

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the festive season, I'm delighted to share some of the wonderful activities that have been taking place at our school. The air is filled with excitement and joy as our children immerse themselves in the spirit of Christmas.

Our Christmas craft morning was a resounding success, with children eagerly creating beautiful decorations and festive artwork. It was heart-warming to see their creativity flourish and their faces light up with pride as they crafted unique pieces with their parents / carers. These moments of hands-on learning and artistic expression are invaluable in nurturing our children's skills and boosting their confidence.

The festive cheer has continued with our Nativity performances and Sing-alongs in our Early Years and KS1. Our youngest children have been practising tirelessly, learning lines, songs, and actions for their productions. Their enthusiasm and dedication have been truly inspiring. Watching them perform, with their angelic voices and endearing attempts at remembering their cues, has been a joy for all involved. These performances not only showcase our children's talents but also help them build confidence and teamwork skills.

These activities are more than just festive fun; they play a crucial role in our children's development. They encourage creativity, boost confidence, and foster a sense of community. They also provide opportunities for our children to explore and express themselves in different ways, complementing their academic learning with valuable life skills.

Our staff have asked us to pass on the following messages:

Nursery

A huge thank you to Nursery parents and friends for attending our Christmas Singalongs. The children were absolutely fantastic - they looked amazing in their costumes and they sang brilliantly. We are so proud of them for showing their excellent behaviour, learning their songs and performing with such confidence. Well done Nursery! What superstars you all are!





Reception

A big thank you for coming along to 'The Nativity'. The children worked really hard learning the songs and their lines. They were amazing! We are sure you will agree they are all super stars - despite all that occurred they were very professional. Thank you to all the families who helped with costumes and the behind-the-scenes preparation. We hope you all have a lovely break and we will see you in 2025 ready for the next part of our adventure in Reception.

<u>Year 1</u>

The year 1 staff would like to say a huge well done to all the children who participated in the singalong. We are so proud of the beautiful singing and dancing. It was lovely to see so many parents and carers enjoying the performance. We all hope you have a lovely Christmas and look forward to continue our learning journey in the New Year.

<u>Year 2</u>

Year 2 children did an outstanding performance of songs this year during Christmas week. The children and teachers worked extremely hard to deliver a fantastic, festive medley of some well-known classics and some more modern numbers! Thank you to the parents, carers and relatives who came to support and we noticed there wasn't a dry eye in the house after the finale of Sparkle and Shine from Martin Freeman's Nativity. Well done everybody!

As we near the end of term, I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated staff who have worked tirelessly to make these events possible. Their commitment to providing enriching experiences for our children is truly commendable. I'd also like to thank our parents and carers for their continued support and involvement in our school community.

Christingle

On Wednesday, years 1-6 joined together for a fantastic assembly. The children listened to the Christmas Story before joining in a song, from their I-sing workshop, which also celebrated the meaning of Christmas. The children were thrilled when the lights went down and they could snap their glow sticks, to represent the light of Jesus, as they sang Christmas songs.

Festive Fun Run

Following on from Christingle, we took part in our annual sponsored 'Festive Fun Run' where the whole school completed a walk around the perimeter of the school with their Christmas Jumpers on. We also had our very delicious Christmas Dinner made by the ladies in our kitchen.





To top off the festivities, at the end of the day, we held a Christmas cake sale - it was really busy and we thank you all for your generosity with the amazing donations.



Visit from the Elf on the Shelf

The children in KS1 & Y3 had a special visit from the Elf on the Shelf. He had a few hours in between being naughty to come in to school to surprise the children. They all took great pleasure in telling him off for all of the naughty antics he has got up to during the night in their houses. It was so adorable to see their little faces light up when he appeared in their classrooms.





iSing Pop

We had a fabulous day with iSing Pop, a community church group based in Sharston, who did singing workshops in all the key stages.

The children really enjoyed learning the poppy Christmas songs and the actions that went along with them.

EYFS Coffee Morning

Thank you to those parents who joined us at the EYFS coffee morning on Tuesday after the Bauble morning. It was lovely to see you having a chance to catch up with staff and other parents over a coffee and a mince pie. We had a Read write Inc stand and shared some information on how best to support children in Early Years. We hope you found the information useful.

