



28 Nov 2025

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Headteacher's insight

As we come to the end of November, it is hard to believe that Advent begins next week. The excitement and anticipation around school is already beginning to build, and there is a real sense of community as we enter this special time of year together.

We now have just 15 school days left of this term, and they will be packed full of learning — with a sprinkle of festive fun too! It will undoubtedly be a busy period for both children and adults alike, and a time that may test our tiredness and patience. However, I know that as a school community we will navigate it with kindness, understanding and support for one another.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our families for your generous donations of Advent calendars for the local foodbank. Your kindness will make a real difference to children and families in our wider community this Christmas. In partnership with Marleigh Primary, we collected 28 Advent calendars — an incredible achievement!

Today, we also drew the winners of our book Advent calendar raffle. It was wonderful to be able to provide these children with such a joyful gift. We hope they will enjoy discovering a new book each day — and perhaps even choose to share some of their favourites with classmates as end-of-day stories or through book recommendations and swaps once they've finished reading. Thank you again for your support — the raffle raised **£333** which will go towards keeping our library well stocked and full of exciting adventures for all children.

Finally, thank you for supporting today's non-uniform day to collect donations for the PTFA Christmas Fair on 4th December 3:30-5:00pm. Your contributions will help make this community event truly special.

As always, thank you for your continued support — it is greatly appreciated by all of us here.

Mrs Thompson



Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher



News from our classrooms

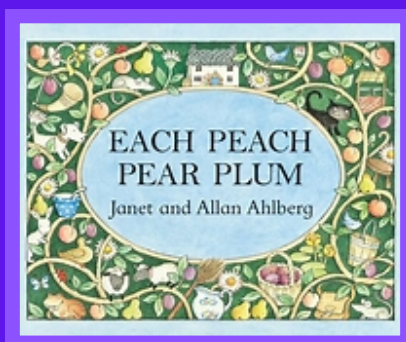
Caterpillars Class

It has been a busy and exciting couple of weeks in Caterpillars Class! In Phonics, we have been learning the sounds c for cat, k for kite, and g for goat. The children have enjoyed exploring these sounds through songs, actions, and playful activities.

We have also begun some festive fun! With Miss Parton, the children have been creating beautiful Christmas tree crafts, learning about different shapes and practising counting as they added decorations to their trees.

In Maths, we are continuing to focus on counting 1, 2, 3, using familiar rhymes and stories such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears and The Three Little Pigs to support our learning.

For English, we have been enjoying nursery rhymes through the lovely storybook Each, Peach, Pear, Plum, spotting characters and joining in with the rhythm of the language. And finally—Christmas preparations are well under way! The children have started practising for our Christmas Sing-a-long on 17th December... but we won't tell you what they're performing just yet—we don't want to spoil the surprise!



Christmas Sing-along – 17 December

Parents and carers invited at 2:30pm

School Place Applications for 2026

Please remember that Reception place applications are due by 15th January 2026



Christmas production music available on class pages

Children can practice singing along to the music on their [class page](#).

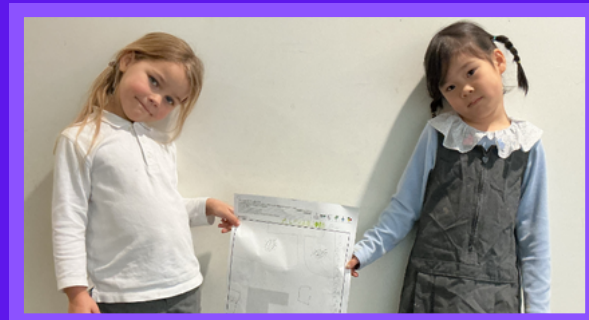
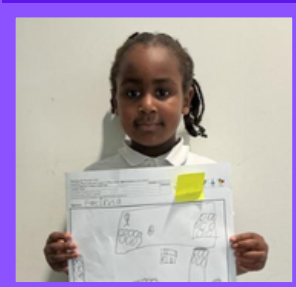
Ladybirds Class

