

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's hard to believe we have just one more full week before we break for Christmas and step into 2026. Time is flying, but the buzz and excitement in school continue to grow. Let's enjoy every moment of this final stretch!

We've had a fantastic DT Week, with classrooms full of creativity, problem-solving and festive making. The children have produced some brilliant work, and we're ending the week on a high with today's Christmas Fayre – always a highlight of the term.

- **In Nursery** - Nursery's book focus this week has been Stickman. The children have enjoyed retelling the story in our cosy new book nook, using the space to develop their storytelling confidence and understanding. Christmas festivities have also begun! The children have been busy creating Polar Express name trains, helping them to build their name-writing skills in a fun and festive way. In maths, they have been exploring AB patterns and have made Christmas paper chains to support their learning.
- **In Reception Hill** - This week in Reception, they have been decorating biscuits and making Christmas wreath paintings ready for the Christmas fayre. They also continued learning about dinosaurs and produced some observational drawings of an ammonite fossil which were really impressive.
- **In Reception Bond** - They are all looking forward to our EYFS Christmas Singalong and working extremely hard to learn songs and sign along as they sing also. They look forward to you joining them for an afternoon of Christmas songs next Thursday. They have a class dinosaur named Alfie who's set up home in their classroom and each morning they're all having so much fun trying to find a new addition, magic elf! He's getting 'here, there & everywhere!'
- **In Year 1 Browne** - In 1 Browne this week they have been getting into the Christmas spirit. They've been busy designing and making cards to sell at the Christmas Fayre and they have also been practicing singing their Christmas songs for their performance.
- **In Year 1 Potter** - This week the children have been working hard with their DT work. They have made Christmas cards to sell at the craft fair and we honestly think this is the most careful colouring we have ever seen in our lives! Mrs Kelly is so proud of them. They have also been practising their Christmas songs for their concert and the children have really enjoyed this and have done so well.
- **In Year 2 Blyton** - Year 2 Blyton have had a truly magical week getting into the Christmas spirit with their Design and Technology Christmas stockings. The children began by carefully planning their designs, choosing colours, patterns and materials to make their stockings unique and festive. They then worked incredibly hard to learn how to sew using a thread and needle, showing fantastic concentration and perseverance as they stitched their pieces together. Once sewn, the class added decorations, from sparkling sequins to fluffy cotton wool, creating stockings that look wonderfully cheerful and ready to display at the Christmas Fayre.
- **In Year Dahl** - This week, Year 2 Dahl have been wonderfully busy getting into the festive spirit. The children have researched, designed and stitched their very own Christmas stockings. This has linked beautifully with our Design and Technology curriculum, where pupils learn to explore and evaluate existing products, develop their own ideas, and use a range of practical skills such as cutting, shaping and joining textiles. Their creativity and perseverance have really shone through. They have also created handmade gift tags to add to their stall at the Christmas Fayre. The children loved experimenting with different materials and practising their fine motor skills to make something truly special. On top of all the festive crafting, they have been hard at work preparing for their Christmas play. The children have been rehearsing lines, learning songs and developing confidence in performing for an audience. This supports the Year 2 English and Drama curriculum objectives, including speaking clearly, expressing themselves, and working collaboratively as part of a cast. Their enthusiasm is infectious and they can't wait for you to see the final performance.
- **In Year 3 Simon** - This week, Year 3 have been busy getting into the festive spirit! The children did an amazing job creating their Christmas decorations and are very excited for their parents and carers to see them at the Winter Fayre. They also had their first school trip of the year to The Lowry, and despite the

rainy weather, the children were in brilliant spirits throughout. They represented the school beautifully, and we are incredibly proud of them all!

