanted explicit images.

#### BUILD RESILIENCE

With HiPal's lack of moderation, it's imperative that children are prepared for comments they might receive after uploading an image. You can build their resilience and equip them to manage these situations by having them show you any comments they've received. Together, discuss how the nice ones made them feel - and what they could do if someone posted a comment that upset them.

#### AVOID OVER-SHARING

Young people should think carefully about what they share in their profiles, bio and posts. Talk to your child about not disclosing personal details such as phone numbers, other social media accounts or images which could reveal where they live or go to school. It's essential for children to recognise that strangers can assemble a detailed profile of someone based on things they can find online.

#### CONSIDER MENTAL WELLBEING

Many users on HiPal publicly share photos that are intended to be alluring in the hope of gaining more likes, friends and positive feedback - boosting their self-esteem and making them feel more self-assured. When young people regularly engage with social media platforms, it's important that parents and carers keep in mind the potential impact such platforms can have on mental wellbeing.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

<https://hipal.app/about/privacy.html>

**NOS National Online Safety®**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 07.12.2022

### Wraparound care

Please could you make any outstanding payments for breakfast and after school club on Parent pay for the week commencing 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The terms and conditions state that fees should be paid monthly. At the moment, due to unpaid bills, the wraparound care is not financially viable.

Going forward into the new year to keep the wraparound care going and Mrs Crooks sane please make timely payments!

Many Thanks



### Dates for the diary

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December - Christingle service

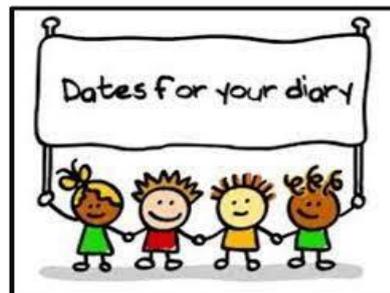
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Whole school trip to the Peter Pan pantomime at The Regent Theatre

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Christmas dinner

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Raffle to be drawn

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December - A visit from Santa and break up for the holidays.

Back in school - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022



### Reception September 2023 Intake

Just a reminder that online applications should be completed by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx>



### School Closures Due to Adverse Weather

As we approach the time of year where the weather gets colder and we potentially have snow fall, just a reminder for all of you of what would happen in the event of such extreme weather that we have to close school. This decision, if taken is never done so lightly. Should the need arise, and school have to be closed we will alert parents and carers via text message as by 7.00am to let breakfast club parents know , update the school website and the Staffordshire County Council website. We try to open the school whenever possible. The decision to open the school is made taking into account the local conditions and the number of teachers that can travel to school safely. We would only close the school if we didn't consider the site safe enough and didn't have enough adults to ensure correct child / adult ratios.

If you do not hear anything via the above options, please assume the school is open as normal. We will endeavour to reach a decision by 8.00am; however, this may not always be possible  
If the school is open we plan to enjoy the snow! Please ensure that your child is sent to school with a warm coat, hat, scarf and gloves, wellington boots or suitable footwear for playing in the snow and a change of skirt /trousers and socks.

Should snow begin to fall heavily during the school day and we feel the need to close the school to allow children and adults to get home safely, we will contact parents and carers asking them to come and collect their children as soon as they are able. If you have asked another parent to collect your child, the school must be informed either by email or phone call. The school will always remain staffed until all children have left.



### Well Done!

Rosa and Megan went to Ipstones Fire brigade to hand them a cheque through fundraising raised from Ipstones lights, Rainbows and Guides.

The fireman let them sit in the truck and try on their hats.



