

BE READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE and KIND

HEADTEACHER

What a week!

I want to say a huge well done to each and everyone of our wonderful children for performing and supporting each other so brilliantly during our play week.

Our adults work so hard to make each performance a success and it was really wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm and eagerness to perform.

Our last week at school before Christmas continues to be a busy one. We still have some lovely in-school events planned as well as our Craft market for families on Thursday 9-9.30am.

HOPE TO SEE LOTS OF YOU THERE!

IMPORTANT NOTICES

CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR ALL CLASSES ON WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER. CHILDREN CAN WEAR FESTIVE CLOTHING FULL NON-UNIFORM

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER LAST DAY OF TERM. CHILDREN CAN WEAR FESTIVE CLOTHING FULL NON-UNIFORM

CHRISTMAS CRAFT MARKET 9.00- 9.30 THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER

SPORT

As we near closer to the Christmas holidays, the sporting calendar quietens down as schools in the area focus their time and attention to their Christmas productions. We did, however, manage to attend two fantastic Uttlesford Dodgeball finals competing against the top teams from the Uttlesford area.

Both our year $\frac{3}{4}$ and year $\frac{5}{6}$ teams represented the school superbly, demonstrating a fantastic level of skill set that has been honed and developed in our weekly dodgeball clubs with the teams coming in 5th and 2nd place respectively.

A fantastic way to bring to a close our year of sport in 2024 and we cannot wait to pick up where we left off in 2025 starting with one of our favourite events - the swimming gala!

AFSS

Wow, what an ending to the school year this December has been! The AFSS team has tried their best in spreading the Christmas cheer and we hope that all the children have truly enjoyed yet another magical Christmas at Stebbing. We do honestly believe that there's no other school that does it better! Obviously we couldn't have achieved any of this alone!

So let's start with a massive thank you to Jordan, Amy and Laura who dedicated their whole weekends transforming the school into the festive mood. We hope that everyone has enjoyed the refreshments we served at Christmas productions: we certainly feel that mulled wine was hitting the spot this cold season.

As a reminder, please have your children to write to Father Christmas, and they may just receive something special back in their school bag.

Now that there's only one more week to power through, the AFSS is going to have a well earned rest until the New Year.

Heads up, the ever so famous and popular Quiz Night is coming on January 31st!!



HEADTEACHER AWARDS

	Friday 6th December	Friday 13th December
Wrens	Oakley & Teddy	Oscar R & Penny
Robins	Dylan & Cassia	
Kingfishers	Ira & Delilah	Teddy and Freddie
Woodpeckers	Fletcher & Ethan	Ivy & Frankie
Kestrels	Genevieve & Sophia	Vinnie & Indie
Ospreys	Elias & Rose	Charlie & Hunter
Owls	Savannah & Darcy	Owls CLass



HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEADTEACHER



	Friday 6th December	Friday 13th December
Wrens	Finlay	Lottie
Robins	Evie	
Kingfishers	Rhys	Kalia
Woodpeckers	Christopher	Charlie
Kestrels	Isabelle	Millie
Ospreys	Mia	Lina
Owls	Bonnie	Owls Class

READING CHAMPIONS & PRESENTATION AWARDS

	Friday 6th December	Friday 13th December
Wrens	Ocean	
Robins	Saffron	
Kingfishers	Daisy	
Woodpeckers	Stebbing Reading Champions: Mikey & Archie (Kingfishers)	Nicole
Kestrels		
Ospreys		Nicolle
Owls		Owls Class

DATE	YEAR 6 AWARD	ATTENDANCE AWARD	LUNCHTIME AWARD	KEEP IT CLEAN AWARD
06.12.24		Robins and Woodpeckers		
13.12.24		Ospreys and Owls	Oscar	

						
Date						
06.12.24	Kingfishers	Woodpeckers	Owls	Ospreys	Owls	Kingfishers
13.12.24	Kingfishers	Woodpeckers	Ospreys	Ospreys	Owls	Kingfishers