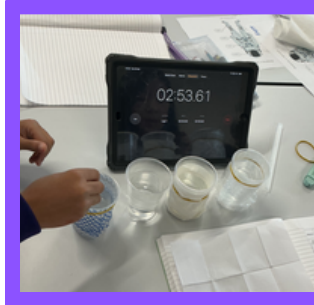
Ladybirds Class have had another wonderful and very busy couple of weeks of learning! In Geography, we have been learning all about maps. We started by talking about what maps are used for and looking at different examples. Then we went out into the school grounds to explore the features we could see, such as the playground, the sports pitch, the pond, trees, paths and buildings. The children were fantastic at spotting features and thinking carefully about their shapes and positions. Back in the classroom, we used what we had seen to draw our own simple maps, adding a key and thinking about how to show features from a bird's-eye view.

In Design and Technology, the children have continued their work on puppets. They practised choosing appropriate fabrics, cutting out shapes safely and joining materials together using staples. It has been lovely to see their creativity grow as they plan their designs and bring their puppets to life. The children are becoming increasingly confident with handling tools and materials with care.

In PE, we have been developing our sending and receiving skills. The children enjoyed a range of fun activities and games that helped them practise throwing and catching with increasing accuracy. They worked brilliantly with partners, showing great teamwork, turn-taking and resilience.

We are also working very hard to learn all the songs for our upcoming Christmas performance. A Flash of Light has quickly become a real favourite in class, and the children are singing it with great enthusiasm and growing confidence. We are looking forwards to showing you all our hard work.





Badgers Class

It's been another busy and exciting week in Badgers!

In **Science**, we carried out an experiment on **thermal conductivity**, testing how well different fabrics insulated cups of hot water. With three cups wrapped in various materials and one control cup, the children made predictions, took careful measurements, and discussed their findings like true scientists.

We also represented the school brilliantly during a **PE demonstration** with Mr Parker for a group of university trainee teachers. The Badgers showed fantastic skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship—we were very proud of how confidently they participated.

In DT, our sock monkey project is well underway! The class has begun **cutting out and sewing** the different parts, showing patience, creativity, and growing confidence with their textiles skills.

Maths continues to challenge us with the world of **fractions**, but the children are persevering with great determination and starting to enjoy the satisfaction that comes with those light-bulb moments.

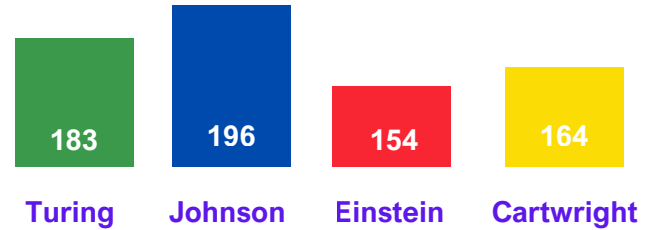
Finally, a huge well done to everyone for approaching the **2024 SATs papers** with such maturity during our assessments this week. The resilience, focus, and positive attitude shown by the Badgers has been exceptional.

Have a wonderful weekend!





House Point Totals



Help us ensure every child gets a Christmas cracker!

This year we're using GoodHub, an online fundraising platform, to help raise **£150** so that every child can enjoy a Christmas cracker with their festive lunch on **17th December**.



Please help us raise this amount to order the crackers in time for the children's Christmas dinner, every donation helps, thank you!!

Can you lend us a Christmas tree?

We're looking for undressed, undecorated Christmas trees for our Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas production please. Any size!

Please bring your trees to the office and you can take them home after the show from 13th Dec. Thanks for your support!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Araina - Ladybirds
Rebecca - Badgers
Qiqi - Ladybirds
Lily - Badgers
Clara - Butterflies
Dafne - Owls



Ho ho ho!