- **In Year 3 Walliams** – Began the week by getting into the festive spirit, creating their own Christmas tree decorations for the Christmas Fair, followed by some beautiful Christmas cards for our families. The children have also worked incredibly hard completing their maths and reading tests. To round off the week, they enjoyed a fantastic class trip to Salford Quays and the Lowry Art Gallery, where the children sketched landscapes inspired by the unique style of L.S. Lowry. What a wonderful week of creativity, learning, and fun!
- **In Year 4 Carroll** - Our trip to Eureka was a huge success. The children explored a wide range of science zones and discovered so many fascinating facts. One of the highlights was the incredible digestion experiment, which was equal parts gross and fascinating! In DT, the class designed and made their own Christmas truffles, showing lots of creativity. Miss Mallard also wants to say a huge well done to all the children for their fantastic attitude and effort during assessments this week. She am so impressed and very proud of them all!
- **In Year 4 Wilson** - Year 4 Wilson have had the best week! They started the week with a special commendation from Mr ACA who has said that they were unbelievable in PE and a delight to teach. They then spent the day on Tuesday at Eureka! What a fantastic trip! We explored the children's museum, took part in a digestive system workshop and did some role play in the bank, shop and post office! The leader of the group also wanted to thank Y4W for being such a respectful and polite class. Back at school they have learnt about 'rural' and 'urban' settlements. Finally, they have made Christmas truffles ready to be decorated for the Christmas fayre!! What a great week Y4W- keep it up!
- **In Year 5 Lewis** - This week in 5L they have really enjoyed spending the afternoons preparing their wreaths for the Christmas fayre, which the children have really enjoyed doing and getting into the Christmas spirit! They have also wrote a formal letter for their independent write and we are really impressed with the amount of effort they have put into this write and we cannot wait to read them!
- **In Year 5 Rowling** - Y5 Rowling have been busy this week. They have been starting our new unit on fractions, beginning to understand the process of simplifying and finding equivalent fractions. In English, they have been continuing with the Explorer and have just written letters from the perspective of Fred to his Father. In the afternoons, they have been focusing on DT for the upcoming Christmas Fayre, designing and creating Christmas Wreaths. They look incredible. Well done Y5!
- **In Year 6 Morpurgo & Shakespeare** - Both Year 6 classes have thoroughly enjoyed DT Week, where they designed and made their own Christmas cushions. The children carefully hand stitched their decorations before using the sewing machines to assemble and fill their cushions. They will be evaluating their completed designs next week. In maths, Year 6 have continued their work on multiplying fractions and have shown strong focus and progress throughout the week. It has been a productive and enjoyable few days in Year 6.
- **In The Blossoms**, This week the children have been in full Christmas spirit in the Blossoms! The children have been busy practising for next Friday, and so many lovely Christmassy arts and crafts have been taking place. It's been wonderful to see how much they're enjoying our music sessions, and they are absolutely loving the Christmas decorations and the festive stories we're sharing.

As we wrap up another busy and joyful week, I want to thank all our families for your continued support. We hope you have a wonderful weekend, enjoy the festive build-up, and find a moment to rest amidst the excitement. We look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday for our final full week of 2025 - let's make it a great one!

David Nightingale

Headteacher

Important Dates

Date	Event
5.12	Year 5 / 6 STEM Workshop
5.12	Winter Market
10.12	Carol Service - St Peter's
11.12	Christmas Jumper Day
11.12	EYFS Winter Assembly
11.12	Santa Dash
12.12	EYFS Christmas Party
15.12	Year 5 / 6 Christmas Party
16.12	Year 2 Performance – AM
16.12	Year 1 / 2 Christmas Party
17.12	Christmas Dinner Day
17.12	Year 3 / 4 Christmas Party Day
18.12	Panto Day
18.12	Christmas Assembly
18.12	SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

Attendance:

Registration form(s) this week	Total Weekly Attendance
1 Browne	97.59
1 Potter	91.54
2 Blyton	94.29
2 Dahl	93.57
3 Simon	93.33
3 Walliams	95.86
4 Carroll	98.00
4 Wilson	96.55
5 Lewis	94.00
5 Rowling	93.33
6 Morpurgo	93.33
6 Shakespeare	94.67
N Donaldson	86.55
R Bond	97.00
R Hill	94.83
The Blossoms	78.89

A huge WELL DONE to Year 4 Carroll!

Office reminders

Messages from the office:

- **REMINDER** - All payments, including dinner money, are made via Arbor - log in via <https://the-deans-primary.uk.arbor.sc/>
- Please look out for an event on Dojo about your child's Christmas party day!

The Deans