### Covid walk in clinic

The CYP Covid Vaccination team are carrying out a community clinic at Tunstall Vaccination Centre, ST6 4JU on **Sunday 11th December 2022 between 9.00am and 4.00pm** to administer Covid vaccinations. This includes 1st dose, 2nd dose and autumn boosters to those children between the ages of 5 and 17 if they are eligible

Your child is eligible for 1st or 2nd dose if:

- They are aged between 5 years and 17 years (had to be 5 years old on or before 31st August 2022)
- Have not received a Covid vaccination before
- If had a 1st dose needs to be 12 weeks before 2nd dose (8 weeks if Clinically vulnerable)
- Have not had Covid 19 infection within last 12 weeks (28 days if clinically vulnerable)

Your child is eligible for an autumn booster if:

- Aged 5 years and over are clinically vulnerable and had last vaccine 91 days or 13 weeks prior
- Aged 5 years and over and live with someone who is immunosuppressed and had last vaccine 91 days or 13 weeks prior
- Young Carers between 16 and 17 years defined as those who are eligible for a carer's allowance, or those who are the sole or primary carer of an elderly or disabled person who is at increased risk of COVID 19 mortality and therefore clinically vulnerable
- If your child meets the above criteria and has not had Covid in the last 28 days if clinically vulnerable or within last 12 weeks

### Letters from Santa

Sparks and Flickers wrote letters to the big man himself a few weeks ago.

On Thursday they received a response! They were thrilled!



Christmas jumper day



## Christingles

The children were busy making their Christingles for Monday's service at 10am, all invited!

They learned all about Christingles and that 'Christingle' means 'Christ Child' and originates from the Moravian Church.

A symbol of Christianity, Christingles are made from an orange decorated with red tape, sweets or dried fruit and a candle. Each of these different elements has a special meaning:

- The orange symbolises the world.
- The red ribbon shows God's love for the world and the blood of Jesus.
- The sweets/dried fruit represent God's creations.
- The four cocktail sticks can represent either the four seasons or the four corners of the world.
- The candle represents Jesus being the light of the world, bringing hope to those in darkness.

Thank you to Jim at the shop for the very kind donations of oranges.

It is very much appreciated.



## Attendance

Attendance Target 97%

Attendance this week 92.5 %

Please don't forget to call or email the school before 9.00am if your child is ill.

You must inform the school every day of your child's absence.

If we don't not hear from you we will have to chase you up as this scenario in schools is considered a "Child missing in education" case until we are made aware their reason for absence.

Please note that we have vigilant procedures to follow in line with our safeguarding duties to your children and Ofsted requirements.

### Attendance Matters



## ASM Christmas holiday sports club

**ASM SPORTS**

# CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUBS

Come and join us for some sports, games and activities from December 19 - 22. Our action-packed program gives children the chance to remain active, develop skills and make new friends within a safe and secure environment.

- Combat Sports
- Team Sports
- Alternative Sports
- Arts & Crafts
- Learn Building

**We are inclusive!**  
We value the importance of accommodating children, aged 4-12 years old, who come to us from different backgrounds. Everyone is challenged and provided with an enjoyable experience.

**Search for your venue: [asmsports.co.uk](http://asmsports.co.uk)**

**READ OUR REVIEWS**

**HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD**

Children eligible for **Free School Meals** can access up to 4 days of free places, and a nutritional daily lunch, across 15 venues.

