



HEAD TEACHERS' NEWS

DECEMBER 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

December has been a month full of excitement and time for reflection.

The Christmas plays have been truly wonderful this year. We began with our Acorn Nativity. Although, due to the weather, it could not be held at St Catherine's this year, the children retold the Nativity story beautifully. It is one of my favourite times of the year when our Acorn children delight us with their singing and acting at such a young age — truly heart-warming and full of festive spirit.

Year 1 & 2 shared their musical, 'Prickly Hay', with us all — a tale of friendship and teamwork. All the children were fabulous, speaking clearly, singing beautifully, and delivering performances that were clearly well-rehearsed.

Years 3 & 4 performed 'Lights, Camel, Action, The Sequin'. Building on the success of last year's play, we were treated to fantastic songs, impressive dances, and plenty of laughter thanks to some delightfully entertaining judges. Congratulations to all the children for their hard work and brilliant performances!

Years 5 & 6 brought to life the story of 'When Sasha Got Swept Up The Chimney'.

This truly was a magical Christmas musical, following a young orphan named Sasha on an adventurous journey to the North Pole after being swept up a chimney.

The energy in the hall was electric, and the children were determined to put on their very best show — and they absolutely did! The comic timing was spot on, the character portrayals were excellent, and the teamwork throughout created a wonderful sense of fun, enthusiasm, and entertainment at its very best.

Thank you to the children for starting our Christmas off with such sparkle. It has been a joy to see you shine on stage.

Our Reindeer Run in support of St Margaret's Charity was a huge success, raising an amazing total — thank you to everyone who contributed so generously. A special thank you to the Cross Country Team for organising the event and bringing so much sparkle to the run, particularly Miss Harrup and Mrs Bell. We are also very grateful to the parents of our cross-country members who helped to marshal the route and cheer the children on. We loved the fancy dress, the cheers and support as we all ran around.

FOAS gifts

On Wednesday 17th December, Santa's helper visited all our classes with gifts for the children from our wonderful FOAS. Children and teachers had sent their wish lists in advance, giving Santa's helper plenty of notice! Thank you VERY much.

As we come to the end of another busy and successful term, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our All Saints families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support throughout the term. Your involvement, encouragement, and kind words make a difference to our school community.

I hope you all enjoy a peaceful, joyful, and safe Christmas holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New year.

Best wishes

Mrs Bowditch

Montacute House Sings

Christmas 2025



All Saints Church School Choir were thrilled to take part in *Montacute House Sings* this autumn.

The children loved performing their Christmas songs and felt part of something truly special.



The magic of Christmas will be audible at Montacute House this winter, with traditional carols being heard around the grounds. An all-new festive experience places local community choirs and traditional carols at the heart of Christmas with Montacute House Sings, which is running from 29 November to 1 January (except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day).



[Christmas](#) | [Montacute House](#) | [Somerset](#) | [National Trust](#)

FOAS LATEST NEWS
DECEMBER 2025

FOAS Christmas Fundraising Totals

A big thank you from FOAS for your support with our fundraising this term. We are very pleased to announce the following profits were made:

Christmas Cards - £509

Christmas Raffle- £732

Christmas Fair - £1272 (provisional figure as awaiting contribution from outside providers).

Total: £2513!

A great start to this year's fundraising.

We were very happy this week to be able to provide Christmas gifts for each class chosen by the teachers and crackers for Christmas lunch.

The children enjoyed unwrapping the the gifts which were delivered by Father Christmas and ranged from exciting new books to trainsets and games.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

FOAS



ACORN NEWS DECEMBER 2025

What a busy and exciting month we have had in Acorns! We are incredibly proud of the children for giving us such a wonderful performance of the Nativity story. Their personalities and characters truly shone through, making it a fun, confident, and memorable performance for everyone to enjoy.



In Maths we have been using shapes for a purpose to create an image of Christmas.





In literacy we have been looking at the Jolly Christmas Postman and retelling key parts of the story.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Acorn Team.



CLASS 1 NEWS

DECEMBER 2025

Maths

In maths this month, Class 1 have worked on skip counting in multiples of 2, 5, and 10, to and from 100. Following this, they enjoyed exploring, naming, organising, and sorting 2D shapes according to their properties and then applied this knowledge to create some winter artwork.

English (Writing)



In English this month, we have enjoyed our Curious Quests, exploring how to calm down an angry ogre (Ossiri and the Bala Mengro), and how it might feel to lose a special toy (Dogger). Children have been learning to aim for 'personal best' progress. Part of this has been a discussion with myself about their targets to help them their own quests - to become more confident writers!

R.E.

In R.E. this month we have learnt about Christmas celebrations, and why Christmas is important to Christians around the world. We explored the Christmas Story according to Luke, and learnt that the Three Wise Men did not arrive until much later!

History

In this history topic we have been learning about how toys have changed through time. We began by talking about our our favourite toys, and the toys our parents and carers played with. We talked about the similarities and differences, and what older toys commonly made from, linking to our everyday materials learning in Science last half term. We applied our DT skills to create a toy!





WOW Days

Thank you to our parent/carers and other volunteers who have sent in costumes and practiced words or songs at home. The Prickly Hay Christmas show was fantastic, and we were very proud of all the children during the afternoon and evening performances!

On a personal note, thank you so very much for the cards, gifts, and well wishes shared with myself and the Class 1 staff team. We are very grateful for your thoughts. I wish you and your families a Christmas break sprinkled with laughter, joy, peace, and a little bit of festive magic too.



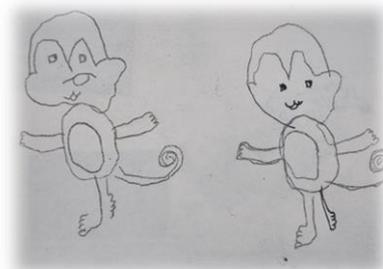
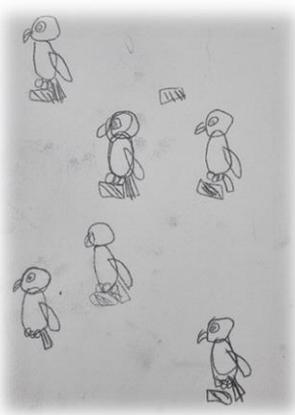
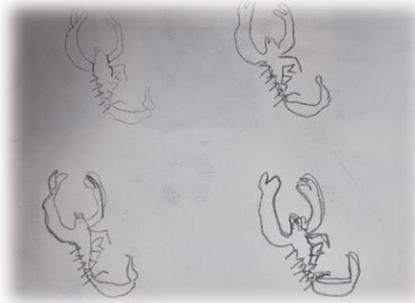
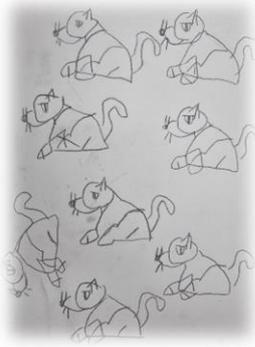
CLASS 2 NEWS

DECEMBER 2025

Wow! What a fantastic performance by Classes 1 and 2 in *Prickly Hay!* We were so proud of Class 2 for learning all their lines and performing with such confidence on stage. The songs will stay with us throughout this festive season!

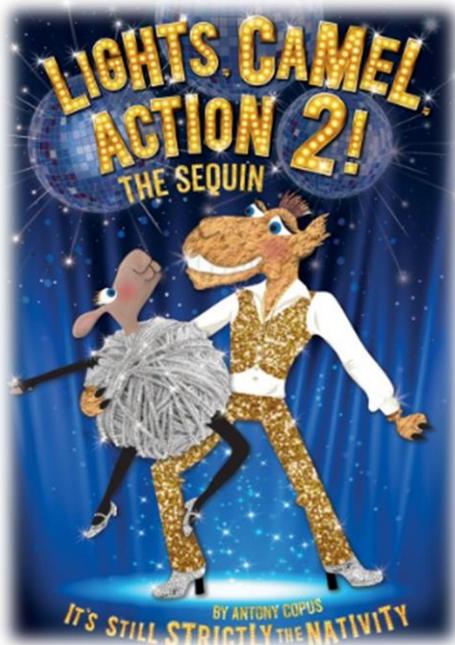


In our art , we have worked on our final products using the monoprint technique and carbon paper. After learning how lines can add detail and to look closely at the details within an image, we drew our own animals and used carbon paper to create a monoprint. We were very proud of our finished results.





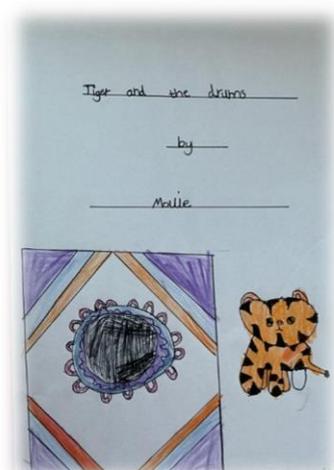
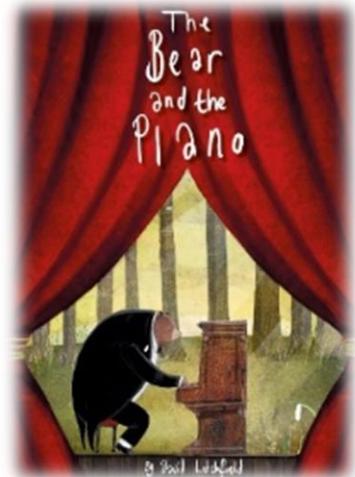
CLASS 3 NEWS DECEMBER 2025



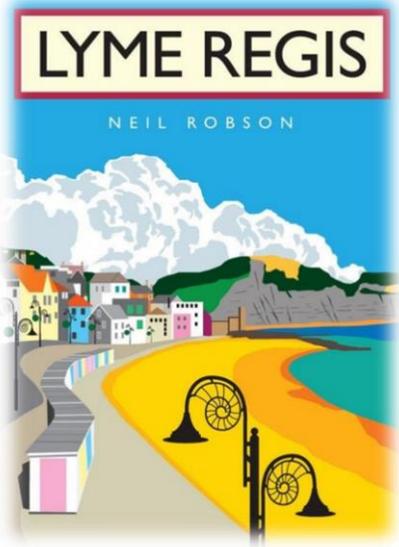
The children worked incredibly hard to learn all of the songs and dance moves, and they truly showed that they have what it takes to shine on stage. Performing with real pizzazz, style and flair, they captivated the audience from start to finish. What a fantastic performance by the class 3.

We are so proud of them all!

In English the children have thoroughly enjoyed creating and adapting the heart-warming story *The Bear and the Piano*, carefully including lots of rich, descriptive language. They were so proud of their work that they asked to publish their stories in a special book to share and celebrate their achievements.



In Art we created some stunning collage pictures from collage to replicate this print of Lyme Regis. If you look closely, you can see where we added our own monoprints on top.



French

We have enjoyed learning a catchy French song to get us into the Christmas mood and have learnt many new words and phrases.

We are certain they will enjoy singing it to you at home -

To the tune of Jingle bells!

Joyeux Noel from Class 3 team!