WRENS



ROBINS



The Wrens have been making Christmas crafts in preparation for our Market day. Please come and support us as the Wrens are very excited to show off our merchandise. We have been playing a lot of phonics games and working particularly hard on our blending and letter formation skills. Our Nativity rehearsal performance to our buddies was a wonderful way to boost our confidence for the BIG performance we on Friday. Thank you for attending, I think we had a record attendance for a Wrens' performance. I am sure you will agree that each Wren excelled in their individual roles. We are so proud of them all. The Angels have even been called back for an Encore performance at Tuesday's assembly. In Forest School the Wrens had the pleasure of experiencing their first fire. We love how they return to class with tales to tell. About how to stay safe. There was a lot to discover as the storm had an effect on the space. This past week we completed our Phonics check and the Wrens have all moved up in their reading levels. Please continue to read with your Wren over the Christmas break as we will be learning new sounds upon our return. We are very lucky to have such a lovely AFSS team at Stebbing: Thanks to their organisation we had a magical market day...And who would have thought Santa would have time to visit Stebbing!? It was such a lovely way to start the Festive Season with the Wrens. We wish you all a blessed festive season and look forward to start our new topic in January:

As always we have been keeping ourselves busy in Robins class.

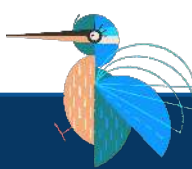
We had a brilliant time putting on two performances of our play, working as a team to sing our songs and perform on stage. It was so exciting coming back into school when it was dark too!

In class we have been working on subtraction in Maths, using fun Christmas activities to help us practise crossing out the number of items we want to take away from our whole group. We have also been looking at addition and subtraction within the same activity to ensure we have a good understanding of the difference between the two.

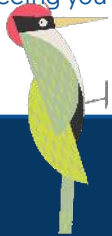
We had our Elf Passports delivered to us by our elf Snowfall, and have been working towards completing all the challenges, including elf agility to show off our teamwork skills, and some Christmas science experiments to look at dissolving gingerbread men and exploding glitter. This has been a lot of fun.

Thank you so much for all of your support at home during our first term of year one. We hope you all have a relaxing Christmas breaking enjoying time with friends and family. We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!

IF YOU GO DOWN TO THE WOODS



KINGFISHERS



WOODPECKERS

First of all I would just like to say a huge well done to all of Kingfishers, who gave two amazing performances this week!

Being in year 2, you take on a big responsibility of the leading roles, where there are lots of lines to learn and things to remember, and all of you worked so hard and were absolutely brilliant!

Kingfishers have also been enjoying creating lots of Christmas craft for our Christmas market on Thursday. So far it's involved lots of sewing, painting, glueing and glitter and we've certainly had lots of fun.

In Maths we have been exploring adding 3 numbers in different ways and identifying our number bonds to 10, 20 and 100.

In English we have completed our story and will be doing our hot writes soon!

Magic at Stebbing... I said this to my Mr Smith last Friday and to Mrs Pickering. It turns out Mrs Earle said something similar to Mrs Heys this morning too...

We may have some off-timetable festive weeks, making craft, rehearsing plays, assessments, we have deadlines, responsibilities, commitments, workloads (I am thinking not just staff but children and of course you parents to some degree engage in things for us whether it be UNhomework, volunteering with readers or supporting the AFSS), and however tired, and sometimes anxious or stressed, I feel the magic at Stebbing makes up for it all.

Last week I truly felt that Woodpeckers' Festive Movie Night and the Children's Christmas Market, followed by a morning of wrapping and our spectacular visit from Santa, provided the children with SUCH a MAGICAL time. It warmed my heart; making me glow like a Christingle! Times like that are those to hold onto and remember as we celebrate Christmas together with those we love and are fond of; family, friends, colleagues, the children in our classes.

Thank you *SO MUCH* A.F.S.S. for all you've done so far this year, and thank you parents for choosing our school for your children; time spent with them is gloriously fun. I feel honoured to enjoy the festive season with your lovely children.

In class we've also enjoyed hearing of Aled Jones/Peter Auty, reading 'A Christmas Carol', sewing, making persuasive adverts, reading our Xmas riddles and kindness challenges - mostly though spotting the Elf's whereabouts each day has been the highlight!



