

# St Ambrose Newsletter

With Jesus, we plant the seeds of tomorrow

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023



0151 425 2306



[www.stambroseprimary.co.uk](http://www.stambroseprimary.co.uk)



@StAmbroseSpeke



## Weekly Attendance

Reception	83.2%
Year 1	88.7%
Year 2	90%
Year 3	86.6%
Year 4	94.3%
Year 5	82.1%
Year 6	90.7%

**Whole  
School:  
88.7%**

We aim for every child to have at least 97% attendance over the year. Children with this level of attendance will be rewarded each term.



## Golden Book

## Certificates

Congratulations to the following children who all received a golden certificate this week

Nursery	Sebasthean C
Reception	Gabriella R
Year 1	Lukah O'H
Year 2	Sadie J
Year 3	Roberta C
Year 4	Frankie K
Year 5	Jessica M
Year 6	Mason M

**GOLDEN TICKET**

**Ezra Buckley**

For being our lunch time star of the week!

## Nursery

I am so proud of Nursery this week, they were all amazing in our first ever school Nativity. Thank you to those families who came to watch, I hope you all enjoyed the performance! We have been very busy making Christmas cards, which have taken many skills to achieve. We used our fine motor skills to roll the paint onto the bubble wrap and carefully peeled it back to create a print. We also worked hard to write our names inside and we are starting to form some letters using the correct pencil grip. We have been speaking about the characters in the Christmas Story, including; Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the Angel Gabriel. Thank you for your support this term. Have a lovely Christmas and look forward to seeing you in January.

## Reception

Wow! What a very busy final week of term we have had in Reception. Firstly, I would like to say a massive well done to all of the children for learning their lines and saying them so beautifully in all three Nativity performances. We had a visit from Santa on Wednesday. It was so exciting for the main man himself to visit our class and leave us all some special treats. On the same day, we also enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner. On Thursday, we went to listen to Key Stage One and Two in their beautiful Carol Service. I am very impressed at how respectful all the children were whilst in church. On Friday, we enjoyed our Christmas party very much. We had fun, games and dancing! Wishing you all a fun-filled Christmas break and a peaceful New

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January: INSET DAY: school closed to children

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January: Spring Term begins

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January: Equality and Diversity Week

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January: Y5 final swimming

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January: Y4 swimming begins

## Year 1

We've had such an exciting week in Year 1 to round off a lovely first full term together. A huge thank you to those families who joined us in church for our Carol Service on Thursday - I hope that you enjoyed our song, as the children have been working really hard on it for the past two weeks! We have made Christingles this week, it would be lovely to see some pictures of them on your tables during the holiday. We enjoyed a Christmas movie on Friday and ate the fruit jellies that we made ourselves in D.T. In English, we read 'Elmer' and learned about how everyone is different and special. The children have really blossomed over this first term in Year 1 and I am excited to see the next stage in their learning. Merry Christmas everyone!

## Year 2

It has been great fun enjoying all the Christmas festivities this week and sharing the Christmas spirit with one another. Thank you to those who joined our school family in church for our Carol Service. I am so proud of how beautifully the children sang. We really enjoyed our Christmas dinner and would like to thank our amazing kitchen staff for working hard every day to prepare our delicious meals. In D.T. we designed and made our own fruit salads using the bridge and claw cutting skills. As part of 'Equality and Diversity Week', we read 'The First Slodge' by Jeanne Wills and celebrated how we share our world and that it belongs to everyone. Thank you for your generous gifts. I hope you have a wonderful break with your loved ones. Merry Christmas!

### Year 3

We have had a very busy and enjoyable end to the term. As part of 'Equality and Diversity Week' we read 'This is our House' by Michael Rosen. I was very impressed by the mature conversations had by the children, discussing how just because someone is different, doesn't mean they should be excluded. In

R.E. this week, we explored how special the shepherds would have felt when they were chosen by God to receive the news of Jesus' birth. On Thursday we joined our whole school family in church for the Carol Service. The children read and sang beautifully and it was a special way to celebrate Christmas. On Friday we enjoyed our Christmas Party and Movie Day. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!

