

# Stokesay Newsletter - Autumn 25

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## Headteacher's Update:

As we come to the end of the Autumn term, I want to say how proud I am of everything our pupils and staff have achieved since September. It has been a busy and successful term, packed with learning, enrichment, and opportunities for our children to shine.

This term has seen pupils take part in a wide range of experiences, from sporting events and leadership opportunities to curriculum showcases and community projects. Our new library has quickly become a much-loved space, supporting reading for pleasure across the school, and events such as parent workshops and whole-school writing projects have strengthened the link between home and school.

The festive period has been a real highlight. Our Christmas choir performances and nativity celebrations were a joy to watch and a wonderful reminder of the confidence, teamwork and creativity our pupils show every day. Thank you to families for your fantastic support at these events – it means a great deal to the children.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the **Spring term**, which promises even more exciting learning and opportunities ahead. I wish you all a very happy and restful Christmas.

Mr. Vaughan

Head of School

## Nursery



This term, the children in Nursery have been showing lots of our school values such as determination, teamwork, respect, and community. The children visited St Andrew's church where we retold the Christmas story. The children also worked hard to practice and complete their Nativity, showing great confidence and teamwork. To finish the term, they took part in a range of Christmas crafts, using their creativity and fine motor skills to make festive decorations, cards, and calendars.

## Reception



Reception has had a fantastic first term at school! We have enjoyed topics such as Ourselves, People who help us, Winter, & Christmas with the children showing values such as determination and teamwork in all areas of learning. The children have been working incredibly hard in Phase 2 phonics, taking part in lots of reading and fine motor activities to consolidate their sounds. They have also loved getting creative with Christmas crafts and taking part in our Twinkl Nativity performance - we hope you enjoyed watching it as much as the children have enjoyed performing. What a wonderful end to a brilliant first term in Reception!

## Year 1



Year 1 had a great first term in KS1. They have shown lots of our school values such as teamwork, respect, responsibility and community. Year 1 started the term learning about themselves and thought about what job they would like to do when they grow up. The children have also been enjoying Forest School sessions in the second half of the term. They have been preparing the raised beds for planting and taken part in lots of team building activities. Lots of learning has taken place outside this term, making links with our Geography Topic- What's it like here? The children finished the term performing their Christmas Nativity 'The Twinkly Nativity' and all worked so hard to learn their lines and the songs. Well done Year 1! Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas break!

## Year 2



This term, Year 2 have enjoyed their trip to RAF Cosford to support their history learning. The whole class showed great determination during their cross-country run at Carding Mill Valley. It was hard work, but we are so proud of all the children for powering through! Since November, the children have been enjoying Outdoor Learning and gardening. During sessions the children have had a go at some team building activities and have been showing great kindness and helpfulness to each other.

## Year 3/4



Year 3/4 has had a rich and exciting autumn term, full of memorable learning experiences. A highlight was our topic day, exploring life in the past, where pupils travelled back to the Stone Age and Iron Age. The children were fascinated by Skara Brae and the archaeological discoveries found there, which inspired creative, hands-on work including designing Iron Age-style jewellery and family shields that reflected personal values and identity. The day showcased curiosity, creativity, and thoughtful discussion about how people lived in the past.

Beyond the classroom, Year 3/4 represented Stokesay superbly in a range of enrichment opportunities. Pupils showed real determination and teamwork at the Cross-Country event in Church Stretton, with every child giving their best and one pupil achieving the fastest Year 4 girl in the competition. The visit to RAF Cosford was another standout experience, where children took part in practical science workshops, explored the museum and climbed into a real aircraft cockpit. Throughout the term, pupils have been a credit to the school, demonstrating enthusiasm, resilience and our core Stokesay values in everything they do.

## Year 5



Year 5 have enjoyed an interesting and engaging Autumn term, with exciting learning opportunities throughout. A particular highlight was the Wonderdome experience, which brought their science topic on space to life. Pupils explored the solar system, planets and stars, developing their scientific understanding through awe-inspiring visuals and thoughtful questioning. In geography we continued looking at the world and children deepened their knowledge of population, examining how and why populations change and the impact this has on communities around the world.

Furthermore, Year 5 has continued to show commitment and enthusiasm across other aspects of school. In PE, pupils developed their tennis skills, demonstrated teamwork, cooperation and a positive attitude to learning new techniques. In French, children have grown in confidence, learning how to talk about the weather, applying new vocabulary through speaking and listening activities. Throughout this term, Year 5 has grown so much already and are consistently showing maturity, curiosity and the Stokesay values in all that they do. We look forward to an exciting new term in the Spring.

## Year 6



What a fantastic and busy half term we have had! The children have thrown themselves into every opportunity with enthusiasm, curiosity, and brilliant teamwork. We began the half term with a special celebration day to mark the end of our World War II topic. The trip to the Imperial War Museum in Manchester was a wonderful way for the children to deepen their understanding, ask thoughtful questions, and connect their classroom learning to real historical artefacts. This term's main theme was *Energy*. The children explored different energy sources and finished the unit by investigating the best locations around school to place solar panels. Their reasoning, scientific thinking, and teamwork were fantastic to see. In Design Technology, the children designed and made their very own bags. They learnt new sewing techniques, planned their designs carefully, and showed great resilience. A special mention goes to Shehzeen, whose natural talent really shone through - her bag (shared above) is a brilliant example of creativity and craftsmanship. We've also enjoyed plenty of muddy fun with Mr. Lockley during Outdoor Learning sessions. The children have loved exploring nature, building shelters, and developing their teamwork and resilience outdoors. Perhaps the most exciting part of the term was taking part in a national pilot project, where the children completed their Science lessons using virtual reality technology. This gave them an incredible immersive experience, allowing them to explore scientific concepts in a whole new way. The excitement on their faces said it all.

## Extra News & Celebrations



The Year 6 Bingo event was a huge success, raising nearly £600 towards our end-of-term celebration day. A heartfelt thank you to the parent volunteers who generously gave their time to support the event.

A huge thank you to Elliot and Pippa Smith's nan who as always, has provided all the children with some homemade reindeer food!

We have capped the year off with a fantastic Christmas Dinner for all the children and staff - we had Christmas tunes on, a "roaring fire" to warm the room and the most delicious food you could imagine!