

## Executive Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers

This week has been filled with festive joy across the whole school. We began with 2 wonderful Christmas lunches, enjoyed by pupils and staff alike. The hall was filled with music, laughter, and plenty of smiles as everyone tucked into their meals. We received so many lovely comments. A huge thank you to Kealley and Rachel in the kitchen for preparing such delicious meals.

We were also delighted to receive warm feedback from members of the village about our Year 3 and 4 children's carol singing. It's lovely to know that their voices helped spread Christmas spirit throughout the community.

Our week continued with two magical Christmas plays. On Thursday, our EYFS and Nursery children performed Snowman at Sunset. They looked wonderful in their costumes and sang beautifully. A special thank you to Mrs Rowcliffe for making the costumes — they were a perfect finishing touch and helped bring the story to life.

To end the week, Key Stage 1 impressed us all with their production of A Christmas Rose. Thank you to Mrs Keast, Mrs Roberts and the Key Stage 1 team for their hardwork in the last few weeks. The children's singing, speaking, and dancing were fantastic, and it was clear how much effort the children and staff put into the performance.

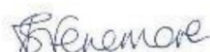
Both shows were truly magical to watch.

Thank you all so much for your continued support throughout this busy and exciting term. We are very much looking forward to the upcoming Carol Service, Christmas games Day and Christmas Parties next week.

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards

Mrs V Fenemore





# Diary dates

## Upcoming week



Week beginning: 15.12.25

### Weekly deadlines

- Lunch deadline – midnight the day before
- All sorts – **3pm Friday** before (call admin to make short notice changes)
- Early birds – **3pm Friday** before (call admin to make short notice changes)
- Bus changes – 2.30pm to email each day, phone after this time.
- Gate opens 08.45-08.55 each day.

Email [admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk) to make changes.

**Christmas jumpers everyday**

### Monday

- Christmas games
- Year 1 Church visit
- **No Enrichment Clubs this week**

### Tuesday

- Year 2 Educational Visit – The Jolly Christmas Postman – **4.10pm collection – Please ensure you are at school ready to collect by 4pm as the coach may be early. Updates will be posted via the Facebook page.**

### Wednesday

- Woodland Robins (Toddler & Baby group) session in the school hall 10-11.30am
- Christmas art competition deadline
- KS2 Carol Service – All Saints Church – 2pm (Siblings may also be collected from school after but **bus changes must be communicated in advance with the admin team**)
- Hot chocolate event following the Carol Service

### Thursday

- Class Christmas parties (small plate of food required)

### Friday

- Christmas holidays – School closed



# Diary dates

## This half term

*These dates are provisional and subject to change. Details will follow.*



### Upcoming events – Spring Term 2026 (provisional dates)

Wb 05.01.26	05.01.26 Welcome Back to School 09.01.26 Year 5 Cake Sale
Wb 12.01.26	14.01.26 Year 6 Family Lunch
Wb 19.01.26	21.01.26 Year 5 Family Lunch 22.01.26 Whole Federation science day 23.01.26 Year 6 Cake Sale
Wb 26.01.26	27.01.26 Garden day 28.01.26 Y1/2 Multiskills event at QE 28.01.26 Year 4 Family Lunch
Wb 02.02.26	02.02.26/03.02.26 Year 5 Bikeability 02.02.26 Year 2 Exeter City Football Festival 04.02.26 Year 3 Bikeability 06.06.26 Whole Federation Art day with EmmyLou 06.02.26 Staff Cake Sale
Wb 09.02.26	09.02.26/10.02.26 Year 6 Bikeability 10.02.26 Online safety day 13.02.26 Family breakfast & Nursery stay and play 13.02.26 Art Exhibition in All Saint's Church begins



# Christmas at Winkleigh Primary School

Details will follow



## Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas family  
breakfast & Christmas  
classrooms open morning  
8.45am



Gateway  
payment

## Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Santa Run  
£2 to enter  
Tree group slots throughout  
the day



Gateway  
payment

## Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Nursery Christmas stay  
and play  
9am



Cash  
payment

## Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Carol Singing – Years 3 &  
4 in the village



## Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Dinner &  
Christmas Jumpers

Nursery, Owls, Year 1 &  
Year 2

Gateway  
payment



## Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Dinner &  
Christmas Jumpers

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 &  
Year 6

Gateway  
payment



## Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December

KS1 performance to Key  
Stage 2 and invited  
guests



## Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Owls & Nursery Christmas  
Performance 2.30pm  
Programme – 50p

Snowmen at Sunset



Ticketed

## Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December

KS1 Christmas  
Performance 2pm  
Programme – 50p

The Christmas Rose

Creche  
available

Ticketed



## Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas jumpers every  
day



## Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas games & raffle



Gateway  
payment

## Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Year 2 Trip - Jolly  
Christmas Postman  
performance



From 1<sup>st</sup> December – Christmas Postbox





# Christmas at Winkleigh Primary School



## Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December

KS2 Carol Service  
2pm All Saints Church



## Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Talent Show



## Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Class Christmas Parties

*Each child to bring a small  
plate of food to share*



## Christmas Raffle & Grand Prize Draw

The children in Year 6 started this term busily writing letters to many local and national businesses asking for donations for our Grand Prize Draw.

