



Monday 15th December

Dear families,

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2025!

This year has certainly seen many reasons for us to celebrate. With a successful OFSTED inspection back in March, we were so pleased to be recognised as a happy and welcoming school, with pupils who are polite, proud and looked after well.

This year, as always, our staff have worked hard to plan a range of opportunities to make our curriculum meaningful and engaging, with visits to museums, the theatre, science centres and historic towns, to name a few. Not forgetting residential trips to Lydeard Farm and Mendip Activity Centre for our older children.

Change is inevitable, and this summer, we were sad to bid farewell to Mrs Richardson and Miss Willows – longstanding members of the Winscombe school community. However, this September, we have been lucky to welcome Mr Bayliss, our previous sports coach and learning support assistant, as a trainee teacher, and we definitely weren't surprised when he received excellent feedback in his most recent formal lesson observation. We have also been fortunate to meet Mr Molland, who visits us weekly now and provides sports intervention sessions, which promote well-being, collaboration and social skills. We look forward to more children benefitting from his time in the new year.

As the saying goes, 'It takes a village to raise a child' and we know that our successful school wouldn't be the place it is without the army of helpers who work alongside us to enhance our provision. Our PTFA, who work hard to fundraise for all of those extras, which we know our school budget wouldn't quite cover; our librarians, who enable all of the children to visit the school library regularly and borrow books for pleasure; our volunteers, who come in to read with children, lend a hand or run lunchtime activities; and our green-fingered parents, who are really supporting our children to develop our allotment and help with plans for a polytunnel.

Beyond our classrooms, and the faces you regularly see, we are also extremely grateful to our kitchen team, Becky and Lynn, for making sure we are all so well fed; our cleaning team, Kathy and Paul, who ensure the school stays spic and span and our caretaker, 'Mr Mike', who keeps the school safe and in good order.

As we approach the end of term, I am certain you will agree, we have so much to be fortunate for as a school. I know that the teaching staff and office staff are already busy preparing and planning for the new year, and I am sure you will join me in extending a heart-felt thank you to them for the hard-work and care they put into looking after our children so well.

A final thank you to you, our families, for supporting our busy school life: for embracing the fun-runs, forest school, learning conversations, dress-up days, nativities, choir concerts, clubs and all that makes a primary school a special place to be.

Wishing you a fun-filled festive season and the opportunity to spend time valuable together.

All the very best for a healthy and happy New Year.

Kind regards

Mrs Baker



Parent Planner Autumn Term

Monday 15th December	Pantomime
Tuesday 16th December	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch PTFA Disco
Wednesday 17th December	Mince pies and thank you for school helpers – 1.15pm Community Carols – KS2 Playground 2pm – all welcome.
Thursday 18th December	KS2 Carol Service at St James' Church 1.15pm
Friday 19th December	End of Autumn Term
Monday 5th January	Spring Term begins

An excellent performance from the School Choir!

Last Saturday 6th December, members of Mrs Worthy's singing club attended a Candlelight Concert at St Michael's Church in Brent Knoll and joined a range of local musicians for an evening of festive music and talent. Well done to Reggie, Rosabelle, Eliza, Roux, Immy, Tilly, Toby, Scarlett, Molly and Iris and a huge thank you to Mrs Worthy for helping them. Everyone commented on how well they sang together and how much they had enjoyed their performances of 'Noel' and 'God's Great Plan'.



Super fundraising efforts again!

Thank you again to our PTFA, who raised a fantastic £171 at the Christmas late night event, and a further £180 at the year 1 and year 5 cake sale! Cake sale proceeds will directly benefit class resources and the Winscombe festive night funds will be used to support our polytunnel project.

Christmas Jumper Day

Please remember to make a small contribution via Just Giving to Save the Children using this link

https://www.justgiving.com/page/winscombe-school-13?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Our very own Pantomime Stars!

A big congratulations to Evie, Hazel and Freya, who last week starred in a local pantomime at Bridgwater Town Hall. They all had speaking parts in 'Snow White' and were so polished in their singing and dancing. We know that lots of their friends and family went to watch and enjoy, but it was an extra special treat for Mrs Baker, who had gone to watch her own daughter, to recognise some familiar faces!



A great Festive Crew Day

With thanks to our talented team of teaching assistants, Friday's Crew Day was packed with so many different activities for the children to enjoy. As well as Santa Science and Festive Bingo, there was biscuit making, forest school decorations and Christmas Cracker craft. The Eco-Warriors' hard work has ensured that the school now has over 200 crackers made from upcycled materials ready for tomorrow's Christmas Lunch! Hugo and Florence were certainly very pleased with all they had made!