Festive fair

Thursday 4th December
3.30-5pm

Tickets Includes 10 tokens
to use at festive stalls:

(extra tokens available to buy on the day)

- * Name the Xmas gonk * x1 token
- * Guess the sweets in the jar * x1 token
- * Make a reindeer headband * x2 tokens
- * Splat the sprout * x1 token
- * Make reindeer food * x1 token
- * Lucky dip * x2 tokens
- * Bean bag toss * x1 token
- * Tombola * x1 token



Buy your tickets now!



£5

Other activities:

- * Santa's Grotto *
- Sold out!**
- * Letters to Santa *
- * Raffle *
- * Bake sale *
- * Tattoos *
- * Story corner *

<https://buytickets.at/marleighprimaryptfa/1939485>

Helping your children fly



Ho ho ho!



Festive Raffle

Drawn at 4.45pm

at the Christmas Fair

Over £1,000 worth of prizes to be won!

Flight experience for two: Cambridge Aero Club (£246)

30 day spa pass for two: Quy Mill Hotel & Spa (£200)

Family photoshoot: Dion Gallichan (£120) x2

Family ice skating session: Cambridge Ice Arena (£66)

Football match family ticket: Cambridge United (£66)

Family Science Centre tickets: Cambridge Science centre (£52)

Christmas hamper: Hill group (£45)

Back massage: Elka beauty (£30) x2

Express massage: R3vive (£30)

Family soft play ticket: Partyman (£30)

2 free whole pizzas: Salento (£28) x2

Drop-in class: R3form (£22) x2

Indoor climbing session: Clip n Climb (£17.50)

Gift card: Scotsdales (£5)

Free ice cream: Salento (£2.50) x5

£1



Elka Beauty

quy mill hotel & spa



Dion Gallichan
Photography
Luxury Wall Art Specialists



SCOTSDALES



Key Dates for Autumn 2025/26

Wed 3rd Dec	Yoga festival - 12 Year 3 and 4 children will be invited to attend - during school day
Thu 4th Dec	PTFA Christmas Fair - 3:30-5pm - all parents, carers and family welcome
Mon 8th Dec	Butterflies Reception Nativity - all parents and carers welcome 2:15
Wed 10th Dec	Year 5 and 6 sporting experience - all children, during school day Butterflies library trip
Thu 11th Dec	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Concert - all parents and carers welcome 2:15pm
Fri 12th Dec	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Concert - all parents and carers welcome 9:15am
Fri 12th Dec	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day - All children invited to attend school wearing non uniform that includes a Christmas or Winter jumper - Families invited to make a donation through our JustGiving page
Mon 15th Dec	KS2 (Year 3,4,5 and 6) Church carol concert - all parents and carers welcome 2pm
Wed 17th Dec	Nursery Christmas sing a long with parents and carers 2:30pm
Wed 17th Dec	Whole school Santa Dash - sporting experience
Wed 17th Dec	Christmas dinner for children
Wed 17th Dec	Active Learning family opportunity at drop off 08:40 - 08:50
Thu 18th Dec	Christmas sing a long with parents and carers 3pm
Fri 19th Dec	Last day of Autumn 2 half term



FOLLOW US

Term Dates 2025/26

[For 2026/27 dates see our website](#)

Autumn term 2025

Thursday 4th September to Friday 24th October

Half term: Monday 27th October – 3rd November

Tuesday 4th November to Friday 19th December

Christmas holidays: Monday 22nd December to
Tuesday 6th Jan

Spring term 2026

Tuesday 6th January to Friday 13th February

Half Term: Monday 16 February to Friday 20
February

Monday 23rd February to Friday 27th March

Easter Holidays: Monday 30th March to Friday
10th April

Summer term 2026

Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd May

Half Term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Monday 1st June to Friday 17th July

Summer Holiday: Monday 20th July onwards

INSET Days (closed to pupils)

Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

Wednesday 3rd September

Monday 3rd November

Monday 5th January

Monday 20th July