



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of a challenging term but it is important that we take time to reflect on the many positive elements of the term. We are pleased with the progress the children are making and we can see the positive impact of the changes we have made in Phonics based on our work with the Roade English hub. Our Reading Incentive continues to be popular and there is still such a buzz about reading which is amazing!

Our subject leaders have been working hard on refining our curriculum and our recent book looks show that there is consistency across the curriculum and children are learning and remembering more. This year I have also noticed children taking pride in their work and they are eager to share their learning with all visitors who enter the classroom.

We have worked hard on improving our communication with parents and are pleased with the positive comments we have received around Class Dojo. I hope this continues to be useful. We know that there is more we can do to improve communication and we will be looking at making further improvements in the Spring term following feedback from parents and staff. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for their hard work during this very challenging term.

I hope you have an enjoyable Christmas break and I look forward to seeing you in 2024

Take Care,
Mrs Holmes



This year we are pleased to be working with the Roade English Hub. The hub has a team of literacy specialists who work directly with the leadership and teaching teams to maximise progress in Phonics. Following our work this term we are already seeing an impact. Teacher confidence with the Rocket Phonics scheme has improved and staff are using recommended strategies with skill to accelerate progress. We will continue to work with the hub next year and hope to be able to offer an open session for you to be part of a phonics lesson.



Thank you to our parents' association for their support this term.

- The bake sale raised an amazing £426. Thank you to all those who baked, bought and volunteered to make this event so successful.
- The children loved the Christmas disco and had some very impressive dance moves.
- Thank you for organising the bauble competition and providing the children with an opportunity to be creative.

The money raised will be used to support important projects within school.



Lighting the hearts & minds of our community

Knighton Tree Festival

Once again, we participated in the Christmas tree festival at St Mary's Church. The theme for our tree was 'The united colours of Overdale'. Each year group decorated a bauble related to their class colour and this represented how we work together as one team. We were pleased to be able to participate in this community event and many of our families enjoyed visiting the Church to see our tree and the other trees that were part of the festival.



Dates for your diary

Friday 22 nd December	School closes
Tuesday 9 th January	Children return to school
Wednesday 17 th January	Reading open sessions begin – every Wednesday at 2:50pm
Tuesday 23 rd January	Routes to Resilience Parent Open session – 9:15am
Friday 2 nd February	NSPCC Number Day
Tuesday 13 th February and Thursday 15 th February	Parents Evenings
Friday 16 th February	Coffee Morning for parents and carers End of term

Class assemblies

Friday 19 th January	Indigo Class
Friday 26 th January	Violet Class
Friday 2 nd February	Blue Class
Friday 9 th February	Rainbow 1
Friday 1 st March	Rainbow 2
Friday 8 th March	Rainbow 3

Community Spotlight

We would like to thank members of our community for their support this term.



Thank you Igor and the team from ZigZag photography for going above and beyond and helping us create something special to remember a much loved pupil.



Thank you Reverend Adrian Jones for making us feel very welcome in St Mary's Church. Attending Church on the last day of term is one of our highlights of the year!

Half term Highlights from our KS1 children

English – writing different versions of 'The Snowman' and creating our own characters.

Maths – Learning about faces and vertices when looking at shapes.

English – writing a letter to Santa.

Phonics – completing the activities and learning new sounds.

Science – learning about animals.

Maths – Learning my number bonds to 10.

English – Writing about 'The girl who stole the stars'

Respect

Resilience

Responsibility