# WATERINGBURY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TERM 2 2024



## Message from our Headteacher



To all our friends,

As we approach the end of 2024, it is natural to look back on achievements and think about hopes for the new year. We are barely a third of the way through the academic year and we have already done so much. As you will see from the class pages, we have had trips to castles, cathedrals, farms not to mention taking the whole school to see the pantomime at the end of this term. We are so lucky to have the station right next to us, which allows us very cheap transport across the county. In school we have hosted Bonfire Night, acknowledged Armistice Day, dressed up for Children in Need, learned to skip with Skip2Bfit, worked with the sergeants from Challenger Troop, provided parents with an online safety information evening as well as shown many potential new families around our school.

As in most church primary schools, the big focus since half term has been Christmas - a very exciting time for young children (and grown ups!). Our Christingle service is early in December: the experience of the children singing in candlelight is certainly a moving one. We were treated to two very entertaining nativities from our infant children as well as a moving carol service starring our junior pupils. Thank you to all the staff for preparing and supporting the children to perform so well, the church for hosting us and parents for providing costumes. It certainly is a team effort! One evening we held Christmas story telling in the library - the children enjoyed the magic of snuggling in their pyjamas with a cup of hot chocolate, some gingerbread and some traditional (and not so traditional) Christmas tales.

This term, we have been getting more involved with village life. Our year 6 pupils have been helping with the village warm space cafe chatting with locals and getting stuck in with the washing up! The pupils in our Art Club have provided some artwork for a local charity who provide a lot of practical and spiritual support for many of our families. In the last week of term, some of our Reception and Year 1 pupils went to a local care home to sing Christmas songs together and chat (and share snacks!) with the residents. I have received so many emails and letters of thanks for the caring and friendly attitudes of our children. We will definitely be arranging more community projects in 2025!

Despite being a bit smaller in size, our school continues to go from strength to strength and I cannot wait to see what 2025 brings for us. I am grateful for all of your support and look forward to working together next year.

Best wishes,

DJohnson

Miss Debbie Johnson (Headteacher)

**Learning, growing, achieving... our journey together with God.**

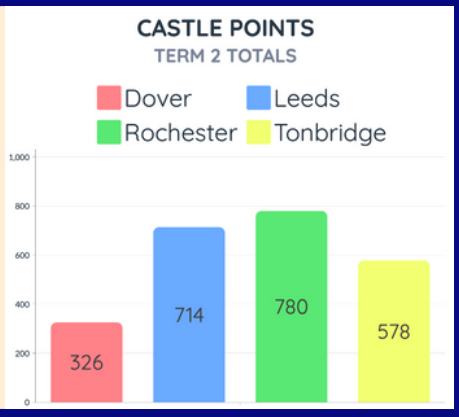
## Will anyone ever beat Rochester?

Across the term we have had different castles winning each week, but Rochester have done it again and won the termly total. Miss Colyer's Big Quiz of the Year also contributed to the final positions but made no difference to the overall winners. Well done, Rochester - you are certainly a force to be reckoned with!

Castle points are awarded for great work, improved effort and behaviour that upholds the school values. Congratulations to each and every child who earned points this term.

Pupils in Rochester can wear their own clothes on Friday 10th January 2025.





# Nurture Camp

Yet another busy term at Nurture Camp in the lead up to Christmas. We have been giving, where needed, lots of support for children and parents as well as more festive duties in helping organise the FOWPS Christmas tree and Santa visit.

We organised a Young Carers' Christmas party which included a firm favourite Christmas movie, snacks, and gifting donated presents from Imago.

We have also been able to provide hampers with support from the local charity MADM, giving both food and presents to families

Our focus for next term will be a big push towards improving oral health for the children.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyous Christmas with your families and loved ones. Thank you for your continued support; it's a pleasure to be able to work and support you and your wonderful children.



**Rachel Bryant**
**SENCo**



**Catherina Henry**
**Family Liaison Officer**

ChildLine 0800 1111

The Wellbeing Team





Our library has been made into a winter wonderland thanks to the SOFT LANDING team



The children that attend soft landing in the mornings have spent the last term covering the library windows in snowflakes all ready for Christmas. Thank you, Mrs Moore!



# Remembrance Day

The service was held at St John the Baptist Church on Sunday 10th November. Many families and children from the village attended along with their uniformed organisations. The church was full! Our Head and Deputy Boys and Girls represented the school in laying the wreath and memorial crosses from each class.



