

Ordsall Primary School

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FROM THE HEADTEACHER

What a busy half term it has been with lots of festive activities taking place. A huge congratulations must go to the children and staff involved with performances to parents. It has been lovely having parents/carers and families in school to enjoy these at what is such a special time of the year for the children.

I would also like to extend my thanks for your amazing generosity with our Christmas hampers and the various fundraising that has taken place this term. Your support for the children and school never ceases to amaze me!

I hope you and your families manage to spend some quality time together during the Christmas holidays and I look forward to seeing everyone back on **Monday 6th January 2025**. Merry Christmas everyone!



REMEMBRANCE SERVICE



I am incredibly proud of our school councillors that took part in the Remembrance Service in town on Sunday 10th November. I have received some excellent feedback from members of the public about their behaviour and how they represented the school – well done!

“We can show racism the red card by learning about other people and trying to understand what it is like to be them.” Nathan.

“We should always be kind and friendly and work as a team.” Freddie.

We have also discussed the importance of speaking up and being upstanders – individuals who address bullying, support those treated unfairly and advocate for fairness and justice for everyone.

In addition, we have been reflecting on Remembrance and have explored how kindness to ourselves and others can have a significant impact. Together, we’ve considered the value of respecting others, celebrating differences and understanding what matters most to each of us.

Here are some pages from our assembly books.

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

As part of our DEIB (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging) themed assemblies, we have been sharing some wonderful stories.



Building on Anti-bullying Week and Black History Month, we have been learning how to Show Racism the Red Card. The children have shared some inspiring ideas about how we can all make a difference:



YEAR GROUP HIGHLIGHTS

NURSERY

In Nursery we have loved learning about lots of traditional tales, before thinking about the true meaning of Christmas. We had a great time making our own gingerbread men before taking them home to eat. We even had a visit from a cheeky gingerbread man who left a mess in our classroom!



RECEPTION

This term our Reception classes performed *a Wiggly Nativity* for parents, carers and families. The children worked hard learning their lines and many songs to perform on the stage in the hall. It was a wonderful performance enjoyed by all. Well done children!



YEAR 1

In Year 1 this half term we have been learning about our big question *What is it like where you live?* The children have learnt about where they live in Retford and what it looked like in the past. In science, we have been learning about different materials and their properties, and the children carried out an experiment to see which material



would be best to make a waterproof coat for Little Red Riding Hood.

YEAR 2

This term in Year 2, we have been investigating all about chocolate as part of our topic *How do you eat yours?* We have been discovering where chocolate comes from, how it is made and writing descriptive sentences about the fantastic world of Willy Wonka! Our highlight has to be our chocolate experience, examining the stages of chocolate production with a real chocolatier and creating our own delicious, sugary treats.



YEAR 3

Our topic has been *Bronze or Iron?* Where we have been learning about the periods of time following the Stone Age and the discovery of different metals and how they impacted life. We have also been developing our maker skills through our Design Technology and 'Tinker Time' sessions, resulting in us creating Christmas gift boxes.



YEAR 4

This term we have been focusing on Remembrance linked to our learning about the First World War. The children were praised by members of the public for their respectful attitudes at Remembrance Day parades and services. The children have enjoyed finding out about life in the trenches, World War Winnie (the bear who inspired the Winnie the Pooh series), songs which were sung during this era and women's roles during WWI.



YEAR 5

This term, Year 5 has studied the Vikings and linked the previous term's learning to the Anglo Saxons. Our Viking learning was topped off with our Viking Day, where all the children had the opportunity to dress as a Viking and experience food, games and daily jobs that the Vikings would have engaged with.



YEAR 6

Year 6 completed the DAaRT programme thanks to the help of Ms Carter. Over the 10 weeks, we learnt about knife crime, the effects of drugs and alcohol, what it means to be a good citizen, and skills needed to be an effective communicator. We finished our DAaRT work with a graduation which involved reading out pieces of our DAaRT reports and the children receiving a certificate.





STAYING SAFE OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

Each Wednesday on our Ordsall 'X' account we share posters, hunts and tips on everything and anything linked to online safety in primary schools. Please see the attached poster on helping everyone to stay safe over the festive period.

Click the picture to be taken to the #WakeUpWednesday website where you will be able to explore their full collection of guides.



ORDSALL'S LOVE OF READING

We have launched a new and exciting 'Reading Ambassador' initiative at school, aimed at children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. From January, each class in these year groups will have a Reading Ambassador, whose role will be to promote the love of reading. The successful applicants will be announced in due course!

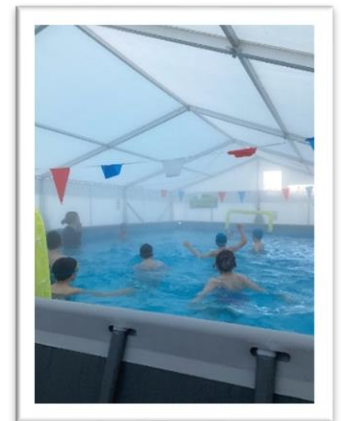
MP CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Last month, children in Bassetlaw were invited to enter Jo White MP's Christmas card competition, with the winning card being used as Jo's official Christmas card which will be sent to fellow members of parliament, the Prime Minister and the King. We received a visit from Jo White as she wanted to present the winning entry with a prize. After receiving hundreds of entries, Jo chose the card designed by our very own Hattie as the winning entry. Well done, Hattie!



ENRICHMENT AT ORDSALL

Our November enrichment provision had a very exciting addition with the on site swimming pool providing an opportunity for after school swimming lessons and a water polo club, delivered by Next Level Sports. Children in years 4, 5 and 6 had lots of fun learning the skills of water polo and they were hugely competitive when playing a match, with their excitement echoing way beyond the tent!



Some of our children had the fantastic opportunity of performing in *Simply Abba* at the Majestic Theatre on Saturday 7th December. Well done children and a huge thank you to our amazing staff that accompanied the children!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The raffle winners for the autumn term have been drawn. A huge congratulations to our winners and we hope you enjoy spending your Love2Shop vouchers and using your book tokens!



Please remember to contact school by 9.30am if your child is not going to be in school to avoid it becoming an unauthorised absence.

