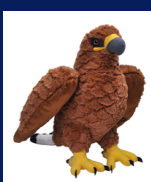


# THE FRIDAY LETTER



## This Week at The Wyche

This week Badgers explored the Highwayman, a tremendous descriptive poem by Alfred Noyes and used it to develop their figurative writing. Stoats developed their Greek dances, adding their own improvised steps and getting feedback from their peers, Otters had an incredible time writing stories of the Minotaur's Labyrinth in a dark and atmospheric environment complete with dripping and echoing sound effects, Foxes were reading and writing Christmas poems and looking at alliteration and Hedgehogs baked cakes this morning, and the whole school smelt yummy. All this and three Nativity plays. Bostin.



## Collective Worship

In collective worship this week we considered who was trusting who on the road to Bethlehem for the census. Turns out everyone is trusting everyone else - that's what relationships are all about, and both Mary and Joseph were putting their faith in God. We also practised our carols and watched the dress rehearsal of the splendid Nativity play *Secret Angels!* It was absolutely excellent.

## Online Safety (under 5s)

More and more younger and younger children have access to digital devices but there are always risks. If your Reception child or pre-schooler has access to your (or their own) phone or tablet, please consider the safety precautions on p.4 to keep them safe.



## Support for Parents

Christmas is coming and it brings joys and challenges in equal handfuls. Don't forget the resources for managing mental health and dealing with worries on our web-page at: <https://www.wyche.worcs.sch.uk/mental-health-and-well-being> and in our Support for Parents resources. It's ok not to be okay and talking to someone is always the right thing to do. <https://www.wyche.worcs.sch.uk/mental-health>



Crumbs ... it's the last week of term already. Where does it go. It's the third Sunday of Advent at the weekend but it feels like Christmas is properly underway now we have had the lower School Nativity.

Always in partnership,  
*Mr Murphy.*



We can all play a part in **safeguarding** children. If you are ever worried about the safety of a child, please discuss this with Mr Murphy, Mrs Baylis or Mrs Charles. You can refer or get advice from Children's Services on 01905 822666.

If you think a child is in immediate danger, please call the police on 999.

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## In school this week:



### Badger Class Science!

This week, badger class have been creating mirror mazes to prove that light travels in straight lines.

A keen group of boys including Max, Sam, Alfie, Olly and Jonah managed to successfully bounce the light through a maze of 8 mirrors!



### Strive the Eagle:

Loves a crossword  
4 Down: Each loses church and gains a shaken leg for bird (5)

**"They will soar on wings like eagles." Isaiah 40:31**

Malvern Wyche C of E Primary School

# Together We Soar

## Get the Attendance "Buzz".

Hedgehogs once again had the best attendance this week! Buzz had a great time last week and has been reading stories, cooking and playing outside. No wonder he did not want to leave.

We do our level best to provide a great education for your kids, please do your best to bring them in every day. Our attendance is currently 97.74% for the year but it should be much higher than this. If you are concerned about your child's low attendance and need support please come in for a friendly chat - we would love to help. In addition advice is available on [The Education Hub Blog](#). Click the link.

## Afterschool Clubs.

Please note there are NO afterschool clubs running next week. A new clubs sign-up form will be sent out at the beginning of the Spring Term with after school offerings for January onwards. As always, places are allocated first come - first served but we will communicate when this list is to be published to give everyone a fair chance.

## Carol Service.

You are all invited to attend All Saints Church on Tuesday 17th December for the school Carol Service. The children have been practising songs, readings and prayers to enjoy during the service. We will begin promptly at 2pm so come and enjoy the festive celebrations. Please note the school office will be closed from 2pm - 3pm on this day to allow all to enjoy the service.

## KS1 Party Day.

This is a reminder that KS1 are having a Christmas party day on Thursday. Foxes and Hedgehog class children are invited to come into school in their party clothes - be aware that they will still be going outside for playtimes so ensure they have something warm. Lunch will be as normal so please book with Black Pepper or send in a lunchbox.

## Hedgehog Class Baking.

In DT Hedgehog class have been learning how to make cakes. They used 4 basic ingredients to make some beautiful cupcakes. Well Done!



## Black Pepper Christmas Dinner

Black Pepper Christmas dinner will be served by Mr Murphy and the teachers on Wednesday 18th December. This is an annual tradition in school and one which is enjoyed by both the children and teachers. Christmas jumpers will be worn.

## Homegrown Communications

We have been asked to remind the parents of children who go to Homegrown that sickness, change of collection and club information needs to be communicated directly to them. We, the school, do not share this information; it needs to come directly from parents. Thank You.

By living and learning together through our Christian values of *Safety, Trust, Respect, Inspiration, Value, & Engagement*, with God's help, we will support each other to "soar", lifting hearts and broadening horizons, so that by giving our best today, the world may be better tomorrow.