# Skip 2 b fit




The Skip2Bfit Skipping Workshops are unique workshops which are about motivating the children to succeed, whilst at the same time encouraging them to exercise. Skip2bfit use their own specially designed skipping ropes with counters. The ropes are also adjustable so each rope can be personalised to the child. The counters on the ropes are used to motivate the children to exercise and achieve their Personal Best.

After they skipped, all the children and staff were given blueberries to encourage healthy eating.



The day consisted of every class having a 40 minute workshop, which ended with every pupil and staff member trying their best to achieve the most skips in 2 minutes. Each class had their winner who then went on to receive a certificate in assembly. Within the same assembly the highest ranking pupil (Frankie) and staff member (Mr Stevens) battled it out head to head to be crowned the winner.

Frankie absolutely blew everyone's minds! His skips far exceeded Mr Stevens'. With everyone in assembly cheering Frankie's name, he took the crown. WELL DONE, FRANKIE!!






# Barbican Family Concert

Every year Wateringbury Strings Club come together and attend a music workshop held at the Barbican in London co ordinated by Mrs Collier Smith This year Josie-Leigh represented the school, and played her cello alongside the London Symphony Orchestra. What an experience! Well done Josie-Leigh for flying the Wateringbury flag.

# Term Dates:

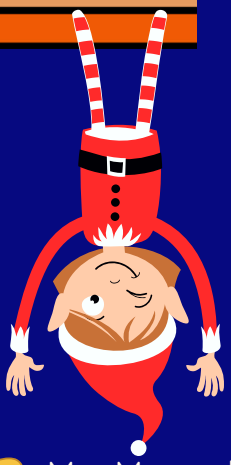
Term 2: 4th Nov - 20th Dec 2024
Term 3: 6th Jan - 14th Feb 2025
Term 4: 24th Feb- 4th April 2025
Term 5: 22th April - 23rd May 2025
Term 6: 2nd June - 22nd July 2025
INSET Days (no children in school) 2nd Sept, 3rd Sept, 25th Oct, 6th Jan, 4th April.

# Welcome to the team



Meet our newest member to the Wateringbury School family, Mrs Lakin. She has joined us as our new Midday Supervisor

# Goodbye & Good Luck!





**Mrs Steph Moore**
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Moore has been a great addition to the team for the last 2 (and a bit) years. Working as a teaching assistant, she has shown such flexibility working successfully across the school with a range of pupils. She loves reading and has passed this love on to the children that she has worked with. Mrs Moore could often be found reading stories to children in the library, on the playground, by the office - anywhere! We wish her well with her new adventure and hope she still finds time for reading, colouring and making paper snowflakes!!



**Mr Dave Kallagher**
Site Manager

Sadly our site manager, Mr Kallagher, left us this term. He has worked with us for three years helping run the school grounds. We will certainly miss Dave's commitment, attention to detail and his calm nature. We wish you well on your new project, Mr Kallagher!
Congratulations to Frank who has been appointed as the new site manager. He knows the school inside out (literally!) and will be working with our new caretaker (watch this space) to keep our school running.









# Bonfire Night

The term began with our famous Bonfire Night. The fire was a spectacle and the guys the children had made were fantastic! It brought the community together, we hope you enjoyed yourselves.

A special thanks must go to all our helpers from those that built the bonfire and our fire marshals and to those that helped in the kitchen and the stalls.

We raised over £400 which will be reinvested back into our school. Thank you all for spending generously. Your support for these events is greatly appreciated.





# Christmas

Thanks to your generous donations and support throughout the year, FOWPS were able to donate a Christmas tree which has lived and sparkled in our hall for the last couple of weeks. .

FOWPS could also arrange for the Big Man himself to visit one afternoon and hand out gifts for each child.



# FOWPS

Friends of Wateringbury Primary School (our school PTA) are in dire need of help!! The school relies on volunteers to help fund raise, and the pool of parents is currently very small. FOWPS organise all these lovely events which really help towards bringing smiles to our children's faces, and of course money in the school pot.

If you can spare some time to help at events as a volunteer, or be someone who helps take charge through being a committee member please contact us via the school office - office@wateringbury.kent.sch.uk

# Bramble Class

Term 2 has been incredibly busy in Bramble Class and the children have made so much progress in their confidence and their learning.
Our theme this term has been Into the Woods; here are some of the highlights of the term so far.



At the beginning of December, the children experienced their first Christingle service. They were so well behaved and held their candles brilliantly.

In maths, we have been concentrating on numbers 1-5 and the children can now recognise, order and make the numbers. We have introduced them to the whole/part model.






