DUCKLINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Tel. (01993) 703651 Website: https://ducklington.oxon.sch.uk/

Headteacher: Mr R. Leigh Chair of Governors: Mrs R. Buckland

Friday 5th December 2025

Headteacher's Thoughts

Last Friday saw the FODS Christmas event and grotto, which was an exciting time to take part in some activities and of course have a chance to meet Father Christmas. Thank you to FODS for organising and running this event and to everyone that took part.

Keeping the Christmas feel, here is a reminder of the events during the final couple of weeks of this term. Following a similar pattern to last year, we start with Thursday 11th at 10am with the Reception Nativity, the following week on Tuesday 16th with the Year 1 and 2 Nativity in church from 9:30am and later to round off the day we have the KS2 Carol service – in this service the children will sit with their parents to enjoy singing carols together with readings read by the children. On Thursday, is the Nursery Christingle Service in church. Also, on Thursday, is the chance to come in your Christmas jumper rather than your sweatshirt to enjoy our Christmas lunch together. Finally, the last day of term (19th December), we finish at 1:30pm for the Christmas holidays. Fun-packed weeks to finish off a busy term.

Despite having talked about Christmas, there are still some trips happening next week to continue the term's learning – On Monday, Year 5 are complementing their history topic of Vikings by heading to Hill End to consider life as Vikings. On Thursday, Year 1 head to Science Oxford. I am sure they will have a great time.

You will have received a letter this week to share the news of the new headteacher, Mrs Bramwell, who will start in January – please let the office know if you did not receive this letter. The children were able to meet Mrs Bramwell yesterday, and she will be back next Friday and will be around at the beginning and end of the day around the gates.

Mr. Leigh

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

Forgiveness

We will be thinking about how important it is to forgive people who upset us and how we need to say sorry if we do things to hurt others. We will be learning about how Jesus is a great inspiration to Christians to forgive others. We will also think about God's all-forgiving love.

"Forgive us our sins, as we also forgive everyone who sins against us."
Luke 11:4

Future Diary Dates.

Monday 8th December – Year 5 Trip to Hill End
Thursday 11th December – Year 1 trip to Oxford Science
Thursday 11th December – Reception Nativity
Tuesday 16th December – KS1 Nativity in church
Tuesday 16th December – 5pm KS2 Carol Service in Church
Thursday 18th December – Nursery Christingle
Thursday 18th December – Christmas Jumper and Lunch
Thursday 18th December 6:30pm Civic Carols – Choir
Friday 19th December – 1:30pm Christmas Holidays

Achievements Assembly

Well done to the children mentioned in our achievement assembly over the last few weeks.

Ducklings	Azra Aksahin, Abel Phipps
	Ivyrose Langham, Remy Smith-Sear
Owls:	Eli Fisher, Natna Gebre Yohanns
	Theo Lourenco, Aya Hoare
Mandarins	Holly Parker, Orren Harris
	Noah Reed, Kai Fisher
Eagles:	Ethan Rogers, Jack Aust
	Bilal Elouahabi, Evie Spolander
Robins:	Whole class
	Flora Bynorth, Olivia Keen Green
Kingfishers:	Whole class
	Aron Kusnyerik, Theo Baldwin
Red Kites:	Boyde Broome, Theo King
	Alana Bowers, Ben Buckard

Around the School

Reception

We have had a lovely term making new friends as well as sharing and exploring many new resources together, being creative and applying all our learning.

Painting tools

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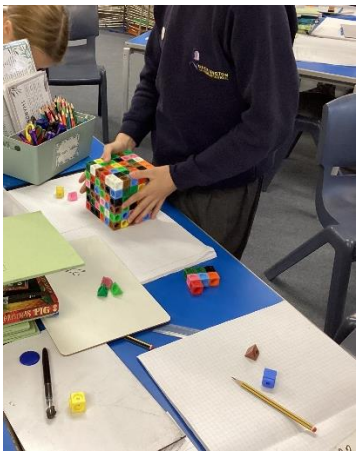
Year 5

What a term it has been so far! We have been learning all about Space, the planets in our solar system and even the phases of the moon. The children have loved exploring the different seasons and learning all about the rotations of Earth and its orbit. In English, we have written some out of this world narrative chapters to follow on from our book 'Cosmic'. They have done such a fantastic job of applying all their learning from this term into some really interesting, engaging and sometimes scary follow up chapters.