Vive le vent



Vive le vent

Vive le vent

Vive le vent d'hiver

Qui s'en va

Sifflant, soufflant

Dans les grands sapins verts



Vive le vent

Vive le vent

Vive le temps d'hiver

Boules de neige

Et jour de l'an

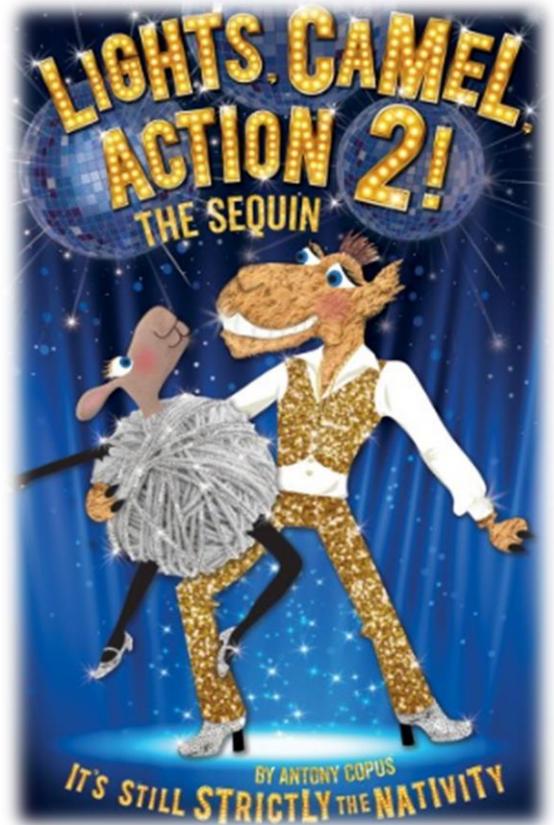
Et bonne année, grand-mère !



CLASS 4 NEWS

DECEMBER 2025

I wonder if you are still humming some of the tunes from our Christmas show as I am! Thank you for supporting your amazing and talented children; listening to songs on repeat so children can learn the songs, practising lines and providing beautiful costumes – the hard work paid off as the children were super stars!



As we wrap up this term, we'd like to share some of the exciting learning experiences your children have been engaged in.

English

This term, we have been reading 'Coming Home' by Michael Morpurgo exploring its themes and language. Inspired by this, the children have written and illustrated their own poems using a variety of language features. These creative pieces have been compiled into a special class poetry collection for the school library.

Science

Our focus has been on **food chains**, learning how energy flows through different organisms and the importance of each link in maintaining balance in nature.

Mathematics

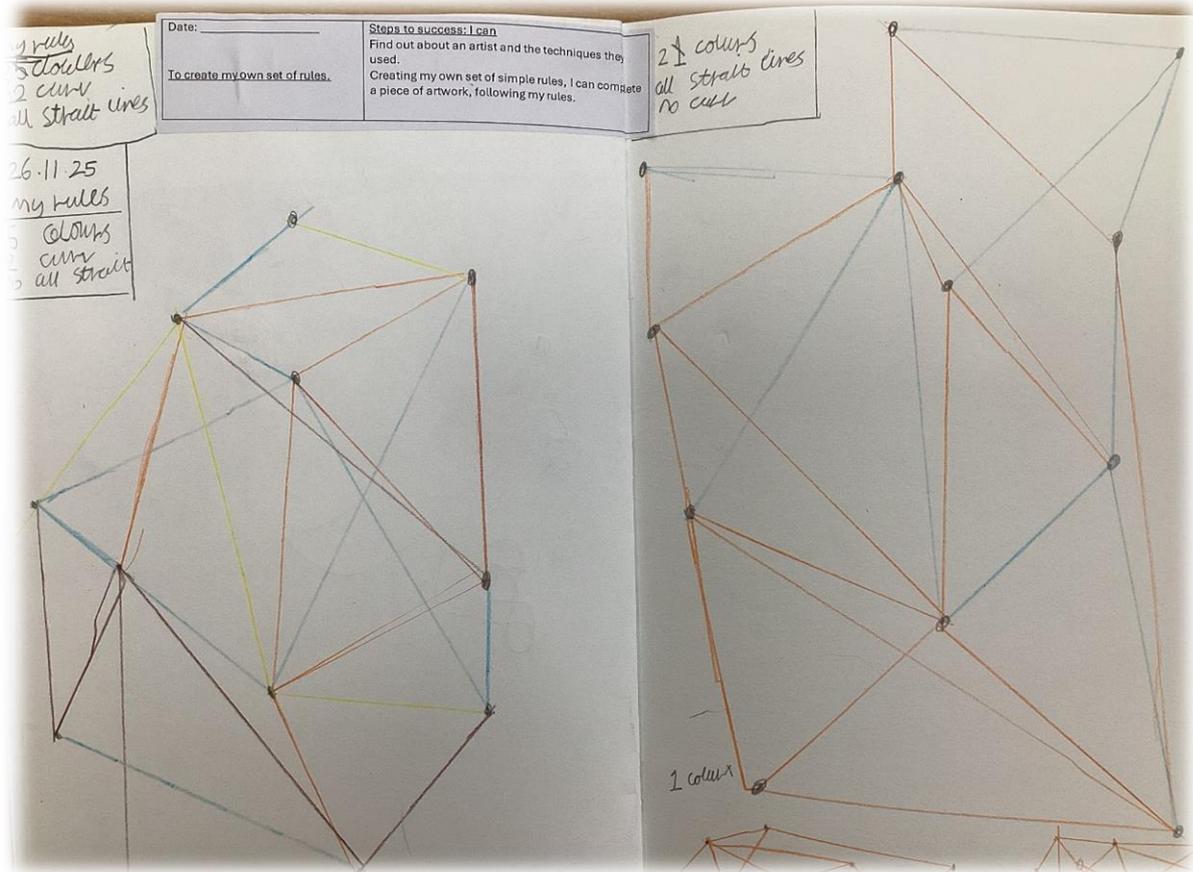
In maths, we have been working on **ordering fractions**, as well as **adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator**. Also, we have introduced short multiplication, and division. The children have shown great progress in understanding these tricky concepts.

French

To celebrate the festive season, we have learned French words and phrases to create beautiful **Christmas cards**, combining language learning with creativity.

Art

Our art project this term has been Exploring Pattern, where we studied the work of Gillian Adair McFarland and created our own patterns using pencils to make small holes and indentations in the paper. This enabled us to make sensory patterns, playing with shapes, patterns and textures. We went on to learn about the work of Shaheen Ahmed and create work involving rules and resolutions.



Date: 05/11/2020

Steps to success: 1. Sit

To experience the mindful process of creating different textures.

relax into making a sensory drawing using a pencil, making marks on the page without having a predefined outcome.



Looking Ahead

Thank you for your continued support throughout the term. We wish you and your families a joyful holiday season and look forward to an exciting new term ahead when our topic will be Dragons, Legends and Myths.

Warm wishes,

The Year 4 Team



CLASS 5 NEWS DECEMBER 2025

Class 5 have had a wonderfully busy and festive end to the term! They have taken part in lots of Christmas-themed activities, including making traditional Christingles and enthusiastically joining in with the Reindeer Run.



The highlight for many was their Christmas play, which was truly phenomenal. We are incredibly proud of the effort they put into every rehearsal and performance!



In English, the children have been exploring explanation texts through Wallace and Gromit's Autochef machine. Inspired by this, they designed their own imaginative inventions and wrote explanation texts to describe how their creations work.



In Science, Class 5 have started a new topic on forces. They have investigated friction and air resistance through practical experiments and thoughtful discussion.

The children also had an exciting visit from Leonardo, who told them all about their work. They were given a real-life scenario and worked in teams to design a helicopter best suited to the task. They carefully considered cost, explored different design options and discussed the strengths and weaknesses of each choice. To finish, they cut out paper rotors and tested how they flew using the wind table, linking perfectly to their learning about air resistance.



In Art, the children have experimented with a range of mark-making techniques and combined paint and collage to create expressive and creative artwork inspired by the poem 'Ghost in the Garden.'

Exciting news- Class 5 won a competition to name the new outdoor education venue at Ham Hill. The winning name was Ham Hill Hub. Congratulations Class 5!

Well done to Class 5 for a fantastic, festive and hard-working term!

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas!



CLASS 6 NEWS DECEMBER 2025

Art Project: Activism Through Creativity

This term, our young artists have been exploring the power of art as a tool for change. The children have been challenged to think deeply about important messages that could make the world a better place. Using mixed media techniques and paying close attention to typography, they have created striking pieces that combine words and visuals to inspire action. From environmental awareness to equality campaigns, their work shows how creativity can spark conversations and influence positive change.





School Performance: A Sparkling Success

Last week's school performance was truly magical and we are so proud of all the children in year 5 and 6 who stepped up to the challenge of putting on a play in just a few weeks. Every child shone like a star—their energy, confidence, and teamwork were incredible, and they brought the story to life with such enthusiasm. It was a joy to see them sparkle on stage—what a wonderful celebration of talent and hard work!





Wishing you all a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year! We will see you all in 2026!

Mrs Holt and the Year 6 team