### Year 4

We have had such a busy final week of term in Year 4. It has been lovely to see the children enjoying all the festive celebrations. In English, we recognised 'Equality and Diversity Week' by reading 'Dog's Don't Do Ballet' by Anna Kemp. We reflected on the importance of belonging and being proud of our differences. The children then created a diary entry from the perspective of the dog. In D.T. we discussed the impact of different foods on our teeth and created a 'tooth-friendly' snack. On Thursday, we joined our school family in church for our Carol Service. The children have worked so hard on their song and it was lovely to see this work pay off. For Christmas Party Day, we had a wonderful time playing games and dancing with each other. Merry Christmas!

### P.E. AT ST AMBROSE

We've had lots of Christmas fun in P.E. this week. We have played games with Christmas songs, and some children who wanted to, got the chance to make adjustments to their gymnastics routines and perform them again for their class! Please keep an eye out on Arbor for consent regarding clubs for next term. They will be changing and all children will need to have permission granted to attend. Reception are welcome to begin attending clubs next term too, and we cannot wait to have them with us!

### Year 5

As part of Equality and Diversity week, we read 'Rose Blanche' by Roberto Innocenti. We looked at the discovery Rose uncovered, and explored her feelings and emotions. We then wrote diary entries from the perspective of Rose Blanche explaining her discovery. In D.T. we designed, created and evaluated Viking helmets, we discussed what materials traditional Viking helmets were made from.

As we continue with our Advent celebrations, we created Christmas cards for our family members. On Thursday we performed 'Nazareth Calypso' as part of our school Carol Service in church. Year 5 sang with great confidence and we hope everybody left feeling in the festive spirit. Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas break and a Happy New Year!

### Year 6

As part of 'Equality and Diversity Week', we read 'The Island' by Armin Greder. We looked at the way that a refugee was treated and wrote formal persuasive letters to the Mayor of the island demanding change. In D.T. we used Pringles tubes to create torches. We created light circuits, which included a switch, so that we could turn our torch on and off. We have been busy with our Advent preparations and enjoyed creating Christmas cards for our loved ones. Also, on Thursday we performed 'Away in a Manger' as part of our school Carol Service at St Ambrose Church. Yet again, the children did not disappoint and their singing was the perfect way to get in the mood for Christmas. Have a fantastic Christmas break Year 6 and I hope that you and your families enjoy spending such a wonderful time of the year together!

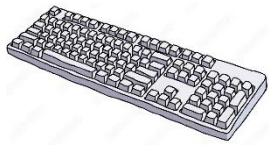
## ARBOR

As we move towards reducing our paper use as a school, it is essential that you continue to engage with the Arbor app. On Arbor, you should make payments for things such as; school meals, class trips and year group residentials. We also now use Arbor to gather consent for educational visits and will no longer be sending home return slips of paper for you to sign. Without your consent, your children will not be able to attend class trips, and we do not have the staff capacity to constantly ring home to ask for consent. Please ensure that all email addresses are fully up to date.

## OPAL

We are now approximately 15 months into our OPAL journey. OPAL stands for Outdoor Play and Learning and our aim is to give every child an hour of excellent quality play each day, regardless of the weather. A reminder that all children should have WELLIES and a WARM, WATERPROOF coat in school each day. We are happy to store the wellies in school. Please make sure all items have the child's name inside. Over Christmas, it would be great if you could look for any of the following loose parts and bring them to school during the first week back:

- suitcases
- cable drums
- wooden pallets
- fabric (sheets/saris/curtains)
- plastic crates, bins or boxes (any size)
- old keyboards/mobile phones/torches/calculators/laptops/kettles
- anything made from foam (not polystyrene)



## CAROL SERVICE AND NATIVITY

Thank you to those families who were able to attend our EYFS Nativity and Carol Service this week. I'm sure you will agree, the children were amazing. Performances like these do not happen by chance. Our wonderful staff have worked so hard over the past few weeks to give your children fantastic learning opportunities.

## THANK YOU

As we finish for our Christmas break, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of our staff, to thank you for the cards, gifts and kindness shown today, and since September. We thank you for choosing St Ambrose and we look forward to planting more seeds in the Spring Term, allowing your children to grow.

