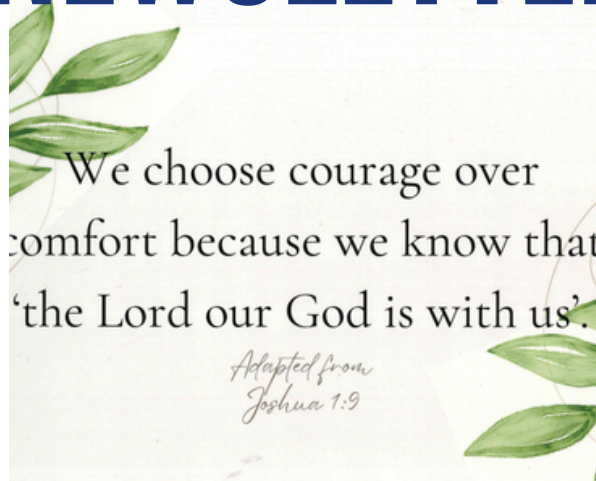


# NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. As we head further into the term, I've been thinking about the values that really shape our school family – Love, Courage, and Resilience – and how we see them every day in the life of our children.

Love is at the heart of everything we do. It's in the way children look out for each other, share a kind word, or lend a helping hand. These small acts make a big difference and remind us of Jesus' teaching to love one another. When we show love, we create a school where everyone feels safe and valued.

Courage is something we see when children try something new, speak up for what's right, or keep going even when the work feels tricky. Courage doesn't mean we're never afraid – it means we trust that God is with us and gives us strength to face challenges.

And then there's Resilience – the ability to bounce back when things don't go as planned. Learning isn't always easy, and mistakes are part of the journey. We encourage children to see setbacks as opportunities to grow, and it's wonderful to watch them persevere and celebrate their progress.

These values aren't just words on a page – they're lived out in our classrooms, playgrounds, and homes. Thank you for helping us nurture them in your children. Together, we're building a community where every child can flourish.

## Pantomime

Thank you for all your offers of support for our pantomime, we could have filled the buses twice over with your offers. If you received a confirmation email from school, could you please arrive at school by 12:50 on Tuesday 25th, this will allow time to direct you to the classes and opportunity to sign the confidentially agreement if you haven't already done so. If you are yet to complete payment on School Money for the trip could you please do so prior to Tuesday, without contributions from parents, experiences like these for our children would not be viable.

## Wet/Cold Weather


As an all weather school, we do encourage children to go outside no matter the weather but I do understand that this might not suit all children. As the weather turns more unpredictable the school library will be open during lunchtimes for children who would like to have a quiet space inside. I also know that the school council are looking at fundraising opportunities to create more spaces of shelter outside so that the children can still experience OPAL in all its glory, all year round.

Warmest wishes,

*S Pearson*  
Mrs Pearson

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

25.11.25 - Whole School Pantomime trip  
 04.12.25 - Carols in Church @ 1:45 (Choir parents invited to attend)  
 11.12.25 - Christmas Dinner Day  
 11.12.25 - Christmas Disco  
 12.12.25 - Ethic of Excellence Assembly  
 15.12.25 - KS1 Nativity @ 2:00 and 5:00  
 16.12.25 - Foundation Stage Nativity @ 2:00 and 5:00  
 18.12.25 - Y4 Christmas Service @ 1:45  
 19.12.25 - Last day of term

Jesus embodies the love and compassion of God for each person, and Christians are called to follow him in this. In our family, love impels us to:

- put others' needs above our own;
- act with humility and without entitlement;
- empower all our community to flourish and succeed;
- provide a haven of compassion and safety, where children and adults know that they are cherished; and
- support those experiencing suffering and sadness – in our community and beyond

**"Let all that you do be done in love." (1 Corinthians 16:14)**

## YR - Mrs Price and Mrs Dubowski

In math class, we have been exploring 2D shapes, specifically focusing on triangles and circles. We learned that triangles have three straight sides and three corners, while circles have one curved side. In music, we have been practicing our nativity song. The children are very excited to share their performance with the children in school and parents. In English, we finished the story "Peace at Last." This week's focus was on ordering and sequencing the story to support a deeper understanding. At the beginning of the week, we used freeze frames and hot seating to explore the characters within the story. During our outdoor learning session, the children went on a shape hunt to find circles and triangles outside. They had a great time drawing the shapes in the mud and discovering shapes in their environment.

## Year 1 - Miss Bower

It has been a very busy week this week in year one, we have been looking at addition in maths which we will continue with next week. In English this week we have been using our plan to write the beginning and problem of our story, we will be writing planning the ending next week. This morning we have had a sculpture workshop where the children have used silk clay to create model birds using their knowledge of proportions to help them. They have also helped to create a sculpture of a bird using cutlery which will be displayed in the gallery in year one. We have also started to rehearse for the school nativity!

