



Merry Christmas



Dear Parents,

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will bring great joy for all the people.

Luke Chapter 2 Verse 10

The joy of being the head teacher of our wonderful school is that, every term, I get to share with you some of the great news stories of all the exciting things the children have done.



The events aren't quite in the same league as the incredible news that the angels shared with the shepherds on the hillside 2000 years ago; that God had sent his son, to be saviour and bring peace to the world. It was the beginning of a great story that has transformed the lives of millions of people over time.

However, I can draw a similarity with the startled excitement, like the shepherds, that I have seen on the faces of all our children over the last couple of months, as they embrace the opportunities, we have given them beyond the classroom. It has been a joy to behold!



From performing on stage at The New Theatre in Oxford, to competing in the County Cross Country finals at Radley College; from showing compassion and reflection with our Shoe Box Appeal, to recreating the Great Fire of London and burning their homework (model buildings) with an explosives expert and fireman on hand! I will let the pictures over the next couple of pages tell more of our Standlake Story for the autumn term.

However you choose to celebrate this busy festive period, I hope that you are able to find time to enjoy being with your family and celebrate the things that are important to you all.

Happy Christmas

Andrew Denham



FSU Nativity

Murphy and Donaldson Class delivered a wonderful nativity play at the end of term. The staff did a great job of getting some very 'end-of-term-tired' children to remember most of their lines and have happy smiley faces during the songs. Well done to you all!



New Theatre Dance Performance



We might be a bit biased but we thought our Dance Troupe was the best of the 30 other schools who performed at the New Theatre dance festival in Oxford! Mrs Isard had done a fantastic job choreographing the children. We had a short rehearsal before heading off to Debenhams for a hot chocolate(!) and then back for the big show. The troupe were absolutely amazing and 'totally smashed it!'. You were soooooo good! Well done.



Friday Enrichment

Our Friday Enrichment afternoon continues to provide the children with great opportunities to receive high quality instruction from art, music, sports coaches. Some of the children got a chance to perform their work to parents at the end of term.



Piano Recital



We were all delighted to see so many children perform at our piano recital. They have all practiced so hard with their pieces and embraced the challenge of performing in front of an audience.



Remembrance

Our school community of parents, children and staff came together for an Act of Remembrance by the Peace Garden. It was our way of remembering those who had died so that we have the freedom to live our lives today. Our Poppy Appeal raised £119.



Boccia Tournament



Well done to Team Standlake at the BOCCIA tournament. It was fantastic to see you representing the school for the first time and doing so well, narrowly losing in the semi-finals. Mr Denham was very proud of you!

County Cross Country



Our Under 11 Girls did us proud at the County Cross Country Finals. They were up against tough competition and deserved a 'treat' on the way home! A special mention to Ellie who is now, officially, a County Top 20 runner. Well done, girls.

Shoe Box Appeal

Our traditional Shoe Box Appeal was a great success with over 121 boxes being filled with gifts to send to children in Eastern Europe, bringing some more joy into their lives this Christmas.



Theatre Trip



Y2-6 watched *Beauty and the Beats* at the theatre and found it very amusing when Mrs Conroy & Ms Lewis had to go up on stage!

Playground

We are all very frustrated that the heavy rains and flooding has stopped building of our adventure playground. But it will happen. We promise!



Christmas Fayre

Thank you to FOSS for organising a wonderful Christmas Fayre—the total amount raised was a fantastic £1,013.70! This was the last event organised by the outgoing FOSS committee and they did themselves proud. Thank you to everyone who came and supported us.



Choir

The Choir gave two excellent performances at the turning on of the Faringdon Christmas lights and our Christmas Fayre. They sang with such enthusiasm and joy!



BE BOLD
BE BRAVE
BE COURAGEOUS
Joshua Ch11 v9

CE
Standlake
Primary School

BE AMBITIOUS
BE RESILIENT
BE COMPASSIONATE
Standlake OX29 7SQ

www.standlakeschool.co.uk

Compassion

Tolerance

Forgiveness

Honesty

Thankfulness

Love

Donaldson Class

Donaldson Class have been learning about different fabulous festivals that happen during Autumn and Winter. We went on an Autumn walk to look for different coloured leaves. We also had a competition to dress each other for different weather conditions. In PE, we have been practicing forward rolls and other moves in gymnastics.