This term, we invited some grandparents into school to help us with some Christmas crafts. The children really enjoyed working with different adults and it is lovely to be able to invite family members into school.

This term we rehearsed and performed our class nativity. The children sang beautifully and showed great confidence on the stage.



TERM 2

# DANDELION CLASS

Term 2

## What we have been up to this term:

### Nativity:

This term, our children have been hard at work preparing for their nativity performance, The Big Little Nativity. Their dedication and enthusiasm truly shone through in every rehearsal, and their hard work paid off with their two fantastic performances!
We were honoured to welcome the Mayor, who joined us in celebrating this festive tradition. The children sang beautifully, filling the room with holiday cheer, and their performances were nothing short of amazing — you made this year's nativity unforgettable!

### Pantomime trip:

Our children enjoyed a magical trip to the Hazlitt Theatre to watch the pantomime Cinderella. The performance was filled with laughter, excitement, and all the classic panto fun, making it a truly memorable day for everyone. We are incredibly proud of the children, who were a credit to the school with their impeccable behaviour throughout the trip.

### Geography:

This term, the children have been busy developing their geography skills! They created maps, explored our local area, and used their findings to design imaginative new playground layouts based on questionnaires they conducted. It's been wonderful to see their creativity and problem-solving in action!

## Nativity




## Pantomime Trip





## Geography





## Reminders

- **Coats, Hats, and Gloves:** Please ensure children come to school prepared for the colder weather.
- **Reading at Home:** Don't forget to log your child's reading on Boom Reader regularly.
- **P.E. Kits:** Ensure P.E. kits are brought in on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and we can't wait to see you all in the new year!

# Honeysuckle Term 2

We have had a busy but brilliant term! The children have worked well where they have been learning about addition and subtraction. I have been so impressed with the children understanding about the features of an instruction text and writing their very own.

The children have enjoyed learning about "*Where we live*" in Geography. They have looked at aerial views and maps and have had a closer look at the features of the school grounds. They created their own school maps!





The children performed their school nativity to the rest of the classes, to the parents and to the mayor and mayoress of Tonbridge and Malling. I was so proud of the children for showing courage and delivering such a fantastic performance. The mayor was very impressed and thought the children were fantastic too!

# Snowdrop Class

This has been such a busy term! There have been exciting trips and visits, not to mention plenty of learning.

We have been focussing on plants in science and where our food comes from for geography. In maths the focus has been on times tables, column addition and subtraction and fact families. In English we have been following the adventures of Leo in ancient Athens.

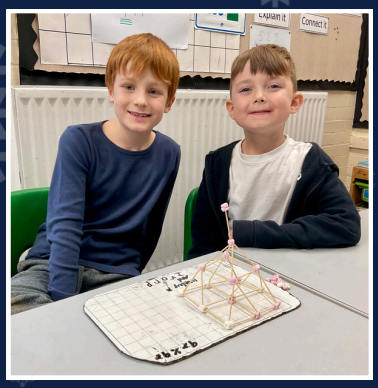
The children loved our trip to the pantomime in Maidstone and behaved impeccably throughout the day.

Our visits from the skipping workshop team and our two sergeants caught the children's imaginations – it was great to have such a change from the routine.

The group continues to build a strong reading culture in the mornings and afternoons.

A whole day workshop for Snowdrop happened this term - loads of team building.

The children have had lots of fun in PE: they are now confident netball players and have shown good teamwork.



Happy holidays everyone!

