



HEAD TEACHERS' NEWS

NOVEMBER 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

So much has happened during November! We began the month with a fantastic FOAS disco, which every child thoroughly enjoyed. A huge thank you to Mr Staniland for his brilliant DJ skills and to all those who volunteered—the children were absolutely buzzing.

We also welcomed families to our final open morning for the 2026 EYFS cohort. The event was incredibly well attended by an amazing 16 families. Our Year 6 Young Leaders did a superb job guiding prospective parents around the school. I felt immensely proud watching them—so confident, so articulate, and such excellent ambassadors for our community.

Our Acorn children were equally impressive, showing such warmth and kindness to the visiting pre-schoolers. Many offered to play with them, took them by the hand, and helped them feel welcome. It was a beautiful reminder of the nurturing, thoughtful environment we strive to create every day.

School Choir at Wells Cathedral

The school choir had the incredible opportunity to perform at Wells Cathedral on 20th November. In the weeks leading up to the event, Mrs Roberts, with support from Armonico, worked with our choir to prepare for a special performance of *The Armed Man* by Karl Jenkins. We are so grateful to everyone who supported our children and to Mrs Roberts for her expertise and dedication in leading them.

Christmas season has begun

It has been a wonderfully busy and exciting time in school as we move into the festive season. The children have been working incredibly hard on their assessments, showing great determination and enthusiasm. We are very proud of the progress they are making.

Alongside this important learning, the school is also buzzing with rehearsals for our Christmas performances. The songs, actions, and lines are coming together beautifully, and we cannot wait to share these special moments with you next week.

FOAS Christmas Fayre

Last Friday's FOAS Christmas Fayre was simply wonderful. We were thrilled to see so many families join us, and we are truly grateful for your support in making the event such a success. The new lantern-lit pathway leading to Father Christmas in our forest area created a magical, enchanting atmosphere, and the addition of s'mores made the children's visit to Santa even more unforgettable!

A huge thank you to our fabulous school choir, led by Mrs Roberts and to Kelly Dale for her sensational singing, which added sparkle and joy to the event. Thank you also to FOAS and every volunteer who gave their time, energy, and creativity to make the fayre so special.

Christingle

Today, we came together for our Christingle Service in the school hall, a truly special moment in our school calendar. Rev. Coelette reminded the children of the symbolism of the orange and the Christingle, reflecting on the "light of the world." The children sang beautifully, and our young leaders guided a deeply moving moment as the Christingles were lit.

As always, we are grateful for your continued support during this busy time of year, and I look forward to seeing many of you at our Christmas performances next week.

Best wishes,

Mrs Bowditch



ACORN NEWS

NOVEMBER 2025

Acorns have had an exciting month; we have continued to explore the 'Countdown to Winter.' We looked at hibernation and conducted a science experiment with hot water bottles. We placed one into 'hibernation' and the other was placed outside, and we discovered how the temperature changed as time passed.

In Maths, we have explored 2D shapes and how we can describe them. We have also looked at part-whole models and how we can use them to support our learning on number bonds.



In Drawing Club, we have looked at Bagpuss, The Pink Panther and Mr Gumpy's car. The children have been working hard on their blending and applying their phonic knowledge to their writing. Thank you for all the support and work you are doing at home.

We were thrilled to visit Montacute Baptist Church, where we enjoyed an afternoon filled with stories, a live retelling of the Kings' journey to Bethlehem, Christmas crafts, and even a biscuit! A huge thank you to the church for giving our children such an exciting start to the Christmas celebration



In the new year we will be starting our learning on **'People who Help Us.'** Previous visitors who have supported us in this topic, include the police, military, post service, hospital staff, vets, farmers and fire service. If you or someone you know, would like to visit the school, please do email the school office.

The children may have mentioned that Acorn class have earned lots of merit awards, we earn these as a class, when we get to 25 we can vote on a treat! We only have three left to get!

Looking forward to seeing you all on Friday 5th December at 2pm for the nativity. **Please remember that the Nativity will now take place in the School Hall.**

Kind regards

Mrs Sullivan and the Acorn Team



CLASS 1 NEWS

NOVEMBER 2025



Maths- In maths this month, Class 1 have worked on addition and subtraction using number lines and then by applying number bond knowledge to find answers more efficiently.



In the past 2 weeks, we have been learning how to create and count **equal groups**, skip count by 2, 5, and 10 forwards then backwards. We started exploring how to build arrays in columns and rows to represent multiplication facts (within the 2, 5, and 10x tables).

English (Writing) - Who is Professor Klunk? Who are Noodle and Titch, and what do they help us remember? Who or what is the Greap?



In English this month, we have launched 'Curious Quests' in Year 1! This is a follow on approach to learning which is all hinged around children's imaginations and interests, using 1 book per week as a hook. Class 1 met some new characters during Context Week, and each

week since have received a 'quest' from Professor Klunk'.

Class 1 work on and demonstrate written skills to help Professor Klunk with their 'Great Big Story Dream Machine'.

During November we enjoyed the books; 'Oi, Frog!' and 'Pog'.

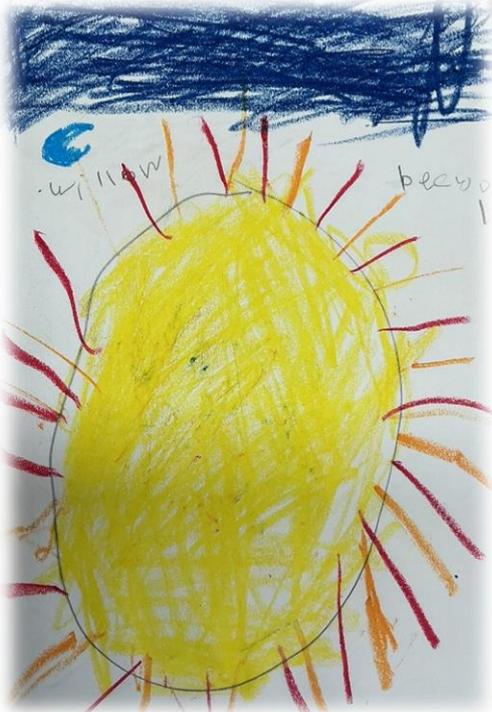
We have practised using adjectives and linking our writing skills across the wider curriculum, enabling children to write about their learning and experiences.



R.E. In R.E. this month we have completed our learning journey all about the Jewish/Cristian Creation Story (from Genesis). Children created some beautiful artwork with oil pastels to represent their favourite part of the story.

WOW Days

Thank you to our parent/carers and other volunteers who have generously given up time to support Year 1 on our walking outings in the village this month, without you supporting us we would not be able to make these meaningful memories outside our school site. In our most recent visit, Year 1 presented their poppy artwork to St. Catherine's Church, followed by a thoughtful discussion about what being thankful looks like for different people.



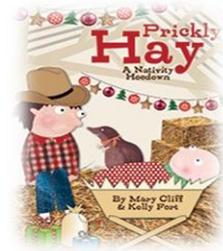


CLASS 2 NEWS NOVEMBER 2025

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Praise and Share – we loved telling you all about the exciting things we've been learning.



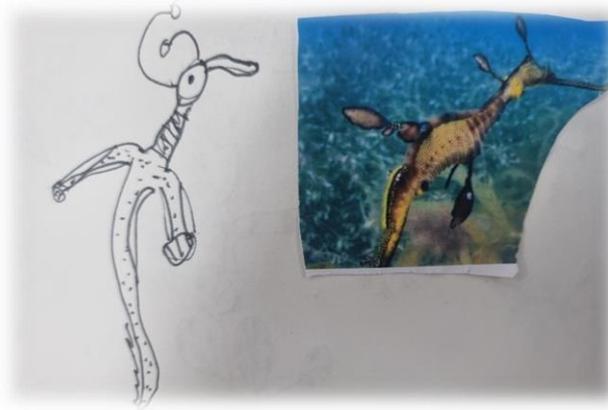
Since then, we've been busy rehearsing for our Christmas play and are looking forward to performing for you in just a few weeks' time!



In Art, we've started an exciting new unit on mono printing using carbon paper.

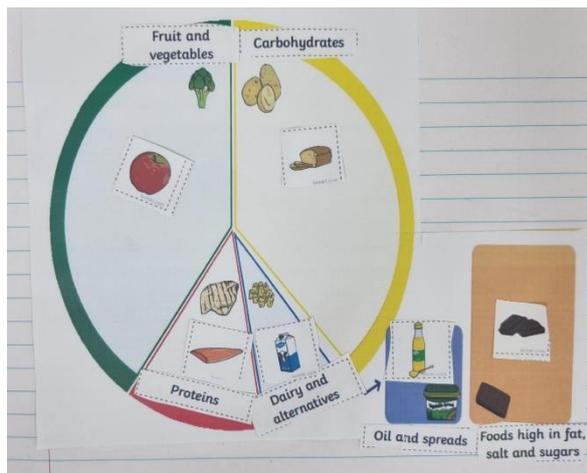
Our work began with some careful observation of images from a David Attenborough film. We then used fine lines to recreate these images, paying close attention to detail. The children have really enjoyed experimenting with this technique and seeing their designs come to life!





Our Science unit has now come to an end.

We've loved learning all about what keeps us healthy, and the children can now recall lots of fascinating facts and information about how to look after themselves. It's been wonderful to see their understanding grow throughout this topic!



My resting pulse rate = 64 bpm
 My post exercise pulse rate = 76 bpm
 When I was exercising I felt Hot and sweaty

+2 Remember two things – show what you know

a butterfly's lifecycle ✓
 in ~~the~~ ^{on} the best so second to last water project we find ✓
 absorb ✓

Water
 tap
 bath
 Hugo
 towel
 absorb



CLASS 3 NEWS

NOVEMBER 2025

We had a fantastic trip to Carymoor Environmental Centre to take part in a Stone Age Day. We dressed up in animal skins and took part in lots of activities including handling Stone Age artifacts, learning how to start a fire, taking part in a hunter-gatherer game, visiting a round house and orienteering. I think one of the parts we all enjoyed most was den building. It was very funny when Kate, our group leader, tested to see if they were waterproof in a storm!



The children have also finished designing and making our healthy couscous dish. Thank you so much for supporting us by bringing in all the ingredients to help us. The children absolutely loved this unit and were very articulate about food hygiene and safety in the kitchen.



In Science, we have begun a new topic **Animals including Humans**. We have explored the important role that a good diet and healthy lifestyle can play on our growing bodies. This made some great links to our DT work.



We would like to remind you that all class 3 children can access their weekly spellings via their Spelling shed logins which are stuck in the front of their reading record book. There are lots of interactive games to play. Thank you to those who are already using this resource and hope you are finding it helpful and fun. Please let us know if you are struggling with accessing Edshed.

Rehearsals for our Christmas play **Lights Camel Action 2!** are fully underway. Children in Class 3 and 4 are practising hard to learn the songs and are looking Forward to performing to an audience.



CLASS 4 NEWS

NOVEMBER 2025

What a busy and exciting term it has been in Year 4! We are thrilled to share some of the wonderful learning and activities your children have been engaged in.

English

This term, we have been exploring **non-fiction genres**. The children have enjoyed writing **explanation texts**, learning how to clearly describe processes and ideas using causal and time conjunctions. A particular highlight was creating **step-by-step instructions on how to make a jam sandwich**—a fun way to practise sequencing and using imperative verbs! We learnt instruction writing needs to be very specific – especially when writing for the Class 4 team!



Science

In Science, we've delved deeper into the fascinating **digestive system**. The children have learned about the journey food takes through our bodies and the important roles of different organs. They have been full of questions and curiosity—future scientists in the making!

French

Our French lessons have been lively and engaging. The children have been practising numbers, ask and tell the time and simple phrases, building confidence in speaking and listening.

PE and Performing Arts

We are busy rehearsing for our **Christmas play**, and the excitement is building! The children have shown great teamwork and creativity in preparing their roles. In PE, we've been working on a warrior **dance routine**, combining rhythm and movement—lots of energy and smiles all around!

Looking Ahead

As we approach the end of term, we look forward to sharing our Christmas performance with you. Thank you for your continued support in helping the children learn and grow.

Warm wishes,

The Year 4 Team



CLASS 5 NEWS

NOVEMBER 2025

November has been another exciting and productive month for Class 5!

As part of their Musical Theatre unit, the children visited Stanchester Academy to watch a fantastic performance of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. This experience gave them a wonderful insight into stagecraft, characterisation and the magic of live performance!



In English, the children have been exploring poetry. They have studied a variety of poetic features and techniques and have written their own poems. This included some imaginative nonsense poetry inspired by Jabberwocky!



"THE JABBERWOCK, WITH EYES OF FLAME."
— FROM "JABBERWOCKY" BY LEWIS CARROLL.

In Maths, Class 5 have been developing their understanding of area and furthering their work on geometry by investigating different types of angles and how to find missing angles.

Our Geography work has continued with our South America topic, where the children have been learning about time zones and discussing the lives and challenges faced by street children in different countries across the continent.



Finally, in PE the children have enjoyed taking part in tag rugby, building their teamwork, agility and strategic thinking.

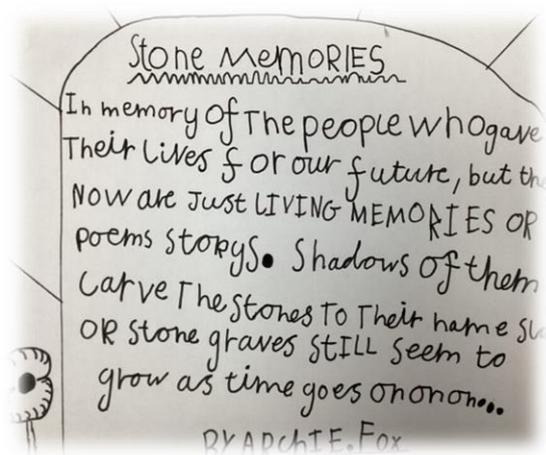


CLASS 6 NEWS NOVEMBER 2025

Since coming back from half term, Year 6 have continued to work hard. Our history topic has continued and we were lucky to have a visit from Mrs Inkelaar who was able to talk about life in Holland during the war and how Jews were hidden by the Dutch including a personal story that she recounted.

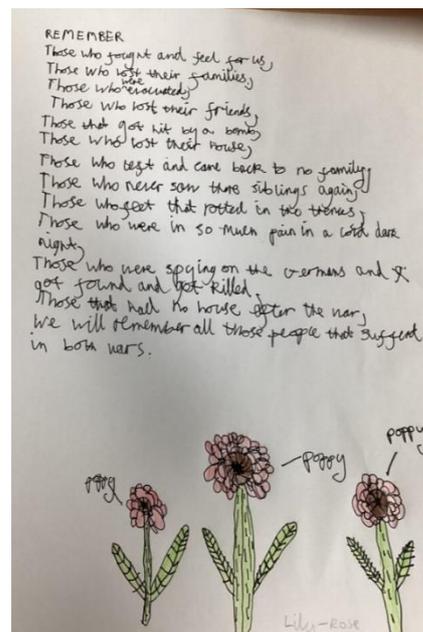
As part of our English, we have continued our history theme by writing biographies about significant figures during WW2. We learnt about Anne Frank and Noor Inayat Khan and legacies.

We were also lucky to welcome Mrs Hopkins into class, where she helped us compose our own poems based on Remembrance. The poems ranged from gentle memories of the past to poignant thoughts of war.

