



# FLOWING STRENGTHENING DEEPENING

LIKE A TREE FIRMLY PLANTED BY STREAMS OF LIVING WATER  
PSALM 1:3

Dear Parents/Carers

It's our final afternoon of the autumn term and it's always a special time. There are decorations up, nativities have been taking place and there has been a great deal of Carol singing. As mentioned in previous communications we have recorded these events and these should now be available to you on the school's Teams platform. You should receive a separate letter which reminds you of (or introduces you to) the log in details for this account. For those few families we don't yet have an account for Mr Gordon has organised a separate system for you to view our Christmas offerings and you will receive a letter about this. My thanks to Mr Gordon for this and to Miss Fabisz for organising the presentations on Teams.

It has of course been a term with its challenges and we have been more restricted than we would like to be due to the measures we have needed to put in place to restrict the spread of the virus in school. As we finish the term there are only two children who are still absent having previously contracted the virus although I know it has affected so many families in so many different ways. We wish you all speedy recoveries where necessary and good health for the upcoming holidays.



Tel: 01480 462007 Email: [office@holywell.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@holywell.cambs.sch.uk)



We have finished the term saying goodbye to a valued member of the school staff. Donna Everdell has worked in the school kitchen for the past seven years and has always been a friendly and welcoming face at the serving hatch. She is moving on to The Ivo with our very best wishes. It won't be so long until some of our year 6s see her again. Thank you for all your hard work Donna.

We may not have been able to run our Christmas events in quite the way we had initially planned in recent weeks but there are still Christmas community events that are taking place. This includes outdoor Carol singing at the school this weekend, details below.

St John the Baptist church has the following upcoming services over the Christmas period to which everyone is welcome

- Sunday 19th December 6pm Carol Service on Holywell School playground (weather permitting) Please bring lanterns/ torches
- Friday 24th December 3pm Crib Service, Needingworth Village Hall
- Friday 24th December 11.30pm Midnight Communion, St John the Baptist , Holywell
- Saturday 25th December 9.30am Family Communion, St John the Baptist , Holywell
- Sunday 2nd January 9.30am Cafe Sunday in Holywell school hall

In the event of bad weather or changes to the government's covid guidance, any cancellations or alterations to the service schedule will be advertised on the Meridian benefice website (<http://www.meridianbenefice.org.uk/news.html>) and village facebook pages.

### Safeguarding

Another reminder that the designated safeguarding leads in school are as follows:

- Paul Baddeley
- Alex Gordon
- Katherine Mullee.

Some further e safety links, which may be useful at home, are detailed below:

1. [A parent's guide to privacy settings](#)
2. [Gaming: what parents and carers need to know](#)
3. [What is the Internet of Things \(IoT\)?](#)

There is news from the classes detailed on the next pages of this letter. I wanted to sign off for the year by thanking you all once again, not only for the support you have shown us as a school, but also for the way in which you have generously donated to the various charity events we have supported this term. Generosity and thankfulness are a key part of our school values and we appreciate the way in which you work with us in promoting this to the children.

I do hope that you are all able to have an enjoyable Christmas and a peaceful New Year together. We have a training day on the 4<sup>th</sup> January and the children return on the 5<sup>th</sup>. We aren't aware of any planned changes to the way in which we are currently running the school next term but should that change over the holiday I will let you know before the 5<sup>th</sup>.

Please do fill in parent view if you get the time, we still need some more responses to access it. <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Paul Baddeley

Tel: 01480 462007 Email: [office@holywell.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@holywell.cambs.sch.uk)



**News from the classes.** Below is a brief summary from each of the classes as to the sorts of things that have been going on over the past half term. Firstly, though the Junior travel ambassadors wanted to introduce themselves:

We are the JTA's and if you didn't know about us, we promote road safety. Recently we held a competition about road safety. We loved all the bright entries you gave us. It was a very hard decision but in the end we came to a winner. We had at least one winner/ runner up from each class.

Thank you!



### **Cedar**

Year 6 have been working very hard this term. We have won the Reading Challenge Cup several times and our scores have been consistently high. We have enjoyed learning about WWII and hearing about some of the experiences that family members had. After researching the battles of WWII we wrote inspiring speeches as leaders of countries or Generals of armies.

In Science we have been experimenting with series and parallel circuits.

In PE lessons we have taken part in Football and Rugby Intra competitions where we demonstrated fantastic tackling and impressed others with the level of participation from everyone in the class.

On our wall in the classroom are our amazing portraits, drawn and shaded with wonderful detail.

It has been busy term for us. We are a fabulous Year 6 who are super role models for our school.