In maths we have finished our unit of multiplication, ending on multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000, which everyone has been fantatsic at!

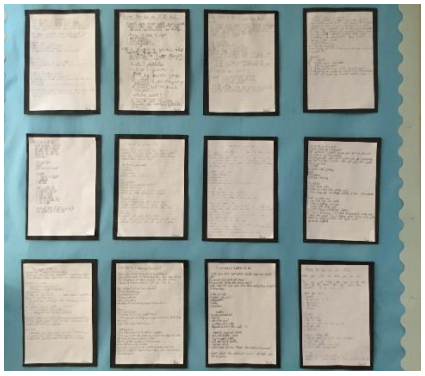


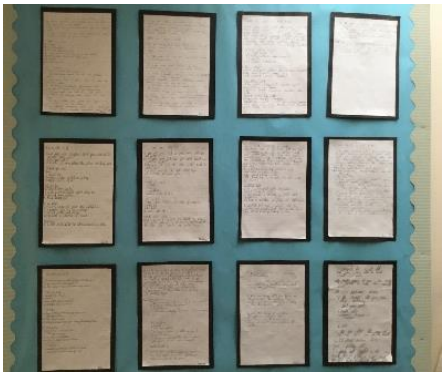
And finally, it wouldn't be the Christmas term without some decorations. The children spent some time on Monday morning decorating the classroom the way that they wanted it. It feels very festive and was a great way to kick off December.

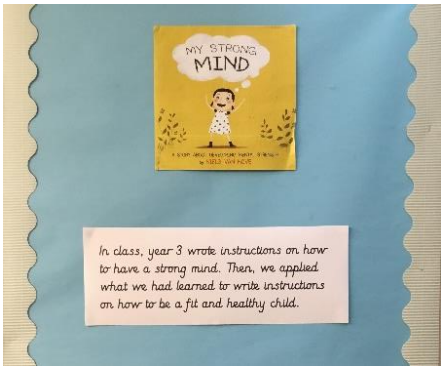
Year 3

In year 3, we have been busy learning French and getting lots of practice using greetings and asking and answering questions. The children have very good French accents!

In English, we have been writing instructions.







In RE, we have been learning about the true meaning of Christmas.

Sports News

Our Year 5/6 girls were invited to participate in a football match at Cokethorpe School on the 26th November. It was a fantastic game that really challenged our fabulous footballing girls, but they came out on top with a 4-3 win. The post-match tea was a very welcome treat after lots of time spent in the cold! Well done to all who took part. Yet again, they made us all at Ducklington very proud.

Parish News: Messy Church

Our next 'Messy Church' session will be held on Friday 5 December 2025 in St Bartholomew's church from 3.15 – 5.00pm. The children will be invited to enjoy Christmas crafts, stories and prayers. All children are invited to join us if they are accompanied by an adult. A selection of crafts will be available to enjoy, and a sandwich tea will be provided towards the end of the session. Please note food is generously provided by our volunteers and will have been made in their home kitchens.
We look forward to seeing you there. Thank you. Sarah Varnom

MESSY CHURCH IS BACK!
FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER 2025.
3.15-5.00PM
IN ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH,
DUCKLINGTON.

COME AND JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS CRAFTS, ACTIVITIES, MUSIC AND FOOD. OUR THEME IS LIGHT.

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME. PLEASE BRING YOUR CHILDREN ALONG AND STAY WITH THEM DURING THE SESSION. TEA AND COFFEE WILL BE AVAILABLE.

Just a reminder:
'Messy Church' is:

- a form of church for children and adults that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality.
- it meets at a time (and sometimes in a place) that suits people who don't necessarily belong to church.
- it typically includes a welcome, a creative time to explore a biblical theme through getting messy; a short celebration time involving story, prayer, song, games and similar; and sharing food together.
- it's fun.
- it's a church for people at all stages of their faith journey and of any age.
- it models and promotes good ways of growing as a family: a nuclear family, an extended family, and a global and local church family.
- its aim is to introduce Jesus, to give an opportunity to encounter him and to grow closer to him.

WE REALLY LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AND PREPARING OUR CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS.