

# Christmas Newsletter



## Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2025!

I would like to begin with thanking you for all of your support this term.

### Events:

It's been joyful to see all of the events that have taken place in school this term. We've loved celebrating with you. It was lovely to see so many of you at the Christmas Fayre, we raised an amazing **£909.45**. Breakfast with Santa and Christmas dinner day also brought a lot of joy.

### Devices:

Should some children be lucky enough to receive devices for Christmas, please can I ask you to ensure parental settings are in place and children are well supervised. Online devices, including apps and chat/ video functions, pose a significant risk to children if left unsupervised. Please encourage the use of technology safety. [Use Parental Controls to Keep Your Child Safe | NSPCC](#)



### Attendance:

School attendance is incredibly important. Everyday counts. Each day lost results in children missing out on learning, which involves catching up the next day. In January we will be pushing hard on attendance and punctuality. Your help with this is vital. Let's work together to give our children the education they deserve.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope you have a restful break and we will see you on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January is a Teacher Training Day – School is CLOSED to pupils and re-opens on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>**

## NURSERY

# MERRY CHRISTMAS



Nursery have had the most amazing build up to Christmas. We have had a jam-packed December full of festive activities, tree decorating, singing, dancing, goodies, Christmas lunches, and most importantly, seeing what our cheeky elves, Ray and Rach have been up to.

I would like to wish Nursery a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

See you in 2026!

Mrs Hawkes x



## RECEPTION

**What an amazing first term we have had.**

It has been great to see the confidence of all of you grow and how your friendships have blossomed. We have thoroughly enjoyed watching Reception settle into school and become a part of our Carnforth Community.

Reception have been working so hard on our phonics skills and learning our set 1 sounds and beginning to blend sounds together to make words. It has been great to see so many children having a go at forming their own sounds during their play.

Within maths, we have been securing our numbers 1-5. We have practiced subitizing these numbers spotting them in different variations. We have found one more and one less than a number using objects. We have also explored our 2D shapes such as a circle, triangle, square and rectangle.

Within our afternoon sessions we explored key topics such as my life milestones, my family and my pets within our first half term.

Through our second half term, we have learnt all about signs of autumn, woodland animals and celebrations. Reception have become a lot more confident to share their own ideas on the carpet and discuss key topics with their friends. It has been a pleasure to watch Reception enjoy new objects or items which have been added to the classroom and watching their imaginations come to life.

Throughout December we have got into the Christmas spirit and enjoyed our trip to West Midlands Safari Park where we saw lots of animals and visited Santa. We have also been learning all of our nativity songs which the children have worked really hard to remember. We enjoyed watching what our cheeky elf has got up to each day which has sparked some great conversations about our own elves at home. **Merry Christmas from Reception!**

## YEAR 1

This term Year 1 have been working extremely hard on their Nativity performance. They put so much effort and passion into the performance, and it was enjoyed by all.

In Writing, the children have learned all about the features of letters and have enjoyed using their phonics knowledge to write letters to Santa. We have a post office in our classroom where the children add stamps onto their letters and post them all the way to the North Pole. They have also been excited about writing their Christmas list and posting that too.

In History, we have been learning about old and new toys. The children carefully observed an old and new doll, and they created an observational drawing of this. They then wrote a sentence to explain the difference between old and new toys.



Finally, in Art the children have been very busy creating delft pottery. They began by practicing their mark making skills before then completing their final design. Their designs tied in nicely with our history unit 'The Highstreet'. They carefully created shops onto their tiles and then painted these with a whitewash and blue detailing.

**Have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year from Year 1**

## YEAR 2 END OF AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

We have come to the end of our Autumn term in Year 2. We have achieved so many things! Year 2 have read about unlikely heroes, The Great Fire of London, fairytales with a twist, and classic stories. We have created beautiful paintings and solved tricky adding and subtraction problems. We learnt about living things and their habitats and explored the microhabitats around our school - we even found a lizard in forest school! We learnt how the great fire of London spread and how this changed our capital city.

Year 2 have achieved so many amazing things since September and we are so proud of them all. One of our biggest achievements was our INCREDIBLE nativity! The children all worked so hard on learning songs, lines, places to stand, and they absolutely shone through every performance.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you all in 2026!



## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER MISS EAST'S CLASS



### WOW!

What a fantastic term we have had in Year 3. It has been a busy one filled with so much fun and learning.

