



Newsletter

Christingle

It was such a delight to hold our Christingle Service at St Nicholas Church to mark the beginning of our Christmas Festivities. After the last couple of years where Christmas has been slightly different for us all it was so special to see the whole community back together. I'm sure you will agree the children and particularly the Readers and our School Ambassadors were a credit to the school. Having the church filled with candle light once again is such a special moment.



All children were given their Christingles to take home with the idea that they can then eat the fruits and recycle the candle. Eco committee would like to encourage you to think of different ways you can use the orange including making bird feeders or scented candles—there are lots of great ideas online.

Orange Cup Bird Feeders



Oranges might be notorious for having very few things that rhyme with them, but they are still quite handy when it comes to serving as bird feeders. If you don't believe us, it's simple enough to try and see for yourselves.

Trellech Christmas Trees



A big diolch yn fawr to the Whittall Family for their kind donation of the fantastic Christmas Tree which can be seen in our school foyer, outside the office. All the children have written a message of hope for the year and decorated the tree. Also thank you to Morris's of Usk who donated our outside tree. It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas ...

Eco and Charities Committee Christmas

During our meeting today, Eco committee voted on a number of decisions about Christmas at Trellech to help us all have an eco-friendly Christmas. The children decided to vote no to having Christmas crackers again this and would like to invite everyone to wear Christmas headgear e.g. Santa hats on Wednesday 21st December for Christmas dinner. They also voted to not send individual Christmas cards in school and to ask each class to make a card or tag with a message.

Charities Committee would like everyone to join in the Jolly Jumper Day, on Friday 23rd December in aid of St David's Hospice; any donation towards the charity would be very welcome.

Strep A and Scarlet Fever

We are aware that many of you may be anxious with regard to recent media reports on the rare complications of Strep A in children. We ask that you view the official advice from Public Health Wales using the following link: <https://phw.nhs.wales/news/igas-infection-remains-rare-say-public-health-experts/> or use the online 111 symptom checker before seeking medical attention. If you think your child has any of the signs or symptoms of Scarlet Fever or iGAS disease please contact your GP or call 111. Please do let the school know if your child is absent as in normal letting us know of the symptoms/ illness so we can monitor this as a school, enabling us to contact the relevant authorities if we see an increase in numbers of particular illnesses.

Winter Wonderland

Come and join in PTFAs Winter Wonderland on Friday 16th December at 3.45pm. Please see flyer below, schoop and parentpay for more details. During the event you will also have the opportunity to purchase items produced in school during our Enterprise week. An advertising brochure will be sent by schoop, with details of the items and the cost. To purchase items we are asking you to bring the correct money where possible and you will be able to take your item home with you.



Pupil Committees

This week saw our Pupil Committees meet once again to discuss a variety of topics linked to their area. Our committees discussed a variety of topics from a Community Quiz Event, Safe Crossing Places and ways to upcycle our Christingles.

Autumn Term

Weds 14th Dec- FP Nativity 10am
Weds 14th Dec- Y3/ Y4 Nativity 2pm
Thurs 15th Dec- Y3/ Y4 Nativity 10am
Thurs 15th Dec- FP Nativity 2pm
Fri 16th Dec- Whole School Trip to Pantomime (The Savoy)
Fri 16th Dec- PTFA Winter Wonderland Event
Tues 20th Dec- Foundation Phase Party
Weds 21st Dec- Xmas Dinner
Weds 21st Dec- Yr5/6 Party
Thurs 22nd Dec- Yr3/4 Party
Fri 23rd Dec- Christmas Jumper Day (St David's Foundation)
Fri 23rd Dec- End of Autumn Term

Spring Term 2023

Mon 9th Jan- Spring Term Commences
Mon 9th Jan- INSET Day School Closed to Pupils
Fri 17th Feb- INSET Day School Closed to Pupils
Fri 17th Feb- Half Term Commences
Mon 27th Feb- Spring Term Two Commences
Weds 1st Mar- Eisteddfod
Fri 3rd Mar- World Book Day
Fri 31st Mar- End of Spring Term
Weds 26th—Fri 29th April—Yr6 Residential Gilwern
Mon 17th April- Summer Term Commences
Mon 15th—Weds 17th May—Yr5 Residential Viney Hill
Fri 26th May- Half Term Commences

Summer Term 2023

Mon 5th June- Summer Term Two Commences
Weds 14th June: KS2 Sports Day
Thurs 15th June: FP Sports Day
Weds 21st June: Reserve KS2 Sports day
Thurs 22nd June: Reserve FP Sports Day
Fri 30th June: INSET Day School Closed to Pupils
Weds 12th July: PS3 Summer Performance
Thurs 13th July: PS3 Summer Performance
Fri 21st July—End of Summer Term

One further INSET Days to be confirmed: currently a sixth INSET Day is under consultation by Welsh Government

Monmouth Foodbank Christmas Donations

Thank you to you all for your generous donations to Monmouth Foodbank this Christmas. We are pleased to share they were collected earlier in the week in preparation to be delivered to those most in need in our local area this Christmas.



