



# BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

## WINTERFOLD

PREP • PRE-PREP • NURSERY

### Headmistress' Newsletter

**Week Commencing Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to say that Winterfold raised £237.94 for this year's Poppy Appeal. The overall appeal raised £3,692.88. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Congratulations to Catherine Clark, who has this week celebrated 30 years' at Winterfold. Catherine began her working life looking after the boarders who were here at the time. She has had a multitude of roles within the School, before moving into the Finance office. Catherine was presented with a memento in recognition of her dedicated and loyal service to the School.



☆ Congratulations to this week's Stars of the Week ☆

3B – Oswald F; 3W – Marcy D; 4B – Myles E; 4W – Bella VW-R; 5F – Brooke B; 5L – Nelly J; 6L – Harris B  
6S – Joshua C-W; 7D – Tilda M; 7M – Alexia I; 8B – Cara B; 8S – James B

This week's winning Pack is Eagles.

Very well done to the following pupils who made a tremendous effort in languages this term and received an MFL certificate:

French: Zachary M, Isaac W, Emily C, Harry H, Nelly J, Arjan K, Claudia S, Toby A, Cara B, Imi H, Daisy K, Savannah L-F, Ava P

Spanish: Freya C, Phoebe P, Imi H, Daisy K, Savannah L-F, Ava P

With a special mention to Daisy K and Savannah L-F who also received an MFL badge which they will be wearing with pride on their blazers.

The Spiritual Leaders were involved in making an Advent wreath, to mark the start of this season of preparation in the church year. The first candle represents 'Hope' demonstrated by the prophets who waited for the coming of Jesus; the second one represents 'Faith' personified by Mary and Joseph on their long journey to Bethlehem; the third candle represents 'Joy' experienced by the shepherd's at the news of Christ's birth and the fourth one represents 'Peace' bestowed upon all men by the angels. The final candle is lit on Christmas day to celebrate the Christ child's presence in our world.



Year 3 had their first class Mass this Thursday morning and they were all involved in various roles. Jonny H, Henry T and Grayson C served on the altar and they did so with reverence and pride. It was the feast day of St. Andrew, who is one of the apostles and the Patron saint for Eagles. The children listened carefully and they responded and sang with enthusiasm.



On Monday we were treated to a Mini-Me concert with Mr Sproston's brass pupils. There was a wide range of instruments of every shape and size, played with real flair and confidence. It is wonderful to see so many young pupils learning to play some challenging instruments.

On Tuesday, the Performance Platform took place, featuring twenty-two musicians who entertained the assembled parents with instruments from flutes to piano, voice to tenor horn. They demonstrated some wonderful musical skills and confidence. Thank you to the instrumental team who have really inspired our musicians this year.

Members of our Greenfingers team had a fabulous third visit of the term to Foley Grange. The residents had looked after their violas, so they were planted into hanging baskets. We also planted many bulbs into pots ready for spring.



On Tuesday, our U9 girls travelled to Hallfield for their final hockey matches of the season. They played extremely well, with lots of opportunities on goal. It has been wonderful to see how much the girls have developed their skills over the term.

Year 5&6 girls hosted Kings Hawford this week. The C team had a difficult match, where they were unable to challenge during the first half. In the second half, the girls worked much more effectively as a team, showing real determination.



Meanwhile, the B team had a successful afternoon of hockey, making some lovely plays through onto goal, alongside some excellent defensive skills. Finally, the A team displayed some excellent hockey. The girls worked hard throughout the duration of the game, creating several opportunities on goal. The passes throughout were effective and created space leading to a well-deserved win.



The Year 3 and 4 boys had their final festivals of the season on Tuesday, and it is wonderful to see how far they have come in the space of a term.

The Year 4 boys travelled to King's St Albans on a very chilly afternoon and both teams played four matches. They all displayed some excellent teamwork and an increased ability to pass into space. They tackled and defended with terrific energy.



The Year 3 boys had away fixtures at RGS the Grange and played very well – they worked well defensively to try and make six tags and ran well into space.