We have been able to partake in weekly swimming and ukulele lessons where our skills have progressed incredibly.

We have been on a school trip to the Cotswold's Wildlife Park where we learnt several interesting facts about animals.

We've written a fact file about our own monster and a persuasive piece of writing linked to Leon and the Place Between.

Never mind all the multiplication and division work we've been doing!



### OVER CHRISTMAS YOU COULD...

Practise the 3, 4 and 8 times tables

Read every day

Be kind and polite always



## YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER

### What we have been up to...

What a fantastic and jam-packed half term we've had! It has been wonderful to see how far the children have come and all they have accomplished so far. Their hard work and enthusiasm have truly shone through, and we are so proud of their progress

### Over the Christmas break

The children can practise their times tables. Daily reading is also highly recommended.

This term has been full of exciting learning! We've worked hard on multiplication and division in Maths, explored different text types in English, and developed our writing using varied sentence structures. Our topic lessons have been creative and engaging, and it's been fantastic to see the children's confidence and curiosity grow. They should be proud of everything they've achieved!

I look forward to another exciting year of learning. Thank you for your support this term. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### Reminders

- PE days: Wednesdays and Fridays
- Children should come to school in their full PE kits on these days.



Merry Christmas from Year 3 and 4.



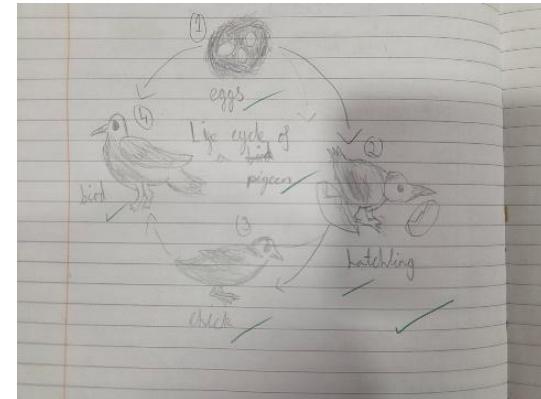
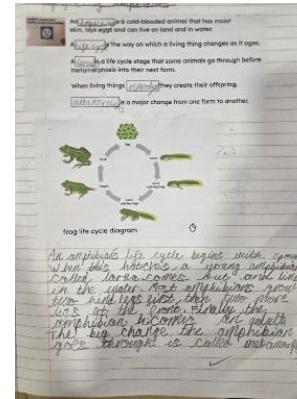
# YEAR 5

Welcome to our final newsletter of the autumn term! It has been an incredibly busy and productive few weeks!

Our journey through Roman Britain has continued with a focus on historical inquiry. This term, the children turned into detectives, using primary sources to investigate the Roman army. We debated the sheer strength and impact of the Roman legions compared to the native Celts.

We also explored the spiritual world of the Romans. It was fascinating to see the children make links to their prior learning, comparing Roman beliefs to those of the Greeks, Mayans, and Egyptians. Their ability to spot patterns across different civilizations was truly impressive!

In Science, we have been exploring the natural world by studying the life cycles of mammals, amphibians, birds, and insects. To deepen their understanding, the children used their laptops to conduct research.



In art, taking inspiration from Henri Rousseau, the children completed their vibrant jungle landscapes. We focused on:

- Watercolour techniques: Layering paint to create depth.
- Hues: Experimenting with different shades of green and botanical tones.
- Composition: Creating "hidden" details within the foliage.



We have been working hard on short and long multiplication. This can be a tricky concept, but many children found our colour-coded scaffolding incredibly helpful for keeping their place value columns aligned. Their perseverance is really starting to pay off with increased speed and accuracy!

As we look forward to the Spring term and our brand-new topics of study, we want to thank you for your continued support.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a restful, well-deserved break!

