

Colnbrook C. of E. Primary School

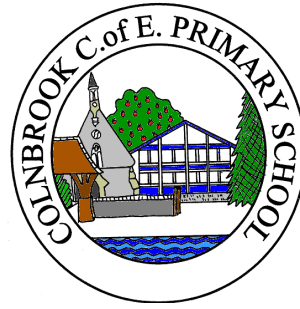
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Headteacher: Mr Tom Brunson B.A.(Hons), NPQH



Newsletter

13th December 2024

Be strong and courageous Joshua 1:9

Our focus value is: **Resilience**

A message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy week this week, with lots of festive events and activities taking place across the school. Children have found the Prayer Space sessions insightful, led by Reverend Patrick Samuels, especially when reflecting on our school values and the meaning of advent. There was great excitement about another special visitor in the grotto, who has managed to take time out of his busy schedule to listen to what children would like for Christmas. Our annual Christmas Fair was a great success this year with lots of fun games and prizes. Thank you to everyone involved, including staff setting up and running all the stall as well as parents supporting the school to raise money. We will be updating you soon about how we will be spending the money raised for our pupils.

Please note that parents should not be entering the school buildings or classrooms at the end of the day to collect children. We are fostering independence in our children and appreciate your support and cooperation.

Mrs A Bharj
Assistant Headteacher

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Worship Section

This week during collective worship, we have been exploring the theme of advent. Advent marks the beginning of the church year. Many Christians prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ. It is a time for reflection in darkness, for renewal of hope and movement towards a new beginning. Within many churches, there will be an Advent wreath which usually includes a circle of greenery with five candles. Each candle represents the four weeks counting down to Christmas day and symbolise the Christian concepts of hope, peace, joy and love.

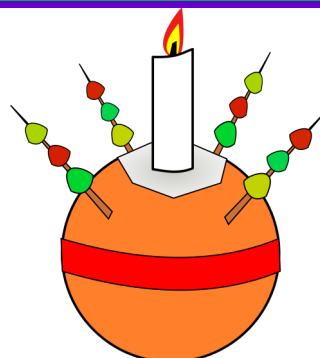


Attendance

Year 6	98.92%
Year 5	95.83%
Year 3	95.26%
Year 1	94.44%
Year 4	93.97%
Year 2	91.25%
Nursery AM	90.70%
Reception	90.00%
Nursery PM	79.55%

Church Section

Sunday 15th December - We would like to invite you all to our Christingle service at St Thomas this week at 4pm. Come and make your own Christingle and enjoy festive refreshments afterwards.



Star of the Week



Reception - Daria

Year 1 - Faith

Year 2 - Katie Rose

Year 3 - Aaryan

Year 4 - Ryan

Year 5 - Ellan

Year 6 - Fabiola

Well done to all the children that were awarded certificates this week. Keep up the good work!

Look what we have been up to



The Explorers and Discovery children were united in a hunt for 2D shapes around the school. They discovered a variety of triangles, squares and rectangles. They even spotted unusual shapes such as hexagon, pentagon and an octagon! Both groups enjoyed learning together despite the cold.



Year 1 have been exploring portraiture and the different ways to create a portrait. So far the children have used oil pastels and collage!



In Year 2 the children learnt the importance of each living thing in the food chain. We created our own food chains and identified which of the animals were predators and which were prey.



The week's Express Event for Year 3 was all things Stone Age. The children were able to showcase everything they have been learning through their topic books and their finished Bell Becker their inspired pots which they created during DT.



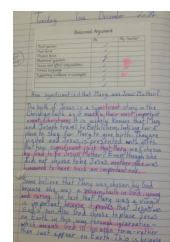
Year 4 also hosted their Express Event where parents and carers were invited to see what they have been learning this term. They showcased their knowledge of soundwaves, their English work based on the book 'Arthur and the Golden rope' and finally their mythical creatures they designed in Art.



Year 5 enjoyed finishing their art topic by completing their landscape drawings, using paintings along with their parents during the Express Event.



This term Year 6 have been exploring the question: How significant is it that Mary was Jesus mother? They have been looking carefully at bible extracts and art as well as discussing their own opinions. They then planned and wrote a balanced argument on the topic and came up with insightful reasons.



Christmas Events this week

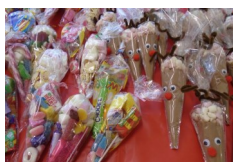
This week the PTA have been extremely busy bringing the Christmas cheer for all the children. Monday to Wednesday saw our conservatory turned into a Santa's Grotto where children were able to meet with Santa, check if they had been naughty or nice and receive a gift. This event raised £688.50.



This week Reverend Samuels took time to host sessions in our Prayer Shed. He spent time with the children discussing and sharing the story of The Nativity. This gave children time to reflect on the Christian meaning and values surrounding the story of Christmas.



Yesterday the whole school stepped into Christmas at our fair in the hall, which was bursting with Christmas cheer. The children enjoyed the games, activities and receiving prizes. This event raised **£920.60**. The PTA would like to say a huge thank you to the parents and carers for their continued support. All money raised throughout the year is used on sustainable projects, extra experiences for the children and to subsidise school trips for the whole school in 2025/26. We could not do it without our hard working PTA team but more so we could not do it without the support of parents and carers.



This morning Mrs Bharj and the staff hosted Christmas stories at Breakfast for parents and children. Tables were decorated in Christmas themed covers and there were plenty of comfortable seated options for the children to enjoy a wintery or festive themed story with an adult or peer. It was lovely to see so many children and parents reading together. Thank you to all that came.



Calendar dates

December diary dates	
18th December	Christmas lunch, class parties & Christmas jumper day - more details to follow
19th December	Nursery end of term 2:15-3pm - Christmas Service at St Thomas Church
20th December	End of term All children to be collected promptly at 1:15pm

January diary dates	
23rd December to 6th January 2025	Christmas break - school will be closed
7th January 2025	First day back for Reception to Year 6 children
8th January	Nursery opens
16th January	Year 5 Swimming lessons begin - 10 weeks course
21st January	Year 4 trip—Henley River & Rowing Museum
23rd January	Year 2 trip —Woolley Firs
24th January	9:00-9:30am - Year 4 Class Assembly—parents welcome
28th January	Year 6 trip - Eton College

February diary dates	
5th February	Year 3—Rocks & Fossils workshop
7th February	Reception—Zoolab
10th to 12th February	PTA Valentines Discos—more details to follow
13th February	End of term
14th February	INSET day - no school
17th to 21st February	February half term
24th February	School opens— all children in Nursery to Year 6
28th February	Year 3—Class Assembly - 9:00-9:30am—Parents