Blake Class

This term Blake class have been learning about the Great Fire of London. We have explored how the fire started and how we can nowadays keep ourselves safe during a fire. We enjoyed having a visit from a fireman and fire expert who burnt our Tudor houses and saw how the fire spread so fast. We have also been writing and filming our own news reports and showing off our brilliant performing skills. In music we have learnt how to play London's burning on the ukuleles and created some brilliant fire inspired art work. In science we have look at different materials and investigated how absorbent they are.



Dahl Class

In Dahl class, our topic this term has been 'Standlake'. We have considered what facilities there are in our village, what life would have been like for previous generations and what improvements we would like to see! In Science, we have been finding out about electricity by making simple circuits and experimenting with static, whilst in Computing we have started programming using Scratch. We have enjoyed our enrichment sessions on Fridays, getting creative with Jesse's Art Shed and developing our performance skills with Showtime and Puppet Theatre.



Murphy Class

In Murphy class, this term, our topic has been Art Attack! We have been enjoying lots of painting, drawing and messaging activities. We have also taken part in World Nursery Rhyme week, where we sang a new rhyme every day. During Forest School, we have enjoyed making a hedgehog home, hanging on branches and exploring the flood field! After Forest School or any outdoor activities, we like to return to class to enjoy a story by the 'fire' with a hot chocolate drink.





Shakespeare Class

This term our topic has been WW2 which we have all thoroughly enjoyed. We have learnt about: how the war started, The Holocaust, the impact the war had on women, children and men during that time, as well as creating our own secret messages using a coding system. We also had our own Standlake come dancing in which we created and performed dances in the style of the Charleston. We held our own stalls at the Christmas fair in which Freddy, Fenn and Rasan won the competition of which group could make the most money. None of them shared their chocolates with Mr Denham even after all of his badgering. We have continued our playing of the Ukulele during Friday enrichment.

Morpurgo Class

The Final Frontier has been our topic title as we have explored Space this term. We have learnt about the dangers of the first moon landings, debated whether or not animals should have been used in space exploration and found out what it takes to become an astronaut, by studying Britain's own Tim Peake. In DT we have designed and made our own space shuttles, as well as continuing to enjoy our Friday enrichment including swimming and cooking.





Three Cheers for Volunteers!

Thank you to the following people who have given up their time to support our school this term.

Mr Todeschini and Mr Hardy for helping Blake Class set fire to their Home Work as part of their Great Fire of London re-enactment!

Mrs Isard coaching the children for helping the dance competition

Mr Wilkinson-Goff for playing the bugle (for the last time) during our Act of Remembrance. Thank you for your years of service.

Mrs Christy, Mrs Clanfield, Mr Clay, Mrs Collier, Mrs Armeanu for reading

Mrs Bowden running and organising the cycling proficiency training and her helpers, including Mrs Geddert, Mr Del Rio & Mrs Macdonald

Mrs Towersey for Choir, Mrs Conroy for Eco Club, Mrs Mitchell for Book Club, Ms Gurga for Library Club and Mr Brown for Lego Club.

Mrs Smith & Mrs Bentley supporting Mrs Towersey with the Standlake Choir at Festive Faringdon and the Christmas Fayre

The FOSS team for organising the fantastic Christmas Fayre, Christmas cards and Christmas gifts!

An extra special mention must go to the FOSS Committee who are stepping down after several years of fantastic support and fundraising for the school. This committee have raised £29,000 for the school over the last three years. A simply incredible amount of money that has made an amazing difference to the lives and learning of the children in the school. Mrs Hardy, Mrs Hobbs, Mrs Weldon, Mr Cleland and Mrs Pountney...you are LEGENDS! THANK-YOU

Term 6 Achievement Book

Lena for demonstrating great confidence in all areas of learning
Alfie for always being polite and helpful and trying his best across all subjects
Leo for showing great determination and resilience with our tests this week
Ezra for using excellent scientific language when he was describing seasonal changes
Emily K for always trying her best in all our work
Jake R for amazing progress in his maths learning this week.