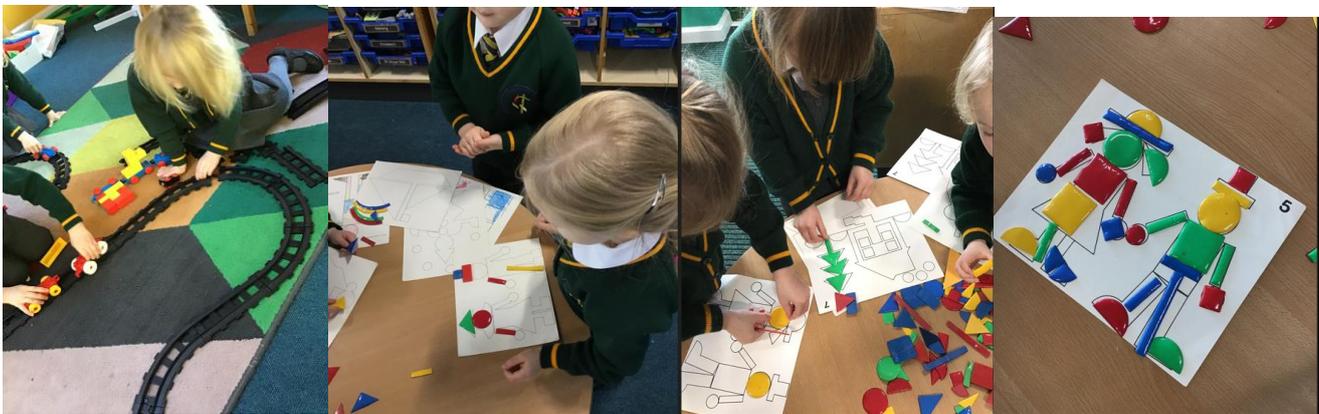
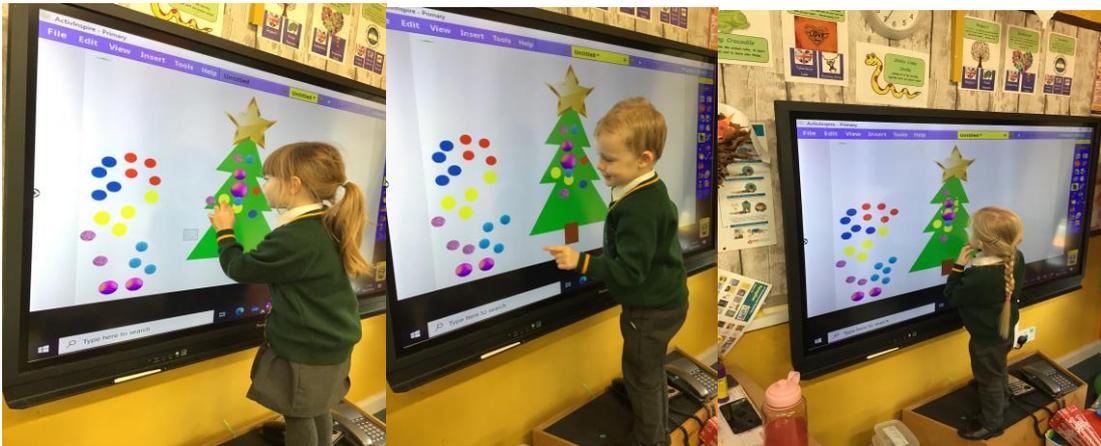
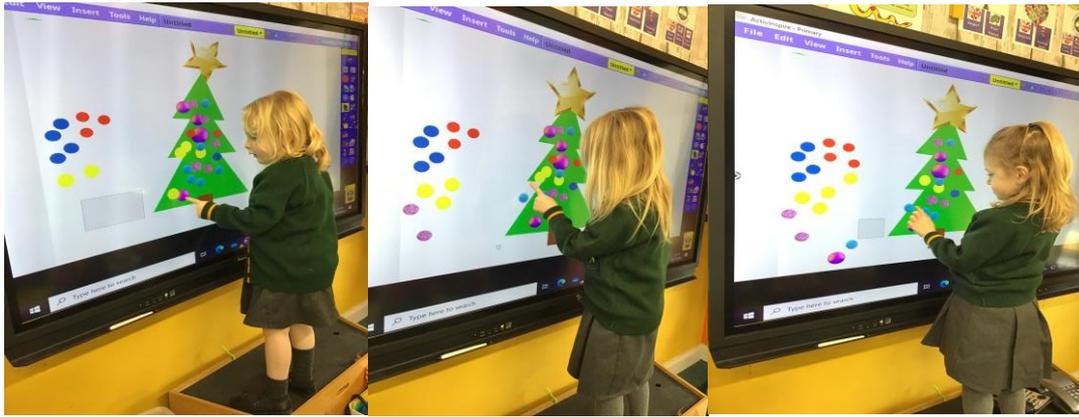
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Call: 01782 366332  
Email: [info@asmsports.co.uk](mailto:info@asmsports.co.uk)

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram icons and a cartoon cat mascot wearing a Santa hat.