The senior boys played their final home matches of the season with Packwood Haugh. The first team started slowly and missed a few tackles early in the game. At half-time the scores were very close, and the second half saw the team go back to basics. This enabled them to use their pace and the performance in the 2nd half was excellent. The 2nd team had moments where they worked well together but unfortunately, didn't really show what they are capable of.



The 1st team are looking forward to the 7's rugby tournament at The Elms on Saturday and both teams are looking forward to their final matches next week at The Elms.

The Year 6 boys travelled to Packwood Haugh and again played some superb rugby, displaying a wonderful array of skills both in attack and defence. The Year 5 boys also enjoyed their afternoon of rugby and have continued to work hard and improve their skills. The mixed Year 5/6 team are enjoying playing contact rugby and are improving every week. They have one more match next week away at King's St Albans and hope they finish the season on a much deserved high.

Year 2 have enjoyed wearing their detective hats in Mathematics this week - they have been tackling multiplication and division word problems. Christmas has officially arrived in the classrooms. Children have decorated the rooms beautifully - thank you to our families for their participation in this. Children have focused on past tense verbs in English with the sounds of the week being 'ure' and 'ture'. The week ended with our Christmas Celebration in the Main House. It was a special afternoon, and we particularly enjoyed the Christmas crackers and the dance moves in *Funky Camels*!

In Year 1, children have been looking out for snow, which has linked well with their Geography work on understanding the causes and effects of floods. In Science, children learned to identify a range of marine creatures. In English, they continued their topic of *Jack and the Beanstalk* while in Mathematics, they put their knowledge and understanding of mental calculation strategies to good use by applying them to real life situations. Of course, the highlight of the week was the Christmas Celebration performance to their families. The children performed wonderfully, and we were very proud of them all.



Reception children started their week with a super performance of *A King is Born*. They loved welcoming the parents to school and hope they all went away feeling very Christmassy. Children continued with the build up to Christmas by making an Advent wreath and learning about the meaning and importance of Advent. The children have begun their Maths work on 'shapes with four sides'.





This week, Kindergarten 2 children enjoyed listening to the story *Pick a Pine Tree* and went on a lovely walk around School looking at different sized trees. The children continued to develop their Mathematics skills and had fun counting objects to place on a tree. They have also been busy getting creative by decorating the Christmas tree and making beautiful decorations.

In Kindergarten 1 this week, children have been focusing on the story of *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* They enjoyed learning about different types of bears and played games linked to colours. The children enjoyed taking part in collective artwork and mark-marking and wrapped up in warm clothes for their outdoor 'welly walk'.

In the Nursery, the Cygnets had a busy week completing their dinosaur topic. They made leaf pictures for the dinosaurs to eat, and coloured pictures using crayons and felt pens. Children listened to the story *Dinosaurs Love Underpants* and danced to the *Dino-Pokey*. They also got very messy during a body painting session, which they absolutely loved.

This week, the Goslings have been busy making a start on their Christmas artwork. They have enjoyed wrapping up warm and going for chilly walks around the School grounds. Meanwhile, the Ducklings have begun working on their winter artwork. All Nursery children spent a fun afternoon with their parents and grandparents on Thursday, painting, and decorating Christmas decorations.



The **Scholastic Book Fair** will be open during break times and lunch times from Monday 4th to Friday 8th December for children to buy books and stationery. Every book purchase will earn a raffle ticket which will go into a prize draw, and the winners will be announced next Friday afternoon. A percentage of all sales goes towards books for the School Library and classrooms. Books will also be available to buy during next Friday's Christmas Market.

A reminder that the Friends of Winterfold Christmas Market will be taking place next Friday from 3pm onwards. Please do come along and join your children for an afternoon filled with Christmas magic!

Finally, Christmas Holiday Clubs for KG1 to Year 2 are available over the holidays. Please refer to the email sent out or complete the online form [HERE](#). Activity Camps for older children (Years 3-8) will be available over the holiday period – to book, please visit [HERE](#) or contact [activities@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:activities@bromsgrove-school.co.uk).

Wishing you a good weekend.

Best wishes,

Denise Toms  
Headmistress