Ella W for always helping others and being kind and caring
Oscar C for always being polite and helping those around you
Sophie G for being compassionate to others and being so helpful even with her injury!
Zoe G for great knowledge of abstract art and fantastic detailed pencil sketches of rockets
Amy H for great discussion in science this week
Esme for working hard, maintaining focus and a positive attitude

Eadie for fantastic effort and progress in phonics and reading
Rosie B for wowing Miss Cuddy with her excellent knowledge of the seasons
Joshua R for your brilliant effort in reading
Charlie R for having an amazing attitude to our reading comprehension
Laycie for being kind and playing nicely
Che for his excellent 'can do' approach towards this week's assessments.



Chardonnay for always looking out for others and being kind and caring
Rassan for fantastic effort in everything this week
Ella T for her enthusiasm and effort in reading and writing
Freddie I for listening, working hard and making great progress as a result. You are a real role model!
Selyan for the energy and fun you have brought to Morpurgo class. We will miss you.
Autumn for a great 'can do' attitude

Henry C for working hard in phonics and always being helpful and kind to others
Kyrah E for always coming in with a smile and trying hard
Maira for being brave, bold and courageous during swimming this week
Emilee for making great progress with her phonic sounds
Freddy W for using BOMAS with fractions
Holly for her positivity and joyfulness in all that she does





The following children have read between 25 and 300 times since the start of the year...

MURPHY: 25 reads: Shannon-Rose, Sienna, 50 reads: Henry, Beth, William T, Samuel, Eadie, Reggie 75 reads: James, Gabe, Lena, Nancy, Ella 100 reads: Oliver, Arlowe, Arthur

DONALDSON: 25 reads: Elias, Mark, Finley, Kitty, Reilly, Kaleb 50 reads: Rosie, Lily, Annabel, Tilly, Emilee 75 reads: Ezra, Sophie, Sienna, Ella, Alexander 100 reads: Finlee, Luis

BLAKE: 25 reads: Jack, Charlie, Alfie 50 reads: Harry, Ciara, Ruby, Frederick, Ferris, Leila, William, Finn, Olivia C, Freddie, Ben 75 reads: Archie, Rhys, Aaron, Scout 100 reads: Mara Jade, Darcy, Oscar

DAHL: 50 reads: Marley, Emily K, Emilia, Kassia, Darragh, Freddie 75 reads: Kaspar, Niall, Abi, Louie, Cameron, Yilin, Sammi 100 reads: Lucy, Milo, Grace B, Grace W, Rosie W

MORPURGO: 25 reads: Will 50 reads: Indianna, Cara, Simi, Freya, Sophie, Holly, Che, Jake 75 reads: Diego, Jack, Zoe, Emilia, Amanda 100 reads: Fran, Alec, Brodie, Mae, Ella, Eddie

SHAKESPEARE: 25 reads: Annabel, Connie, Zara, Benjamin 50 reads: Bailey, Finlay, Amy G, Amy H, Charlie, Leo, Lawrence, Harry B 75 reads: Isabel, Eleanor, Ellie, Leif, Brody, Elodie, Lydia 100 reads Freddy, Emily, Fenn

Thank you to everyone who attended parents' evenings last week. We hope that you found them helpful. Please let Mr Denham know if there is any way we can make further improve the way in which we let you know how your children are getting on...

Class	Percentage Attended
Shakespeare	100% (25/25 families)
Morpurgo	92% (23/25)
Dahl	96% (28/29)
Blake	89% (24/27)
Donaldson	94% (16/17)
Murphy	93% (25/27)

Key Dates

2019/20

Thursday 19th December: Last Day. 1.10pm finish

Monday 6th January: INSET

Tuesday 7th January: Term starts

Friday 14th February: Last Day. 3.10pm finish

Monday 24th February: Term starts

Friday 3rd April: Last Day. 1.10pm finish

Monday 20th April: INSET

Tuesday 21st April: Term starts

Friday 22nd May: Last Day. 3.10pm finish

Monday 1st June: Term starts

ParentPay

Please ensure that you check that you are up to date with payments on ParentPay and School Grid. If you have any difficulties with the system or



Sign up letters will go out in the first week back of the new term & clubs will start the following week:

Monday: Choir (12.30-1.00pm)
 Eco Club (3.10-4.15pm)
Tuesday: Book Club (12.30-1.00pm)
 Football (3.10-4.15pm)