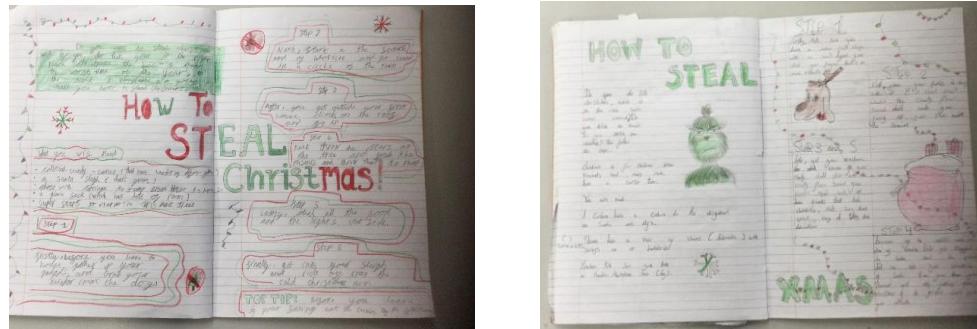
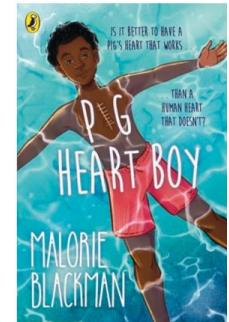
## YEAR 6

What a term it has been for Year Six! We have worked so hard on our learning superpowers to develop a great learning attitude. We have learned so much that is new and have built on our previous learning.

I am so proud of how resilient you have been this term – Your learning attitudes are great let's keep it up Year Six! Have a lovely Christmas, Ms Ferguson 😊

We have really enjoyed our reading text – Pig Heart Boy and have been developing our reading stamina by reading longer chapters. We have been building our inference skills by understanding character's thoughts and feelings.

During the lead up to Christmas, we have been channeling our inner Grinch! We have written creative instructions on how to steal Christmas, using a range of writing skills that we have been developing this term. We have also included a load of characterisation and humour!



In Maths, we have been reactivating our multiplication and division skills and have been developing this further by tackling long division. We have shown great resilience in this and are proud of our efforts.



Merry Christmas from Year 6!

We had a brilliant time on Christmas Dinner Day. The food was delicious and the company superb!





Herefordshire  
and Worcestershire

Dear Parent/Carer,

With the end of the year imminent, we wanted to remind you to take advantage of Lumi Nova over the winter holidays. For some children, winter can be a tricky time. New year transitions, busy shopping days, or festive gatherings can all bring about a bit of worry.

#### What is Lumi Nova?

- For children aged **7-12 years old with difficulties with worries / anxiety**
- Lumi Nova is based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT)
- **Recommended by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)**
- **Is free for families in Herefordshire and Worcestershire** in partnership with NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICB

Lumi Nova can help your child to face their worries by breaking them down into small manageable challenges and can support your child with:

- Returning to school or starting a new school
- Making new friends and going to social events
- Speaking in front of a group
- And lots more!

Get access to use Lumi Nova over the winter months by registering for a game key to access the app here: [luminova.app/handw](https://luminova.app/handw), or scan the QR code below:



For help using the app you can also email the Lumi Nova team at [luminova@bfb-labs.com](mailto:luminova@bfb-labs.com).

\* Please note, Lumi Nova is not recommended for use with children who have severe anxiety, are in crisis, have suicidal thoughts or are at risk of self-harming without clinical supervision. It is also not suitable for children with more complex needs or disabilities preventing them from using a mobile device. Where Lumi Nova is used to support neurodiverent children or those with SEND with worries, it is recommended to use the game alongside professional support, and that necessary adjustments are made prior to use to meet their sensory needs first.

Recommended by

**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

**LUMI NOVA™**  
TALES OF COURAGE

# A fun way to support your child's worries over the winter holidays

✓ For 7-12 year olds  
✓ Free instant access



Get access:  
[luminova.app/handw](https://luminova.app/handw)

 **BfB**  
LABS

 **NHS**  
Herefordshire  
and Worcestershire



# TOGETHERNESS

NHS

An update on

## WELLBEING FOR EVERY SCHOOL PARENT

Your NHS learning space created by psychologists

### December 2025

We're delighted to share some helpful resources for parents experiencing all the big emotions of growing children.

**Togetherness** the NHS emotional health digital learning hub funded in your area to provide your family with **free access** to expert learning about childhood development, wellbeing, brain changes, and much more to help you to connect with your children and make sure they thrive.

Here's a quick round up of what we think is great on Togetherness for this half term.