## Sparks

Sparks class have been sorting shapes this week. They used the whiteboard to build a Christmas tree. They have also been making "The Polar Express" and doing some Christmas "colour by numbers"



## Flickers

Flickers class have been making healthy snacks in class this week. They have been learning about healthy food and how food freezes with cold.

They made fruity frozen yoghurt using, kiwi, grapes, pears, apples and yoghurt.



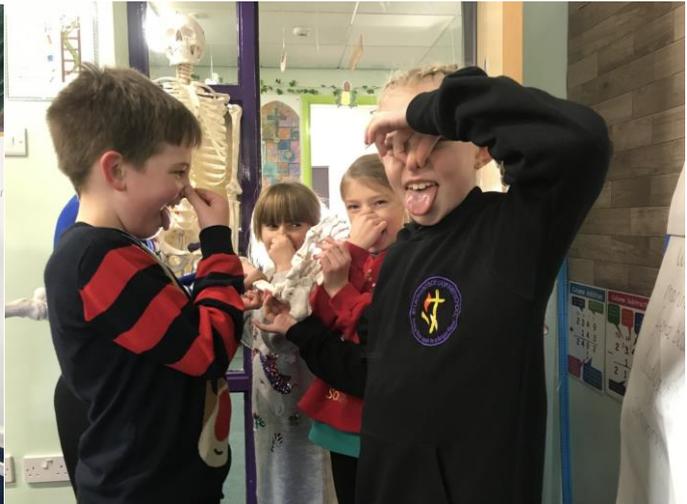
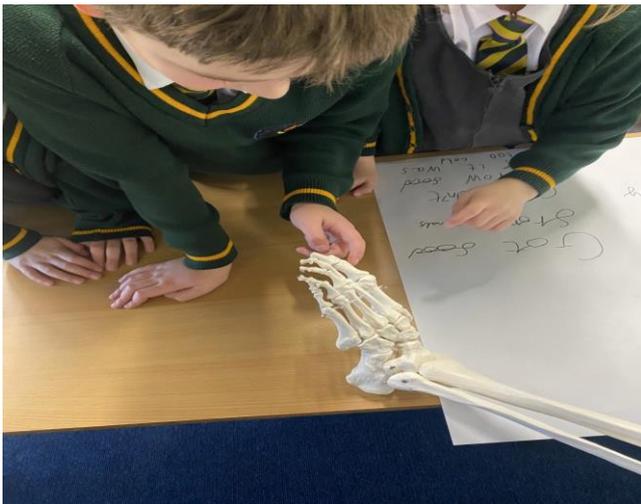
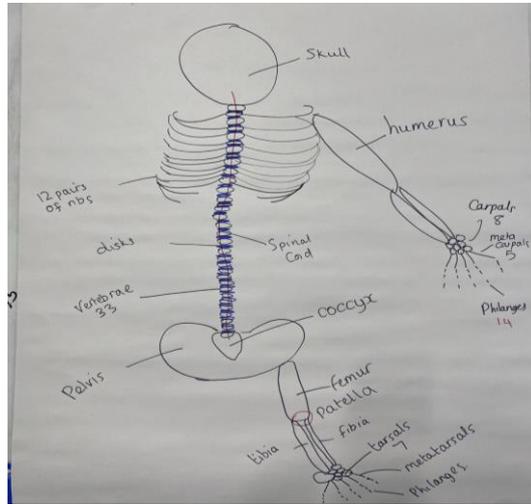
## Flames

Flames class have continued their studies of the human skeleton this week concentrating on the bones in the foot.

They learned that a quarter of your bones are in your feet and whilst the human body is made up of 206 bones and 52 of these are found in your feet (26 in each foot).

They also found out that not all toes have the same number of bones. Even though it's called your "big" toe, it only has two bones while your other toes each have three bones. These bones are called phalanges.

They were thankful that Mr Bones did not have smelly feet that day!



In Maths they learned about division with remainders using Numicon to help. By using practical resources it helps them visualise calculations.