We've had a fantastic response to the children's letters and have already received an amazing selection of prizes; from tickets for fun days out to vouchers!

### Entry Details

£2 per entry, you can buy as many entries as you like.

Prizes will be numbered. We will draw a name entry out of the hat, then draw a prize number, and match the winner to a numbered prize.

A payment request will be set up to purchase your entries.

Closing date Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December

We will hold the prize draw in school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Winners will be contacted by email after the draw and invited to collect their prize from the school office before the end of term.

## Christmas Games by Year 5 and Year 6

Working collaboratively in D&T lessons this term, Year 5 and 6 will devise, create, set up and run games for all the children in school to enjoy.

This will be a "pay to play" fundraising and enterprise event for Years 5 and 6. A payment request for £3.50 will be set up on gateway. The children will be provided with tokens to play in school.

## Christmas Dinner

Turkey or Vegetarian Roast

Served with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Stuffing, Pig in Blanket, Gravy

Ice Cream and Biscuit

KS1: Free (50p donation gratefully received if possible) / KS2: £3



# Christmas art competition

**Enter by**  
**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**  
**1 A4 page per entry.**

**50p per entry**

**Judging categories:**

**Nursery & Reception**  
**Key Stage 1**  
**Key Stage 2**





# Hot chocolate & cookies!



**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**  
Following the KS2 Carol Service



£2.50 Super deluxe hot chocolate & Christmas  
cookie *with cream, marshmallows and a flake*

£3 Christmas Caramel super deluxe hot  
chocolate & Christmas cookie *with cream, marshmallows  
and a flake*

***All proceeds into our school trips and residential fundraising  
pot.***

A warm, welcoming space for bumps, babies, and little learners to grow together.

**Wednesday mornings** (term time)



Winkleigh Primary School Hall  
£2 per session

Refreshments included

Join us for stories, singing and a wonderful opportunity for play and exploration. We would love to welcome you into school for quality interactions with children and families.

Baby weighing available.

10-11.30am





# Trips & Activities



## Years 3 & 4 – Village Carol Singing





# Trips & Activities



## Whole school – Christmas Dinner







# Class news



## Nursery – Hedgehogs, Foxcubs & Squirrels – Mrs Stapley

Dear families,

What a wonderful festive time we've been having in the Nursery! The children have been busy exploring a range of Christmas themed activities, and their excitement has filled our classroom with warmth and joy.

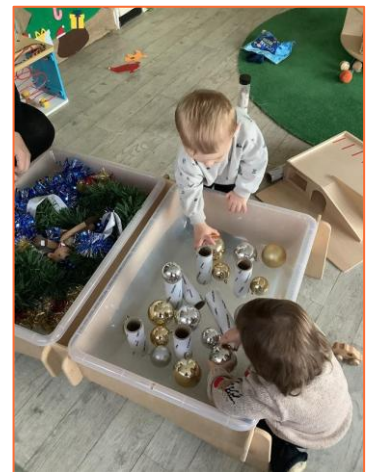
Over the week, the children have enjoyed:

- Creating Christmas crafts and decorations
- Exploring sensory trays filled with sparkles, snow, and winter treasures
- Practising seasonal songs and rhymes
- Taking part in festive storytelling and small-world play

We have been so impressed by their creativity, curiosity, and enthusiasm throughout all of our activities.

We would also like to give a big congratulations to all the children for their wonderful performance in our school play, Snowman at Sunset. They sang beautifully and showed such confidence on stage. We are incredibly proud of them well done!

Have a wonderful weekend.  
The Nursery Team





# Class news



## Owls (Reception) – Miss Batstone & Mrs Rowcliffe

As we approach Christmas, our Owls are certainly feeling tired, but we are so proud of how well they have settled into school life. They have adjusted beautifully to our daily routines and expectations, and it has been wonderful to see them building positive relationships with both adults and other children across the school community.

This week brought some very exciting moments. As our text of the week was Cops and Robbers, we were lucky enough to be visited by two real police officers! The children loved meeting them and asking lots of curious questions.

