

# Newsletter

Autumn Term.

December 2022

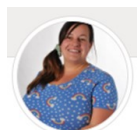
Dear families,

We have come to the end of a very busy and exciting term. We have had lots of 'firsts', including visits to All Saints Church, Nailstone and a 'whole school' theatre trip.

Our singing and signing this term has been really exciting and we now have our own choir who are preparing to sing at Young Voices in January of next year, with the support of Miss Hopper and Mrs Good.



Our Parent Forum evening was a big success. Families came to meet our two new assistant headteachers and to find out about LiFE Academy Trust. Lots of questions were asked and answers given.



Football club and dance club have been a real success since they were started, and the children are really enjoying being part of an



after school sporting club.

Our Nativity this year was so much fun with Sycamore and Oak leading 'The Wiggly Nativity'. We had a wonderful time learning about the Christmas story through songs, dances and readings.

Our links with the church have had such a positive impact on the school and the community, and we are really pleased to be feeling more like a community school.

I would personally like to thank all of our staff for working so hard, often above and beyond our normal working hours, and to our families for your continued support.

Wishing you a restful Christmas break and Happy New Year!

Mrs. Fletcher



## Remembrance Day.

We celebrated Remembrance Day in two ways this year with Sycamore visiting the Memorial Gardens in Nailstone and the rest of the school welcoming the community in to school to listen to us singing and sharing in our Two Minute Silence.

The children were very respectful and made the event very special.



## Maple Class

This half term has been a busy and enjoyable time, in Maple Class. In our topic lessons, we have been learning all about the Shang Dynasty of Ancient China and have created PowerPoints to present in pairs to the rest of the class. We have also made replica oracle bones and learnt that the ancient Chinese used these to foretell the future. In art, we have created landscapes, using our knowledge of colour theory and tints, tones and shades. During our English lessons, we have focused on using relative clauses and adverbials to add detail to our writing. We have used these skills, when rewriting the old English legend of Beedgelert. We have also enjoyed our first Dojo Day and amongst other activities, we baked and ate delicious fairy cakes. We have also enjoyed the whole school trip to watch the Sleeping Beauty pantomime and sing Christmas songs in Nailstone Church.

## Oak Class

What another busy term we have had in Oak Class! We have spent time learning about woodland animals and their habitats. We went onto the field and pretended to be rabbits and buzzards to try to find the best place to create their homes- the open field or under the trees in the woods. We have been busy learning all about Christmas and the Nativity Story to support our understanding of the Nativity play.

We have continued to make fantastic progress with our phonics work with lots of children beginning to write captions and short sentences too.



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### Pine Class

This half term, Pine have been very busy learning about the Stone Age and in particular Stonehenge and Skara Brae. The children have written a leaflet using persuasive language in English, encouraging people to visit the historic site of Skara Brae.

In Design and Technology we have made our own junk model Stonehenge, allowing the children to plan and assess how to use cuboids and nets.

In maths, we have been focusing on multiplication and division, and supporting the children to understand the relationship between them.

### Larch Class

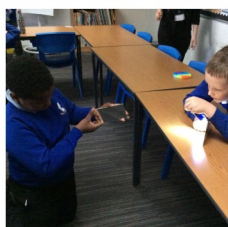
We have had another busy learning journey in Larch. We have looked at the topic 'Invasion' where we have learnt all about the Anglo-Saxons and the Viking invasions. We looked at why the Vikings invaded, and the impact this had on Anglo-Saxon Britain, this included looking at invasion maps and the raid of Lindisfarne. We finished off by looking at a significant person from this period of history. We chose Alfred the Great and learnt how he had an impact on the development of the relationship between the Saxon's and Vikings and even managed to negotiate land settlement with them!



### Sycamore Class

We've had a brilliantly busy and productive second half term. The children have enjoyed writing persuasive leaflets, poems and fables in English using lots of newly developed writing and punctuation skills like relative clauses and semi-colons. In maths we have worked hard to understand how to use long division and how to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions. We've had a great time learning about Light in Science especially when using torches and mirrors to see how light travels in straight lines.

Away from the classroom, I was very proud of the way the children behaved during the Remembrance Service and the respect and interest they showed to the people at the church. I have also been incredibly proud of the way Year Six have supported Oak class during the Nativity with lots of encouragement and good humour. A brilliant first term in Year Six.





### Birch Class

In Science we can now sort and classify different materials. We can also describe the properties of materials. We enjoyed writing our own firework poems using onomatopoeia. We then moved onto our Autumn stories, exploring journey stories after reading 'The Hedgehog's Journey' by Gabrielle Kent. We sequenced the story, made story maps and began writing our own versions of the journey using descriptive language.

In Our Wonderful world topic, we focused on continents and oceans using Google Earth. We explored maps of the UK and looked at capital cities. We also loved creating some quirky self portraits in our Funny Faces art topic.



### Singing at Dove Bank.

This Christmas, we have been busy learning a range of Christmas songs and signing songs. We have had a wonderful time singing at All Saints Church, Nailstone in the day and then repeating this in the evening with a social event and singing around the Christmas tree at school. We invited our families and our community to join for these special events.



### Pantomime

We have had two exciting pantomime experiences this half term. The first was through M&M Theatrical Productions who visited us at Dove Bank in October and the second was at the Century Theatre in Coalville where we went on our first whole school trip together in December.







A photograph of three young girls standing in front of a large, decorated Christmas tree. The girls are wearing blue school jumpers over white collared shirts and black skirts. The girl on the left has her hands clasped, the middle girl has her arms crossed, and the girl on the right also has her arms crossed. The Christmas tree is decorated with red and white ornaments and a yellow tag. The background shows a school building with large windows reflecting the sky.

Welcome to our new FOD. They have had a great start this half term. Our theatre trip to Century Theatre was made possible because of their support and they have hosted a fantastic Christmas Disco.



Mrs. Hayley Shaw will be taking over Breakfast Club from January. Thank you to Mrs Baker for all of her hard work getting this up and running.



## School Closes for Christmas

Friday 16th December 2022

## School Opens for Pupils

Tuesday 3rd January 2022

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