Wellness Workshop

Huge thank you to Evelyn who runs our weekly Wellness Workshop on Wednesday mornings with our parents and carers. This is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together. These sessions are designed to support you, our valued parents and carers, in navigating the challenges of family life and personal wellbeing. Your engagement in these workshops truly enriches our school community. By prioritising your own wellbeing, you're better equipped to support your children's growth and learning journey. We believe that when families thrive, our children flourish. Thank you to all who participated. Your commitment to personal growth sets a powerful example for our children.

A message from Evelyn:

This term our focus has been Art Therapy and our project was to make a Compassionate Pom Pom Family, with the focus of being kind to yourself. We wanted to produce something that could be displayed throughout our school. The groups dedication kept growing, so much so, they started making them at home too. Each Pom Pom was unique, with a name to match their personality and their happy place was on their glittery disco disc.

The most important part of this group is to concentrate on the wellbeing of our parents and carers. The feedback on their wellness which was shared each week, was always positive and they were surprised by how much they enjoyed these mindful moments.







Intra-Schools Competition

Our recent intra-schools competition was a fantastic showcase of talent and sportsmanship, with each year group participating in their own exciting event. Year 3 took to the field for a thrilling hockey competition, demonstrating impressive skills and teamwork. Meanwhile, Year 4 showcased their cricket prowess, competing with great enthusiasm and precision. Year 5 joined the action with a fast-paced football tournament, where they displayed excellent determination and competitive spirit. Finally, Year 6 participated in an engaging lacrosse competition, showing off their agility and strategic thinking. It was a wonderful day filled with friendly competition, and everyone left with a sense of pride in their achievements.

Christmas in the Hive



This week in the Hive we have been reading The Christmasaurus by Tom Fletcher. The children had fun making their own dinosaur eggs out of paper mache!!

Attendance for the Term

This term, the whole school attendance is 92.6%.

Huge congratulations to the 82 pupils who have had 100% attendance for this first term.





Well done to the following classes for the highest attendance in their phase:

1RB-94.7%

3KH – 96.2%

5MP - 96%

House Points

Well done to all of our houses for an amazing amount of House Points.

This week, the winners were House Barnardo with 2,672, House Parks were a close second with 2,466 and just behind were House Frank with 2,319.

The totals for this half term were:

House parks: 19,138

House Barnardo: 18,555

House Frank: 17,397

Meaning... House Parks is the winner for autumn 2. They will have a reward on the first Friday back. Well done to everyone.

Holiday Club

We can confirm that our Holiday club will be running again in December, on the following dates ONLY:

- Monday 23rd December
- Friday 27th December
- Monday 30th December
- Tuesday 31st December
- Thursday 2nd January
- Friday 3rd January





If your child is aged 5 and over, you will need to go to the MCR Active website to register your child and to book spaces. If you click on find your activity and provider (Search for Newall Green Primary School) and select your preferred days.

If your child is under 5, unfortunately they are not eligible for the funded holiday club but we are still able to care for your children on those days but there is a charge of £20.00 per day, during the hours of 9.00am–2.00pm each day and this is booked on School Spider.

Spring 1 Clubs

The sports clubs have gone live for Spring 1 now. All clubs are booked through School Spider so please let us know if you have any issues with your account.

Spring	EYFS/KS1 <mark>3.15-4</mark>	KS2 <mark>3.15-4.15</mark>
Monday	KS1 multi skills	Basketball
Tuesday	K51 gymnastics	Dodgeball
Wednesday		Boys football
		Gymnastics
Thursday		Tag rugby
		Cross country running
Friday	EYFS motor skills	Girls football

In addition to Sports Clubs, we also have lots of other clubs available to book throughout the week; such as book clubs, craft clubs etc.

Please note, we return to school on **TUESDAY 7TH JANUARY 2025**.

I wish you all a wonderful Christmas break filled with warmth, joy, and precious moments with loved ones.

Sarah Rudd Executive Headteacher