### **Beech**

This half term we had the pleasure of swimming lessons - well, most of them. We really enjoyed swimming lengths, learning new strokes and improving our skills. We learnt how to touch the bottom of the pool in the deep end and collect things from the bottom of the pool in the shallow end. Some of us learnt to balance better while we were swimming, swim underwater, keep safe in an emergency and do a straddle jump. More importantly, lots of us overcame our fears about swimming.

In maths, we learnt about square numbers and cube numbers, as well as area and perimeter. We've written non-chronological reports and made posters about the heart and newspaper reports in English – hopefully, we can share these. In science, we found out about how animals and plants reproduce and some of the changes that take place as humans get older. We were able to ask a Muslim visitor from our school about what the Qur'an reveals to Muslims about how to live their life.

Learning about measures in maths has helped us in making our model 'dream' houses. We've done a lot of sawing and had a few 'hot' fingers from all the gluing!

We've performed our carols and our violin and viola pieces for everyone to enjoy and shared our wishes and hopes in our advent calendar. We enjoyed making our Christingles – and especially eating the sweets!

Finally, we've had to say goodbye to Miss Murkett, who has been working in our class this term, and moves on to a new school in January.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas!

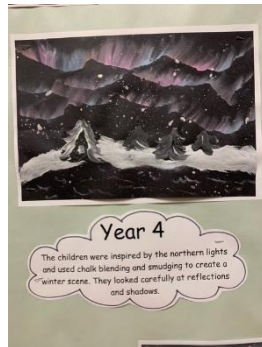
Tel: 01480 462007 Email: [office@holywell.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@holywell.cambs.sch.uk)





## Holly

This half term in Holly class, we have enjoyed reading two books in English and have written our own adapted stories based on 'Journey to J'burg' and used Enid Blyton's, 'Famous Five' as inspiration for an adventure story. We have covered The Respiratory System within Science and the children loved looking at Earthquakes and Volcano in our unit on Plate Tectonics. Our first D.T unit was focused on simple circuits, as we will later look at Electricity, and we loved designing and building Steady Hand Games and becoming engineers in the process. We also looked at balances in Gymnastics and the children produced, rehearsed and performed a range of brilliant floor routines. A victory for Holly class this term was managing to win the reading trophy, taking it from Cedar for the first time, and multiple times after!



## Oak

This term in Oak Class we have been really busy! In English we have written two stories based on books we have read, as well as a report on Prehistoric Britain, which we studied in history, and a recount all about the digestive system, which we learnt all about in our Science lessons!

In science we have also learnt all about forces and magnets and we have just finished our DT projects where we have used saws, hot glue guns and magnets to make magnetic mazes. It's safe to say the children have really enjoyed building these and it has been a lovely way to end the term.

Another highlight of our term was our trip to Flag Fen in Peterborough back in November. We were really impressed by how much the children remembered about Prehistoric Britain on the trip and they really enjoyed looking around the Bronze Age sites and listening to the story retelling around the fire in the round house.

In PE we have been learning how to play netball and the children have also had the benefit of Junior from the Huntingdon School Sports Partnership coming in to teach the children some dance moves. The children have also enjoyed their computing lessons with Mrs Edwards using Scratch to do some coding and make the start of a game called Time to Fly.

Tel: 01480 462007 Email: [office@hollywell.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@hollywell.cambs.sch.uk)



In Art the children have learned how to create different textures such as wood, metallic, marble and stone effects, as well as completing a winter scene for the large display board which you might have seen on our school Facebook page.

We can't believe we are now at the end of Autumn Term, we hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. In Spring Term, we are looking forward to lots more learning, and some of the highlights of what we will be learning about are below:

History	Geography	Art	Science	DT
The Ancient Egyptians	Population	Painting in the style of Gustav Klimt	Space: The Solar System	Baking Cup Cakes



#### Ash

Ash class have had another busy half term. Although very chilly, we have loved being outside in forest school. Ash class have particularly enjoyed our science unit this term; we have been learning all about carnivores, omnivores and herbivores. I cannot believe the quality of the writing we have seen this half term. They are making such good progress and the teachers are very proud of all of their hard work. We cannot wait to see even more progression in the New Year.



#### Willow

In Willow we have been amazing our teachers by learning 44 sounds since we started school! We can now read and write little words and simple sentences. We love inviting Mrs Harland and Miss Harland to our cafe and taking their orders. We had fun learning about Diwali and all made a clay diva. We have been very creative and have made all sorts of things in our junk modelling area. Forest School is always our favourite day of the week, we have been using the ropes to make swings, traps and wobbly bridges. In maths we have been practising our counting and simple addition and love using Numberblocks to help us learn. We finished off our busy term with a fabulous performance of The Wiggly Nativity. We loved learning all the songs and will probably still be singing them way into t

Tel: 01480 462007 Email: [office@holywell.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@holywell.cambs.sch.uk)