UEFA Disney Playmakers



Last week, the girls were lucky enough to have a special delivery from the FAW of some t-shirts for them to wear for their sessions. We also welcomed Jack Harris from MonLife to watch the girls in action, who was impressed with the skills being demonstrated in the sessions. A very special thank you to Mrs Phillips and Miss Ward for delivering these sessions.

Poppy Appeal

With your support we are proud to share that as a school community we raised £283.85 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Class News

Reception:

Reception have had another busy two weeks, we have had a visitor all the way from the North Pole, Buddy the Elf. He is a super cheeky elf, who loves to leave us surprises each morning. The magic and mystery of Christmas is fully underway in Reception, and we have been busy writing our letters to Father Christmas, taking part in Christingle at the Church, learning how Christmas is celebrated in Wales and around the world. We have nearly finished creating our enterprise products, we can't wait to sell these at our Christmas Fare on the 16th. Our Nativity is so close, and the children have been working extremely hard to put together their performance, with not long to go it would be great if we could continue to practise the songs at home, with an emphasis on I will make you well again (ee-ore). We have come to the end of our set one sounds in RWI, and the children have been working hard with their blending and formation. We will continue to practise the sounds we have learnt and work towards our Word Time 5 words. In Numeracy, we have been working on one more and one less than a number in preparation for learning our number bonds to 5 this week. We can't wait to spend the next few weeks together before Christmas and we can't wait to see you at our parents Christmas session on the 19th. Thank you for your continued support.

Year One:

Well the busy run up to Christmas has truly begun in Year 1! Rehearsals for our Nativity have been our main focus as children have been practising the songs and acting on the stage this fortnight. Thank you to everyone who has brought in their child's costume and helped them to learn lines. Please have some last-minute run throughs this weekend before our performance week – it will make all the difference! Our Enterprise crafts are almost finished and the children are excited to sell them to you. Just some last-minute Christmas touches to go! In Forest School last week, we created some fantastic dens of varying sizes – some for humans and some for animals. We have also been busy writing letters to Father Christmas, learning all about how to be persuasive. I am going to post these to Reindeerland this week and hopefully we'll get some replies! In PE, we had a go at playing games of netball, passing the ball to each other using chest passes. I was very impressed with the teamwork and problem solving I saw – children using communication to pass to their teammates and working out where to stand to best receive the ball. I am sure we will have another fantastic fortnight as we get closer to the big day – what an exciting time we have left in school!

Year Two:

Year Twos have been very busy learning the song words and lines for the upcoming nativity. Keep up the hard work as we are almost there! In humanities we have been learning about the nativity story and I have been really impressed by the sequencing and retelling of the story. The pupils used fantastic vocabulary whilst writing these. We have been making sensible predictions and observations in our science experiment. The pupils were amazed by the rainbow that was made by placing a piece of kitchen roll with the colours of the rainbow on each end into two beakers of water. In our enterprise sessions we have been very creative and looking forward to putting these up for sale at the PTFA Winter Wonderland to raise money for the class. Today was our last Forest Schools of 2022 and we enjoyed a camp fire with Reception. We will resume in the new year as it getting a little chilly to say the least.



Year Three:

In Year 3 we have been busy with lots of different Christmas activities. We have been practising our nativity, thinking about our expression and projection when we deliver our lines – thank you parents for helping your child learn their words! We have also been working hard on our enterprise projects, making our products, working out costs to decide how much to sell them for, and creating posters to advertise them. In Maths we have continued our work on weighing, getting to know when it is appropriate to use grams or kilograms, as well as weighing lots of different objects to become familiar with reading different scales. We have been collaborating to write a group poem about 'Change' linked to our topic this term, which has involved thinking about some negative changes that might be taking place in our world and the actions we can take to stop them and protect our planet. Our focus in Welsh has been learning how to write about ourselves, including lots of detail – ask your child to tell you all about themselves! We are looking forward to a jam-packed but exciting couple of weeks, with lots of festive fun to end the term.