What a fabulous few weeks we have had in Kestrels class! We have to start with our wonderful Christmas performance. We are so proud of every single one of the children, as I am sure that you are too. They have worked so hard to learn lines, songs and stage directions and I think we will all agree that they were all superstars! Thank you to all the parents with your support with costumes as well, it is really appreciated.

As well as lots of Christmas rehearsals, we have squeezed in work as well! We have been working so hard at punctuating our work correctly and using adventurous vocabulary and we have been so impressed by what progress the children have made in such a short amount of time. In maths, we have been revisiting rounding numbers and truly understanding the value of number by creating number lines in class. This was a huge hit as instead of writing in books, we wrote on the desks!

We have also been busy bees creating lots of Christmas treats ready for our Christmas market next week. In particular, we have finished the week completing cross stitch, which has to be one of the most positive years of sewing I have ever experienced. We have some naturally talented cross stitchers in our class! A final word from us is to say a very Happy Christmas and well deserved rest.

Wow! What a truly amazing few weeks we have had in Ospreys. I am so proud of every single child that performed in Matilda they did such a brilliant job and brought so much energy and enthusiasm to their roles. We were so impressed by their efforts, we even performed it an extra time to the rest of this school and staff this morning. What a way to end our penultimate week of the Autumn term!

As well as rounding some curriculum work off this week, we have also been working very hard producing some very Christmassy crafts ready for you all to purchase on Thursday next week. We decided on a reindeer theme this year, so be prepared for lots of reindeer items coming your way! All donations received from that morning will go towards our class budget. We are hoping to buy some more books and resources to help to promote the love of reading so any donations are very gratefully received.

We are so truly astonished at the level of commitment and enthusiasm that Ospreys have shown towards all elements of school life this term. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas. We hope you have a really wonderful time with all of your families and are treated to a well deserved rest!



GUEST SPOT

What a wonderfully busy festive period we are having in Owls classroom. The days have been jam-packed with bringing all of our current units of work to a close in English, maths and our foundation subjects before the Christmas chaos takes over.

The class have been working incredibly hard to put their Christmas stories together and are in the process of putting the finishing touches to their e-books to share with their buddies on Friday and for you all to enjoy during the Christmas market on Thursday. They will also be shared on Class Dojo if you are unable to make it on Thursday.

Whilst a lot of our time was taken up preparing the breathtaking Christmas production, we have been able to continue to develop our understanding about trade and economics and also concluded our work into evolution, inheritance and natural selection by coming up with our very own dog breeds.

Here's to our final festive week before we break up for Christmas and I hope to see as many of you as possible on Thursday to enjoy some homemade mince pies, mulled apple juice, gingerbread house voting, Christmas stories and take home some of the crafts the children have been working on,

Multiply Maths

We are very excited to be able to offer some 'Multiply Maths' sessions for parents and carers to attend. These have been organised within our DEEP partnership of schools in our local area, to help parents have more of an understanding of the maths curriculum and to give ideas on fun and engaging ways in which you can support your children's maths learning at home. The sessions are being hosted at **Dunmow St Mary's Primary School** on the following dates:

EYFS: 29th January, 5th February & 12th February
9.15-11.15am

KS1: 26th February, 5th March & 12th March
9.15-11.15am

KS2: 18th March, 25th March & 1st April
9.15-11.15am

Year 6 to Year 7: 13th March 9.15-11.15am

Please let me know if you would like any more information!

Mrs Clayden

EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
18.12.24	Christmas lunch day
19.12.24	Christmas craft market 9-9.30am (children to sell their crafts to parents)
20.12.24	End of term
06.01.25	Non pupil day
07.01.25	Children back to school
08.01.25	Reception 2025 open mornings 9.45 & 10.45am
22.01.25	SEND family consultations 3.15-6.15pm
30.01.25	Little Monsters SEND session 2.30pm
31.01.25	AFSS Quiz night 6pm
06.02.25	Owls & Ospreys to Harry Potter Studios