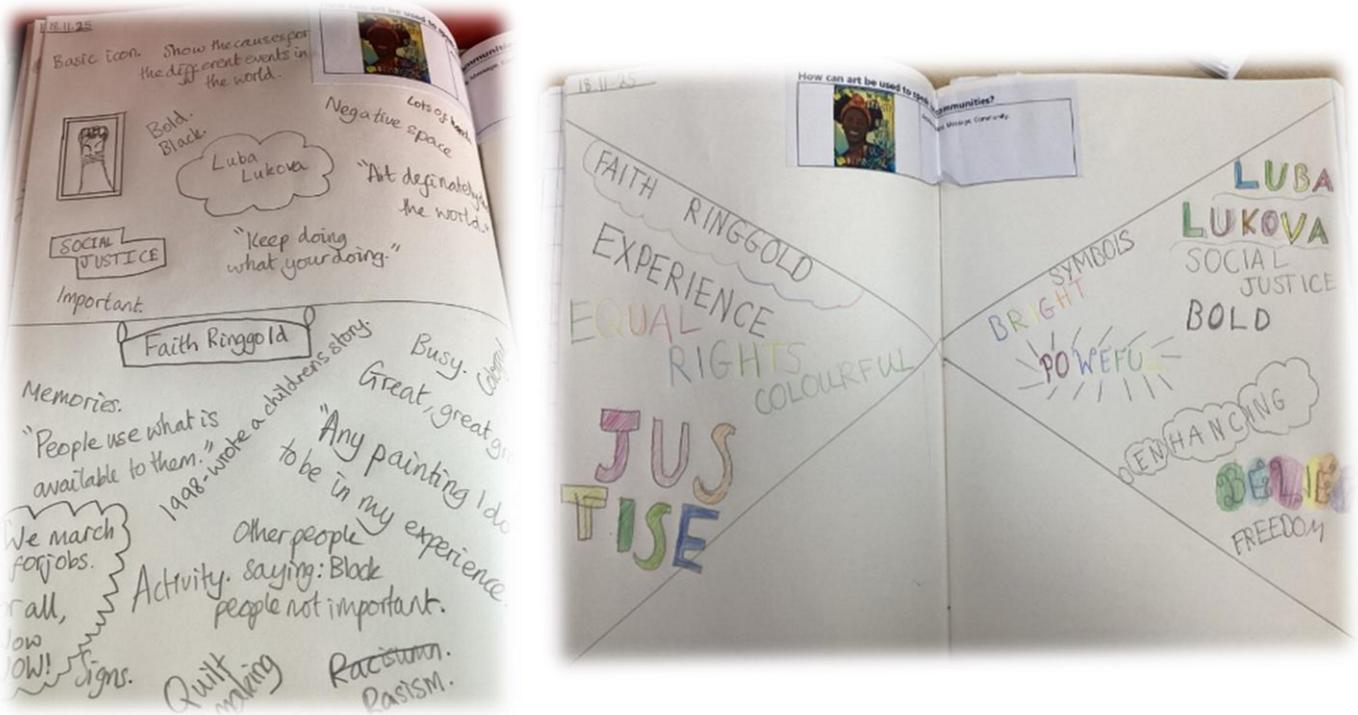


FADING

Fading away to fast to quick it's all
going down hill
Every day I regret, I scroved her.
Time is fading, fading faster and
faster.
I wish I could turn back time to
the good days
Do I miss the times or do I miss
what was in it?



Art has focused on Activism and how art can portray our views. Two of the artists we have focused on are Luba Lukova and Faith Ringgold. We looked at the messages they conveyed and how they used colour and images to portray this.



Our new science topic is light and we have begun to look at what a shadow is and how we know that light travels in straight lines. Over the next few weeks, we will begin to look at how light can be split and what a reflection is.

Finally, amongst all this, we are now fully immersed in preparations for our Christmas production. The children have embraced the challenge with enthusiasm—learning their lines, perfecting songs, and even contributing to the creation of dances and props. Their creativity and teamwork are shining through, and it's wonderful to see their confidence grow day by day.