## Y2 - Mrs Turvey and Mrs Marshall

Year 2 have started their addition and subtraction learning this week by focussing on fact families. We have used practical equipment to support us with this and to help us to build and deconstruct number sentences. In English, we have completed our applied write where we have written a setting description for a jungle/rainforest scene. We have thought about our senses (what we can see and hear) and have worked hard to use subordination in our writing to make it more exciting for our readers. In Geography, we have been looking at the continents and have been singing another very catchy song to help us. Our continents and oceans learning was very useful during our trip to The Deep when we took part in a workshop all about saving sea animals from around the world from plastic pollution in the oceans. The trip leader was very impressed with Y2's knowledge! Next week, we will be starting to think about writing a recount from our trip to The Deep and we will be continuing our maths focus on addition and subtraction. I am looking forward to seeing the children producing more work in their sketch books too!

## Y3 Miss Wain

This week Year 3 have moved onto their new multiplication and division topic. We have been recapping how to use arrays, share and the 2 times table. In English we have completed the first section of our plan for the alternative opening to Iron Woman. The children have used their imaginary community to inspire their ideas and came up with some wonderful vocabulary linked to the senses! In Art, we looked at proportion and followed a step-by-step video to create a moving image of a mannequin. In Computing the children began to create their interactive scene based on the plans they made last week. It incorporated all of the technical coding they have learnt over the last term. In Spanish, the children asked and answered the question "What is in your pencil case?". We created speech bubbles in books to represent this. In RE the children looked at the difference between adult baptism and child baptism. They created two lists in their books to represent the differences.



Y1 - creating sculptures of birds using silk clay



YR - Busy creating settings in the continuous provision



Y2 shark spotting in the Deep

## Stepping Stones - Miss Cave

It's been another busy week in Stepping Stones. We started the week by baking some yummy vanilla cupcakes! We carefully followed a recipe to bake some lovely cupcakes with buttercream frosting. We had to make sure all the measurements were precise so the cupcakes came out well. In English, we began to plan the next section of a non-chronological reports all about volcanos and how they erupt. We have also engaged in outdoor learning building dens and obstacle courses. Also, we have spent time making our own games on Purple Mash. In PE, we have been working more on our aim in javelin. This week, we have been aiming at a very specific target and working carefully on our technique.

## Y4 - Miss Buckley

This week, Year 4 have continued their Art unit inspired by Georgia O'Keeffe, taking a closer look at how she uses contours to create bold, flowing shapes. The children have been practising following the natural contours of objects in their own sketches and beginning to apply these skills to larger pieces. They also experimented with building tone and depth, thinking carefully about how to make their artwork feel soft, layered and expressive in the style of O'Keeffe.

In PE, the class have been working on their javelin skills, focusing on developing a strong throwing stance, safe technique, and controlled power. The children have really enjoyed challenging themselves to improve their distance while still maintaining accuracy and good form.

In Science, we moved forward with our topic on sound by learning about the different parts of the ear and how each one plays a key role in helping us hear. The children explored how sound waves travel into the ear canal, how the eardrum vibrates, and how these vibrations are passed through the tiny bones to the cochlea before being interpreted by the brain.

In English, the children have been independently writing their explanation texts about rivers. They have been working hard to include technical vocabulary, clear organisational features, and detailed explanations of each stage of the process. It has been fantastic to see their confidence grow as they apply the skills they've been developing across the term.

## Y5 - Miss Evans

Year 5 have been working really hard this week. Despite year 5 not being a fan of fractions they have blow me away with how hard they have been trying. We have been looking at equivalent fractions and how to recognise them. This week they have also finished their piece of writing around our text freedom they created some endings that blew me away. Year 5 next week are looking forward to the panto trip and continuing our indoor athletics topic in PE.

## Y6 - Mrs Woodward

Year 6 have had a fabulous week completing so many wonderful pieces of learning! In Maths, they have taken on the challenge of fractions by learning how to add and subtract mixed number fractions by converting them to improper fractions and finding the common denominator. In English, they have researched their own endangered animal ready for when they write their own report. In RSE, they have considered why safety is important and have created their own enquiry questions which they will explore next week. In Science, they have carried out a research project to understand how different variations of penguins adapt to different environments. In RE, they have considered whether the story of creation and cosmology are conflicting or complementary of one another. Next week, they will continue with their writing and begin to compose their own pieces of music to raise moral for people who would have lived in the war time.



Stepping Stones enjoying their javelin practice



Y3 - showing their collaboration skills



Y2 - enthralled by their trip to the Deep

# OPAL



## Highlights

This week's been an exciting one! We've had a new slack line, large scale construction area, and ropes! We started our week with an assembly to talk about any new equipment or resources. The children were all able to talk about the benefits of each area, the possible risks and how we're going to manage the risks. The children have enjoyed playing in the areas, overcoming challenges on the slack lines, and working together to create obstacle courses. They're looking forward to another delivery for further resources and another slack line going up!

As the weather has turned colder, please ensure your child has a warm winter coat, hats, and gloves to keep warm.



## Reminders

As the weather begins to change, please make sure your child has a named pair of wellies that stays at school and if possible, a puddle suit. If your child has grown out of their wellies or suits, we would be grateful for any donations for spares.

## Resources needed:

- Plastic crates
- Plastic and wooden reels of all sizes
- Fabric
- Cushions
- Scooters
- Prams - both dolls and full size