It has also been a week of "firsts" for the Owls. They enjoyed their first Christmas lunch alongside Nursery and KS1, and took part in their first Christmas play, which was a huge success. Despite all the festive excitement, we have continued with our learning in phonics, writing, and maths, and the children have worked incredibly hard.

Well done, Owls!

We are all very proud of you.







# Class news



## Year 1 – Mrs Roberts

In Year 1, we are now in full swing of the Christmas spirit!

We began the week with our festive KS1 Christmas dinner, all dressed in our Christmas jumpers. The children looked wonderful and it was a lovely way to start the celebrations.

In English, we started our final Curious Quest of the term: The Grinch Who Stole Christmas. The children have really enjoyed getting to know this mischievous character and have worked hard to use exciting adjectives to describe him and the story setting.

In Maths, we concluded our learning sequence on 3D shape and are now ready to begin our next unit on place value within 20.

A highlight of the week was performing our Key Stage 1 Christmas play to the school and to our families. The children rehearsed at every opportunity, showed fantastic confidence on stage, and absolutely loved sharing this special Christmas tradition with you all. A huge thank you for providing costumes and helping to make our performances such a magical experience.

A quick note: There was an error on last week's calendar—the Year 1 church visit did not take place as mentioned. Instead, Year 1 will now visit All Saints Church on Monday 15th December after lunch.





# Class news



## Year 2 – Mrs Keast

This week Year Two have been busy rehearsing The Christmas Rose. We hope that you enjoyed watching the performance. The children have all worked really hard on learning their lines and the songs and we are very proud of them.

In Maths we have been learning about 3D shapes and the children have discussed the features of each shape – how many vertices, edges and sides they have.

Our new English sequence of learning is The Jolly Christmas Postman and the children are all very excited to go and see the theatre performance next week. This week they have been writing a diary entry from The Postman's perspective and writing about their favourite part of the story.

Next week we look forward to some enjoyable festive events and activities including Christmas games and our theatre trip on Tuesday afternoon.





# Class news

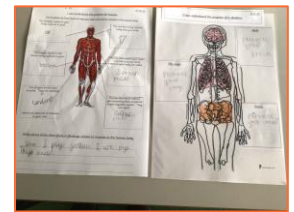


## Year 3 – Mrs Bourner

The spirit of Christmas has definitely crept into Year Three this week with Carol singing on Monday and a delicious Christmas dinner on Wednesday. It was lovely to see the children looking so festive in their Christmas jumpers and hats! In amongst the excitement of Christmas, the children have continued to work hard in class and were all very interested to learn about the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb by Howard Carter as part of their history work, writing some wonderful diary entries linked to this. In Science, they had fun learning about the importance of muscles in the human body and I am sure they will remember at least one muscle fact to share at home!

We have completed this term's maths focus of multiplication and division with the children thoroughly enjoying learning how to use formal methods of multiplication and division to solve questions. What a pleasure it was to hear children saying how much they were enjoying their maths this week, and could they please have more questions! Well done Year Three on all your hard work this week.

Have a lovely weekend ready for some festive fun next week!



## Year 4 – Mr Walter

It has been another busy and exciting week in Year 4 as we head towards the end of term. In English, the children created their own conversations between characters, exploring how sentence length can be used for effect in narrative writing. In Maths, we completed our unit on area by comparing the areas of different rectilinear shapes. In History, we compared the Mayan number system with our own and discussed how differently numbers were represented. In

Spanish, the children enjoyed learning songs linked to Christmas and birthdays.

A huge thank you to the kitchen team for our delicious Christmas dinner on Wednesday. Whilst on Thursday, it was fantastic to watch the Key Stage 1 production.

On Friday, we practised our readings and songs in the church in preparation for next week. We look forward to sharing these with you soon.



Have a great weekend!





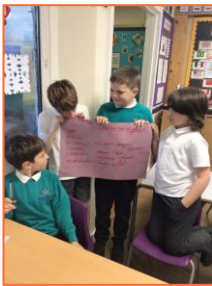


# Class news



## Year 5 – Mr Saltearn

In Year 5 this week, we have been completing our writing on Kensuke's Kingdom and have been creating our own alternative chapter 4 and ending to the book focusing on the key punctuation we have been learning about through the book. The children have enjoyed creating their own chapter to the book and showcasing their skills. In Maths, we have finished our sequence on fractions and have been practicing multiplying two 2-digit numbers together using both the area model and short multiplication. In Science this week, we have been learning about how we can separate mixtures and explaining how we could separate salt from water using evaporation. In History this week, we have been identifying the differences between school life in Victorian times compared to now and how leisure times have changed. On Wednesday, KS2 had their Christmas meal it was fantastic to see the children enjoying the Christmas spirit. Have a fantastic weekend Year 5!



