

BE READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE and KIND

HEADTEACHER

What a wonderful Christmas time we have had this month!

I really hope all of the activities we have arranged have helped you get into the Christmas spirit too!

I am still astounded by the performance this week...the confidence of the children; their attention to detail and their general enjoyment filled me with joy!

A HUGE THANK YOU TO MISS JELLY TODAY FOR COOKING TO MOST AMAZING CHRISTMAS LUNCH! IT WAS DELICIOUS!

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Festive Trails in the Essex Country Parks for Primary Schools.

Funded by the Essex Year of Numbers, families of primary school aged children can enjoy a free festive trail at the Essex Country Parks this school holiday. Pick up or download an Animal Mysteries trail and gently nurture a love of numbers and nature from a young age and most importantly have lots of fun whilst doing it.

<https://www.explore-essex.com/blog/festive-trail>

SPORT @ STEBBING

Swimming is back!

Please keep an eye out for a letter coming out today informing you of swimming lessons starting in Spring term for all of KS2.

AFSS

Thank you so much to the AFSS for all of the super events that they have run this year so far. We have made such a good start to our swimming pool fundraising efforts.

We look forward to lots more events in the new year!



HEADTEACHER AWARDS

	Friday 8th December	Friday 15th December
Wrens	Dylan & Lorosa	Alexander & Saffron
Robins	Ira & Teddy	Archie. W & Mabel
Kingfishers	Harry & Axel	Kingfishers & Savannah
Woodpeckers	Indie & Clara	Tereza & Albert
Kestrels	Lina & Nellie	Mia & Lilly
Ospreys	Ava N & Savannah	Kaelyn & Mila
Owls	Florrie & Isaac	Olivia & Reggie



HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEADTEACHER



	Friday 8th December	Friday 15th December
Wrens	Benjamin	Cassia
Robins	Hallie	Isla
Kingfishers	Savannah	Louie P
Woodpeckers	Albie	Millie
Kestrels	Hunter	Julia
Ospreys	Sophia	Florence
Owls	Archie	Liana

PRESENTATION AWARDS

	Friday 8th December	Friday 15th December
Wrens		
Robins	Grace	
Kingfishers	Fifi	
Woodpeckers		Logan
Kestrels		Lina
Ospreys		Emilee
Owls		Amelie

DATE	YEAR 6 AWARD	ATTENDANCE AWARD	LUNCHTIME AWARD	KEEP IT CLEAN AWARD
08.12.23		Kestrels	Kingfishers	Wrens
15.12.23	Wrens	Kestrels	Owls	Kingfishers

						
Date						
08.12.23	Owls	Kingfishers	Kestrels	Kingfishers	Ospreys	Kestrels
15.12.23	Owls	Kingfishers	Robins	Kingfishers	Robins	Kestrels



WRENS



ROBINS

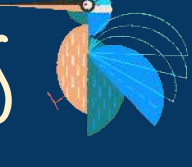


What a wonderful way to end a very busy half term. We have been blessed with a very generous contribution to our craft supplies! Just in time for Christmas. Wrens have been enjoying craft afternoons with Mrs Thorp and we can not wait for you to see the products we made for Market Day. The performances in our Nativity was so confident this year. We are delighted that the children's joy in taking part was so evident. It was a joy to rehearse and so much fun to do our production of a recipe for Christmas. Thank you to all who came to watch and support us. We have not just been engrossed with Christmas. Wrens have been working hard on their Phonics too. Our assessments during this review week has shown the fantastic progress made so far. This is a reflection of the support Wrens are receiving at home on their reading and writing journey. We can not thank you enough for your enthusiasm and support. Some of us even had to visit Mrs Heys' office for a special mention. The Wrens team would like to wish all the Wrens and their families a very special Christmas break. It has been a pleasure to work with them every day. We are so proud how much they have learnt already. We are excited about our next topic: If you go down to the woods today....

What an amazing show Robins and Kingfishers put on for you! I have to say I was SO impressed at how well Kingfishers learned all their lines - I can't believe they were in this class only one year ago! Where do I begin, thinking about Robins? Don't you think it's sensational how confidently such young children can sing and dance in front of a large audience, and even getting up on a stage. I certainly don't know if I'd have managed that at 5 or 6 years old. We only had a few speaking parts, being in Year 1, but these were impressive also and I cannot wait to see what this class can do next year when they are in Year 2. The opportunity for all of them to speak, if they wish to, will be there then. Class time has been fun with antics from our resident elf Rocket. He decorated our class this week and has been leaving us notes telling us things he likes, that he has seen, which I am sure he is reporting to Santa Claus too. Our firework topic is coming to an end. We have loved every minute of it, but we are now excited for our Spring topic - Earth. Our focus will be on the ocean, continents, climates and animals, and diverse cultures. We will also be planting some herbs and vegetables in our class garden, so these can be harvested for our summer topic.