#### Getting along well with family



##### Understanding your relationships

As seasonal festivities bring families together, it's normal to find some relationships more difficult than others. Learn more about how to get along well and care for your wellbeing by following this online learning pathway

[\(bitesize e-learning\)](#)

#### Help your child name their feelings



##### Feelings map: Free printable poster

Learning to name feelings is one of the first steps to finding healthy ways to manage big and tricky emotions. This poster comes from the [Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager](#) online pathway

[\(free downloadable resource\)](#)

## FREE ACCESS

You're receiving this update as your school is based in a free (pre-paid, funded) access area for [togetherness.co.uk](https://www.togetherness.co.uk)

Find the [Free Access Checker](#) in the pathway library to unlock free online learning that could change your relationship with your child for the better.

Evidence based - Created in the NHS - Private and available anytime, anywhere

Follow Togetherness on social media



Your child's behaviour explained



##### Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager

Online learning journey to support your parenting with expert knowledge and practical ideas anytime, anywhere

[\(bitesize e-learning\)](#)

Healthy sleep habits



##### How is sleep connected to your child's confidence?

Health Visitor, Mary Rheeston, explains how sleep is a key part of building your child's confidence

[\(short video watch\)](#)

##### Confident in your vaccination choices?



##### Navigating parental decisions: vaccinations and other health choices

The Health Visitor's advice

[\(five-minute read\)](#)

##### New baby in the family?



##### Bonding with your baby in the first 6 months

Watch our short docu-film following the early life and brain development of baby Margot. Learn about how the first 6 months lay the foundations for lots of big life skills

[\(15-minute watch\)](#)

# TOGETHERNESS

[www.togetherness.co.uk](https://www.togetherness.co.uk)

0121 296 4448

[togetherness@uhb.nhs.uk](mailto:togetherness@uhb.nhs.uk)

# Attendance

## By year group

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Miss B Cole   | 90.1% |
| Miss B East   | 92.0% |
| Miss C Bacon  | 95.1% |
| Miss C Wall   | 95.4% |
| Miss N Weaver | 90.4% |
| Mr L Atkinson | 92.7% |
| Mrs J Hawkes  | 87.5% |
| Ms A Ferguson | 92.5% |

## Whole school

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| School          | 92.4% |
| National        | 95.3% |
| Local Authority | 95.4% |

## 12 Days of Christmas for Attendance:

Winners are  
**Elsie (KS1) and Arina**

We had **44** pupils  
that achieved **100%**  
attendance this term  
and received a  
certificate today



## Punctuality matters!

Being frequently late for  
school adds up to lost  
learning:

- Arriving 5 minutes late  
every day adds up to over  
3 days lost each year.
- Arriving 15 minutes late  
every day is the same  
as being absent for  
2 weeks a year.
- Arriving 30 minutes late  
every day is the same as  
being absent for 19 days  
a year.

19 days lost a year  
through being late means  
90% attendance.

**missed minutes = missed learning  
= missed opportunities!**



**Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow**

# Who's who at Carnforth?

**Mr P Prigg – Headteacher**

**Mrs K Finnegan – Deputy Headteacher**

**Mrs J Hawkes – Nursery Manager**

**Miss E Holland – Early Years Practitioner**

**Miss C Wall – Year 2 Teacher**

**Miss R Burnham – Teaching Assistant**

**Mr L Atkinson – Year 5 Teacher**

**Mrs R Akhtar & Miss E Arrowsmith – Teaching Assistants**

**Mrs V Smith – SENDCo**

**Miss A Woodward – Trust SENDCo**

**Mrs R Furlong – Family Support Worker**

**Mrs S McCormack – Pastoral Regulation Support Worker**

**Miss B Cole – Reception Teacher**

**Mrs F Begum – Teaching Assistant**

**Miss B East – Year 3 Teacher**

**Miss E Holland & Mrs S Kenwick – Teaching Assistants**

**Miss A Ferguson – Year 6 Teacher**

**Mrs K Lindsay & Miss N Crowe – Teaching Assistants**

**Miss K Walters – Office Manager**

**Mrs R Ranscombe – School Secretary**

**Miss C Bacon – Year 1 Teacher**

**Miss L Rice & Mrs N Ayub – Teaching Assistants**

**Miss N Weaver – Year 4 Teacher**

**Miss M Smith HLTA, Mrs J Jones & Miss J Lord – Teaching Assistants**

**Mrs J Jones, Mrs M Pegram, Mrs J Lord & Mr S Jeffries – Lunchtime Supervisors**

**Mr S Jeffries – Site Manager**

**Miss J Lord & Mrs T Woodward – Cleaners**