Best wishes,
Mr Harvey



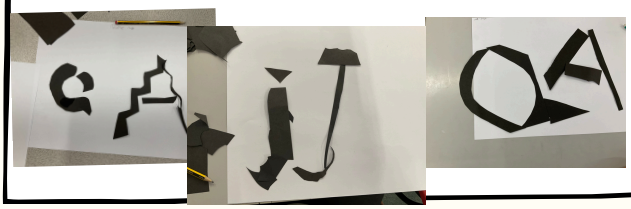


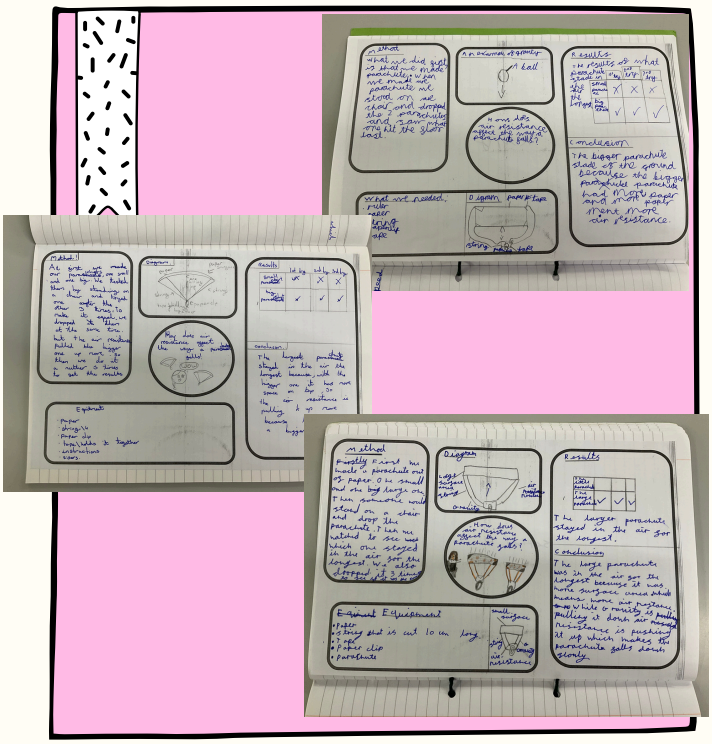
# BLUEBELL CLASS

## Term Two

### Art

The children were introduced to typography design. They explored how they could create their own fonts and designs. They explored how they could use visual letters and other elements to help convey ideas and emotions. We looked at the work of Louise Fili and how she uses typography to create posters and designs.





### PE

Bluebell Class have learnt to play handball this term. It is a fun and fast ball game based on attack and defence. It is a game that can be played almost anywhere with simple equipment.





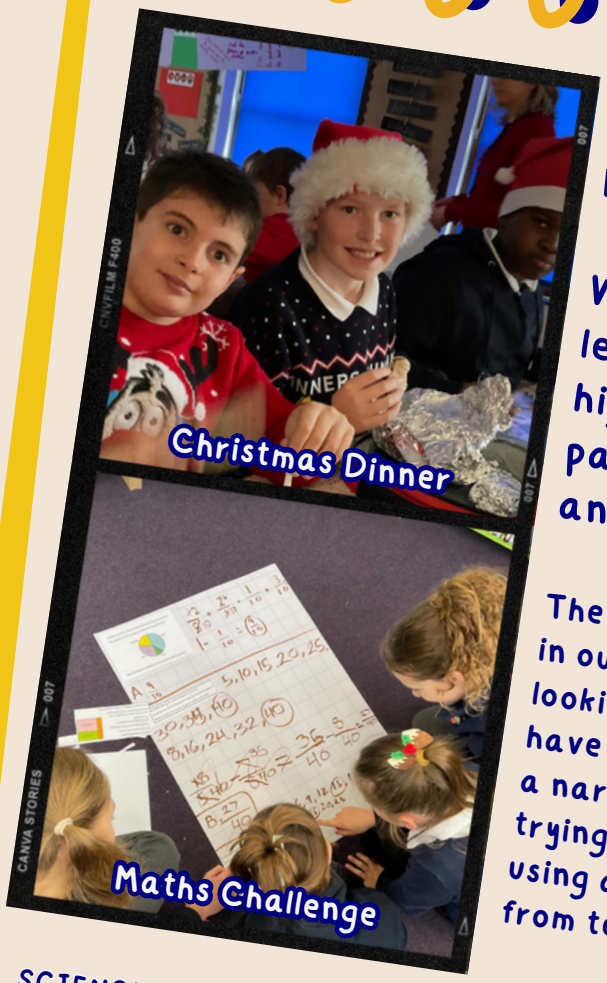
### SCIENCE



In science, the children have developed their knowledge of forces. They have focused on friction, gravity, air resistance and water resistance.

# PRIMROSE NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2 EDITION




Hello Everyone!

We've had a busy term of learning. Some particular highlights included: the pantomime, our carol service and the Christingle.

The children have been very engrossed in our WW2 learning. We have been looking at the book 'Rose Blanche' and have written a setting description and a narrative. The children have been trying to include higher-level vocabulary using all of their grammar learning from term 1.

SCIENCE: We have been looking at evolution and adaptation.
MATHS: We have done lots of fractions learning. The children are great at using drawings to help them!
RE: We have been reading the Gospels and discussing the themes.
DT: We have created our playground designs.
PE: We have been doing dance and sports hall athletics.
COMPUTING: We have been creating our own websites.