## Year 6 – Miss McLean

This year's Christmas activities are now in full swing! Year 6 enjoyed eating their Christmas dinner in the hall with the rest of KS2 on Wednesday, watching the KS1 Christmas performance on Thursday morning and rehearsing for the carol service this morning.

In maths this week, we have finished our learning on fractions by looking at how to find a fraction of a missing amount. We have also spent some time revising the four operations including looking at long division with and without remainders.

In English, the children have been focusing on identifying the differences between formal and informal language and styles of writing. They looked at some examples from My Secret War Diary and acknowledged the differences between diary entries, newspaper articles, letters to family members and postcards.

We are now coming towards the end of our sequences in the foundation subjects, the children have enjoyed conducting an experiment in science linked to voltage. Next week will be another busy one with plenty Christmas activities, starting with the Christmas games day on Monday. We look forward to welcoming you to the carol service on Wednesday afternoon! Have a lovely

weekend!







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#### More Information

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## PRIMARY INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING @ NORTH DEVON

Our North Devon Hub benefits from our partnership with East the Water Primary School and other well-respected schools across North Devon. The training is entirely practitioner-led, designed and run within our North Devon partnership.

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"I was fortunate to have multiple acceptances with different training providers, but I selected Exeter Consortium because the people were so caring and understanding. You need to be in a place where you can be honest and know you will receive support."



# Online safety



## Welcome to the December 2025 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents and Carers

### Remember—Set up devices!

With Christmas almost upon us, Scomis would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some important safety points to consider if your child is likely to receive a:

- SMART device (TV, Speaker)
- new mobile phone
- games console
- tablet PC

#### Check:

- the device is working correctly
- the device is fully charged
- the parental controls
- the safety settings
- filtering is applied to your home's Wi-Fi

#### Finally:

- Don't leave setting up the device before you wrap it up!

Check the [UK Safer Internet's 4 tips](#) for giving tech gifts this Christmas including:

**Discuss your expectations**—make sure everyone understands the importance of staying safe.

**Create a family agreement** - a brilliant way:

- to think about how your family uses the internet,
- to help make sure that everybody understands the importance of staying safe and being responsible online.

#### You could include:

- daily screentime allowances
- where the device is kept at night
- approving friend requests
- permission to download or purchase apps
- use of social media – Remember most social media sites have a minimum age of 13!

Check [Childnet's](#) free family agreement template available for download [here](#) (examples for different ages)



Visit the following websites for sound advice and guidance:

- [Childnet Key Topics for Parents](#)
- [Online Issues and social media guides on UKSIC](#)
- [Keeping Under-Fives Safe Online](#)
- [Common Sense Media](#)
- [Ask About Games](#)

### Reminder—Be a good digital parent

- Keep passwords safe and **do not** share them
- Schedule notifications to turn off for certain times of the day
- Talk about things you read online with your children
- Think about what **you** are sharing online
- Give practical tips for dealing with unwanted content or contact
- Show your child how to take screen shots
- Reassure your child that they can talk to you or another trusted adult to ask for help

#### Need help?

Visit the following websites for more guidance:

[Vodafone's Digital Parenting](#) Helping your family live a happy and safe digital life

[Childnet's Parent and Carers Toolkit](#) Three resources offering practical tips on keeping your child safe online

[UK Safer Internet's Centre's Advice on online issues](#) includes guidance on how to report, when to report and where to report.

[Internet Matters Helping parents keep their children safe online](#) includes guidance on buying new tech

### Internet Connected Devices

#### Did you know many devices now connect to the Internet?

- Internet connected devices can send and receive data
- respond to voice commands and be controlled remotely using a smartphone app.

#### Examples of internet connected devices include:

- Doorbells, CCTV
- Toys, robots, drones and much more

#### If not set up properly, the risks include:

- Developers or hackers may be connected to your device without your knowledge
- Baby monitors, children's tablets, drone toys, can be hacked and used by people outside of your home.

Find out how to keep you and your family safe and visit the [NSPCC's website](#)

### HELP IN THE HOLIDAYS!

Don't forget! advice is just a phone call away from the NSPCC helpline **0800 800 5000**

Childline **0800 1111** email: [childline.org.uk](mailto:childline.org.uk)

Websites to check:

[Childnet's Parent and Carer's Toolkit](#)

[ThinkUKnow's advice for Parents and Carer's](#)

Have a happy safe Christmas!

**SCOMIS**  
Your ICT Partner