## Stars of the Week

It is always a delight to award a "Star of the Week" award to a child who has demonstrated the **STRIVE** values in classwork. This week's award-winning superstars are:

**Hedgehogs**  
Rose Devo  
Felix Carter

**Foxes**  
Aaliya Jismy

**All of Fox Class for a fabulous week**

**Otters**  
Archie Seymour  
Eleanor Ransted-Price

**Stoats**  
Cora Jones  
Catherine Munford

**Badgers**  
Charlie Morris  
Penny Jones

## Housepoints!

Midsummer took the crown this week with a fabulous 97 points  
**Congratulations.**





# WHAT'S ON ?

**Mon 16th Dec:**

**Tues 17th Dec:** School Carol Service, 2pm, All Saints Church - All Invited!

**Weds 18th Dec:** Peripatetic Drum Lessons (Catch up Week)  
Black Pepper Christmas Dinner Day  
Stoat Class Open Classroom 2.45pm

**Thurs 19th Dec:** KS1 Party Day - Party Clothes  
Badger Class Open Classroom 2.45pm

**Friday 20th Dec:** Non-Uniform Day for whole school!  
Last Day of Autumn Term



**There are NO afterschool clubs or swimming this week.**

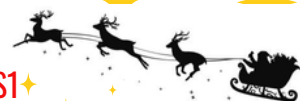
## Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday 17th December 2pm - Whole School Carol Concert
- Wednesday 18th December - Stoat Class Open Classroom 2.45pm
- Thursday 19th December - KS1 Party Day (party clothes for KS1 only)
- Thursday 19th December - Badger Class Open Classroom 2.45pm
- Friday 20th December - Last Day of Term (non-uniform day)
- Tuesday 7th January - First Day of Spring Term.

## KS1 Nativity!

On Wednesday and Thursday evenings parents were invited into school to enjoy the KS1 Nativity, this year entitled **Secret Angels**.

All the children did a fabulous job with some fantastic singing and tremendous acting. A huge thank you and congratulations must go out to the KS1 team for putting the whole show together.



**CONTACT US: 01684 573205 / [OFFICE@WYCHE.WORCS.SCH.UK](mailto:OFFICE@WYCHE.WORCS.SCH.UK) / [WWW.WYCHE.WORCS.SCH.UK](http://WWW.WYCHE.WORCS.SCH.UK)**



# ONLINE SAFETY FOR UNDER 5s

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Carers

According to Ofcom's most recent research, a significant proportion of children are already online by the time they start school, with 17% of 5-year-olds owning their own mobile phone and 50% using messaging platforms. As becoming familiar with technology is generally encouraged in younger children – and has been essential for education during the pandemic – it is crucial that trusted adults recognise both the benefits and the risks of infants and toddlers using digital devices. We've compiled our top tips to help the under-5s start their online safety journey.

### 1 USE DEVICES TOGETHER

This lets you monitor and control what your child is using the device for. It also provides the interaction that supports children's understanding of what they're seeing – allowing them to ask you questions, and so on.

PARENT CODE:  
\*\*\*\*\*

### 6 BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

If your child uses a device that's linked to a payment method (such as a bank card), use the parental controls to block buys from app stores, as well as in-app purchases. That will prevent your child from accidentally spending money while on your device.

### 2 ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most digital devices have built-in parental controls that can limit the type of content children have access to. If your little one uses any device (even borrowing yours), it's a good idea to explore what controls the device has and enable them whenever they have access to it.

### 7 CHOOSE SAFE APPS AND SITES

There are some fantastic apps and platforms that are specifically designed to be safer for children. Always check the PEGI age rating before downloading an app, and test it yourself before allowing your child to use it.

### 3 MANAGE SCREEN TIME

This can be tricky, especially if your child is interested in a certain video, app or game. Try to agree on some ground rules and get your child into a routine which includes certain times of the day when they go without devices.

### 8 INVOLVE THE FAMILY

If your toddler has older siblings, it's likely that their rules for device use will be different – and that they'll access content that isn't appropriate for younger ones (a particular worry if they share devices). Encourage the whole family to be good role models and help little ones stay safe online.

### 4 TALK ABOUT BEING SAFE ONLINE

Just like we teach children about being safe in the real world, we need to educate them about how to stay safe online. Use age-appropriate language to help them understand, and plenty of hand gestures can reinforce what you're telling them.

### 9 IF IN DOUBT, ASK

The easiest way to find out what your child is doing online is usually just to talk about it with them. Developing an open dialogue at an early age helps them grow up feeling able to talk to you about their digital life – providing opportunities to intervene if you're concerned.

### 5 SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

Children often learn by watching and copying those around them, and using digital devices is no exception. When you're around your child, try to follow the same rules that you've set for them. Let them see you balancing your time online with interacting with people in real life, too.

### 10 SUPPORT CREATIVE & ACTIVE PLAY

Physical and creative activities are important for a child's wellbeing, and there are plenty of ways to incorporate technology into that. For example, you could encourage games that require physical movement; dance and sing along to songs your child loves; and follow step-by-step crafting videos.

### Meet Our Expert

Konstantina Moustaka is a professional development and EYFS coordinator at an 'outstanding' nursery school in London. She has been working as a nursery and early years practitioner, both in the UK and internationally, for the past 18 years.



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Online  
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