Year Four:

We are well and truly into the spirit of Christmas now. Nativities, holly, Christingle, carols, wreaths, cards, decorations..... We have been busy making Christmas Wreaths and baubles ready to sell for our enterprise. We will commence Forest School after Christmas as there is just so much to fit in at the moment. In Numeracy, we have been identifying symmetry in world, wide flags and in nature. Some of the flags were quite challenging! In Literacy, we created a poster to advertise the World Cup, including an itinerary; and wrote a poem imagining what the atmosphere would be like at the World Cup stadium. We were really impressed with their use of personification and similes. This week we have created an advertisement for our enterprise using Adobe Creative cloud express on HWB. In PE, we are continuing with Gymnastics and are now creating sequences on the equipment. We are also completing fitness circuits and the children are now challenging themselves to create their own. We are following the World Cup closely and recording the scores daily. We had a sweep for Wales V England match and not one of us got it right!! However, one child was the closest and received a little prize. Thank you for your support.



Year Five:

Another fortnight has passed and Year 5 have achieved so much in this time. We have been incredibly busy planning for our Enterprise project. The children have been working collaboratively in groups to design a product to sell at next week's Winter Wonderland event. The children have had to think carefully about the cost and potential profit they could make, the advertisement for their product and now finally this week, the making of them too. We hope you can all come along and support us and our stores as the children have been working incredibly hard! Miss Light and Mrs Cotton would also like to thank you all for providing some of the resources to support your children and their groups. We also finished the film 'Hidden figures' and created our own film reviews. The children have really enjoyed completing this topic, and it was clear from reading their film reviews that they have understood the impact of the different issues that have arisen within it. We have now started to look at 'The Chartists' and have been busy working in small groups to create a digital fact file about them. As the next two weeks approach, the children are looking forward to completing some fun and festive activities as we near the end of term!



Year Six:

Year 6 are now definitely in the Christmas spirit with our enterprise products in full swing! We have been busy making stars, bird feeders and sea glass gift tags which will be on sale during the PTFA winter wonderland. The children have created adverts for their products, costed out the materials needed, calculated potential profit and recorded using a spreadsheet. Amazing real-life skills in action. We have now finished our study of the film Hidden Figures by writing film critiques and are creating fact files about the Chartists. There have been some very interesting debates about power, politics and protests. Our maths has seen us tackle all manner of fractions from finding fractions of amounts to simplifying and equalising. Our ICT skills have been put to good use with the children using tinkercad to create 3d shapes in the forms of logos and even entire room designs. Year 6 have spent time discussing what makes a good friend and the positive/negative effects of peer pressure. Their French is improving week by week and they are now able to order a simple breakfast in a café - tres bien! The children thoroughly enjoyed using scratch to make a snowball scramble where they explored loops and repetition to create snowball clones for penguins to dodge. We have been lucky enough to have a student teacher with us for the past five weeks, Miss Gregory, who has become an integral part of our class. We wish her well with her studies back in university and look forward to welcoming her back again later in the year. Thank you for your continued support.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. As the festive period approaches please find below an outline of key dates:

Monday 12 th December am	Louby Lou Story Telling Elf Accessories Welcome!	All Classes
Wednesday 14 th December 10am	Foundation Phase Concert	School Hall
Wednesday 14 th December 2pm	Year Three & Four Concert	School Hall
Thursday 15 th December 10am	Year Three & Four Concert	School Hall
Thursday 15 th December 2pm	Foundation Phase Concert	School Hall
Friday 16 th December	Whole School Pantomime Trip	The Savoy, Monmouth
Friday 16 th December 3.30pm	PTFA Winter Wonderland Event & Class Enterprise Stalls	
Monday 19 th December 9.20am	Reception Craft Morning	
Tuesday 20 th December pm	Foundation Phase Party	Bring Party Clothes
Wednesday 21 st December	School Christmas Dinner Wear Christmas Jumper and/or headgear	School Hall
Wednesday 21 st December pm	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Party	Bring Party Clothes
Thursday 22 nd December pm	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party	Bring Party Clothes
Thursday 22 nd December	Rec: Carol Singing	Coombes Nursing Home (pm)
Friday 23 rd December	Christmas Jumper Day In Aid of St David's Foundation	Last Day of Term
Monday 9 th January	INSET Day: School Closed to Pupils	
Tuesday 10 th January	Spring Term Commences for Pupils	

Trellech Methodist Church

Families at Four

Please help us welcome in Christmas

in our child-friendly service

at 4p.m. on

Christmas Eve



Trellech Teas

at Trellech Church

2.30-4.30 pm

Dates for your diary are every other Friday:

13th & 27th January; 10th & 24th February; 10th & 24th March;

21st April & 5th May 2023.

We are sorry but we can't hold one on the 7th April as it is Good Friday.

Saturday 17th December
Christingle Service
Carols and Lantern-Making
in St Michael's Church, Tintern



2.00pm Lantern-Making and Decoration
3.30pm Lantern Parade
4.00pm Children's Christingle Service with
carols and display of the Christmas
story by children of Llandogo School

Followed by mince pies and Christmas punch

More information from Vanessa Dodd vanessa51@live.co.uk

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