KINGFISHERS



WOODPECKERS



Kingfishers have had the most amazing final 2 weeks of the Autumn term. They have all worked so incredibly hard during their rehearsals and I'm sure you would all agree that they were absolutely amazing during their performances! Kingfishers were so confident and natural on stage and I have thoroughly enjoyed our rehearsals due to their dedication and hard work. Kingfishers have continued to work hard within all aspects of their learning. In Maths we have explored the 4 operations, various approaches to support their adding and subtracting with exchange, exploring number cards to make various answers over 100 and they have created their own Maths stories. These are just some examples of their learning and achievements across this half term. Kingfishers also completed their hot writes, whereby they created their own characters and wrote a story based on the dangers and harm that leaving rubbish can cause to other living things. Many children have written 2 - 3 pages and have included lots of adjectives, adverbs, paragraphs and various punctuation. Furthermore, their handwriting has been so clear and neat. It's certainly the most beautiful handwriting I've seen so far this year and I have thoroughly enjoyed reading their wonderful stories! The Kingfishers team would like to wish all the children and their families a very special Christmas break. It has been a pleasure to work with them every day. We are so proud how much they have learnt and developed this term. We look forward to seeing you again in the new year!

We were so incredibly proud of each and every member of Woodpeckers class for their performances in our Christmas performances. They worked exceptionally hard and enjoyed every moment whilst rehearsing and performing - a huge well done to all. In Design and Technology and in the build up to Christmas, the children worked very hard with designing and making their very own Christmas stockings. Once they had completed their sewing, they then evaluated their creations, what they liked, what they would change and what they may have found easy / slightly trickier. In maths, the children have completed their addition and subtraction unit and have now moved on to Multiplication and Division. They have been discussing the definition of equal groups in multiplication and using arrays to enhance their knowledge of the link between repeated addition and multiplication to explore commutativity. In English, the children have continued their Author study unit on Julia Donaldson. They were able to identify all of the main features of her writing. They then completed their own independent write, in the style of Julia. They very much enjoyed this and had many wonderful ideas and incorporated the use of rhyming words.



What an incredibly busy time we've had in Kestrels. We have had a fantastic Harry Potter-themed day, designed and made all sorts of wonderful crafts for the Christmas craft market, practised and performed the Christmas production...and still had time to fit in a character description hot write and lots of times tables learning!! I am so very proud of every Kestrel for how hard they have tried and how much progress they have made across the curriculum. Their hard work for the production certainly paid off with an absolutely fantastic Christmas performance. It's a wonderful end to a wonderful term. I have so enjoyed getting to know this amazing class of children. I wish all the Kestrels and their families a very healthy and happy Christmas and am looking forward to more learning adventures in the New Year!

Wow and the Autumn term just went by like that. One third of Year 5 is complete! It has been a real privilege to get to know all of the children this term and it has been even more wonderful to see them grow and develop in so many different ways. We have managed to cram in SO much learning over this period and the children's excitement and thirst for knowledge never ceases to amaze me. They are a joy to teach and I have loved every minute of it!

We have particularly enjoyed the last few weeks and the build up to our performance of Olivia. They all did such an amazing job and the final performance was something that every single one of them should be proud of. This week we have also been working hard on all of our Christmas crafts ready for the craft market on Monday at 2pm. Please come with some loose change as all of the money we raise for our crafts will go into our class budgets to be able to buy something that we will all benefit and enjoy. We have yet to decide what that will be!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a lovely Christmas and a very happy 2024! Thank you so much for all of your continued support.



We have such a magical few weeks celebrating Owls class final Christmas at Stebbing!

The girl has made it to the second limb of the grandmother tree. The grandmother tree is our beautiful Oak climbing tree. Over the years her branches have lowered, smoothed off and adapted to the hundreds of children who have scaled her limbs. Each of the lower branches have grown in a formation of different levels and shapes, almost like steps. Each step requires planning and gross motor skills to ascend. Our tree has hosted forts, dens and potion workshops and supported multiple layers of imagination.. It has provided us with acorns and leaves for crafts, dry sticks for whittling and wood for the fire. It is also home for over 300 different species of minibeasts, mammals and birdlife. 'How do you feel?' asked Miss Honeybee 'I feel big' said the beaming girl. The tree isn't so big but for this little one it's a skyscraper.

This little girl has been trying to reach the second limb unaided for weeks on end, reflecting on why a move she took didn't work so well. She has watched her peers and the routes they take, noting the best places to hold on and using things about her to help her succeed.

For this little one, she has built resilience, overcame a fear of heights, made a plan, asked for advice, self reflected, persevered and undertook self care.

Forest School is full of stories like this, it's not just playing in the mud. The social interaction, sharing ideas, resolving disputes, creativity and taking appropriate supported risks help build our children up to be confident learners. They notice the changes outside, they feel and see them, they wonder and care about the space they play in.

Forest School is a special place, all year round healthy outdoor child led learning developing fine and gross motor skills and so much more.

Learning skills for life such as fire lighting, cooking, self care, communication with others, relating to seasonal changes, nature connection and acceptance.

To be honest I could write reams about Forest School, I feel so very strongly about it but you are always welcome to come and see for yourself as a volunteer during our sessions. Rachel Alger (Miss Honeybee)

The children absolutely smashed their Christmas production after three weeks of hard work, commitment and dedication. Throughout the past two weeks, our time has mainly been taken up by our Christmas stories and our Design & technology project.

As you will have all seen the other day, the Gingerbread houses were incredibly successful with the winning house, voted for by the Stebbing Primary School community, made by Archie and Dan.

Owls class have also loved writing their Christmas stories and are so excited to share them with their buddies in Wrens., You will be able to see copies of their stories on Class Dojo over the next few days.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break and I look forward to seeing you all back in school on Friday 5th January 2024.

EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
20.12.23	Carols around the Christmas tree 2pm
20.12.23	End of term
04.01.24	Non pupil day
05.01.24	Back to school