



# Mears Ashby C of E Primary School



## Latest News—December 2023

### Value : Trust

*Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.*

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our heart felt thanks goes out to you all for your support over the last term. Your attendance at all the various drop ins and Church services as well as all the FOMAS events has been truly appreciated. We are so lucky to have such an active, kind and caring community who all want the best for all the children.

Wishing you a joyful Christmas and a Happy New year.

Miss Green

#### Ladybirds

The children have settled so enthusiastically into the routines of the ladybird class and school life. Since September we have enjoyed creating artwork inspired by Kandinsky and exploring mixing colours with paint, shaving foam, pastels, and coloured icing! Our learning about 3D shapes has enabled us to construct buildings on a large scale using recycled materials, which we blew down just like the wolf in The Three Little Pigs! We constructed a bridge using similar resources and experimented to see how strong it was by placing wooden blocks along it. We also received a map in the post showing us where a bear was hiding in the school! We followed it accurately using our positional language skills and found the bear in the school hall!! Next term, we will be using a globe and atlas to broaden our knowledge about the wider world. Last but not least, we have also been learning to read and write, which the children are putting to good use in the provision by writing labels, lists, cards and invitations. Our focus texts and stories have been acted out using puppets and props created by themselves, these are just some examples of how the ladybird class are developing their love for reading.

#### Hedgehogs -

Wow, what a busy term we have enjoyed together in Hedgehogs! The class have been working hard to write different instructions, linking with our Science work by explaining how to plant a daffodil bulb - look out for these flowers in spring time (outside the front door of the school). In maths we have been finding addition and subtraction fact families as well as multiplication methods including arrays. We have developed our kitchen skills with designing and making our own salad - the children all ate their work as well, at the end! In Geography we enjoyed sharing news about the different places we have visited with our families, as well as identifying continents and oceans on world maps. As we approach Christmas, we have been working hard on our Nativity play and all of the staff who work with Hedgehogs are so very proud of all the children and their efforts for this - well done everyone.

#### Otters -

Otters have had another fantastic term of learning. Our African drumming projected ended with a real BANG at our end of term concert for the school. We worked hard in English to produce some incredible non-chronological reports all about mythical creatures as well writing some creative Christmas poems. Otters have really enjoyed continuing their learning all about Ancient Egypt - be sure to ask us what we have found out! For our homework project this term we had to design and make our own games linked to our Science learning; Teeth, digestion and nutrition! We had an amazing time sharing these with our friends and families. What a busy Term! Well done Otters!

#### Dolphins -

Dolphins have had another busy term. We have finished our learning all about local history, including learning about the Rushden bombing in WW2 and discovering the horrible conditions of a Victorian workhouse. We have written some superb biographies of our favourite celebrities and spent time writing fun but effective poems in English. We enjoyed our visit to Wellingborough mosque to finalise our RE learning about Islam. I hope all of dolphins have a lovely Christmas break and look forward to welcoming them back for another busy and exciting term!

## Current Attendance - 2023- 2024

Ladybirds: 95.1%

Hedgehogs: 93.6%

Otters: 92.8%

Dolphins: 93.9%



LEARNING AND  
FLOURISHING  
TOGETHER





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#### **Stars of The Week -**

##### **1st -**

Max B, Ella G-W, Angus, Blake



#### **Awards of Excellence**

Ladybirds—Connie    Hedgehogs - Harley  
Otters—Shane        Dolphins—Jack

#### **Self Care over Christmas**

With the extra pressure that the festive season can bring, our worries and fears may seem worse this time of year. It's important you check in on yourself and look after your wellbeing. Remember to take time for yourself as and when you need too.

There is lots of help and advice on the Samaritans website. Please see the link below for self care tips:  
<https://www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help/if-youre-having-difficult-time/if-youre-finding-things-hard-this-christmas-festive-season/#:~:text=Try%20to%20listen,guilty%20about%20either.>

Call the Samaritans free 24 hours a day on 116 123 or email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

### **Dates for The Diary**

Christmas Holiday (School Closed) 21st December 2023 until  
Monday 8th January 2024.

Teacher training days - Thursday 4th January and Friday 5th January 2024.

School Re-opens to Pupils on Monday 8th January 2024.

Violin Lessons start - Tuesday 9th January 2024.

Dental Visit for Year R and Year 1 - Thursday 18th January 2024.

Year 5 Enrichment Day - Thursday 1st February 2024.



PROUD TO  
BE PART OF  
PDET

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### *Latest News—December 2023*



A small group of our Year 2 children went to a Northants Sports Curling event .



Our lovely Christmas Tree was kindly donated to the school by Brittons Garden Centre .



Christmas Dinner was served at the school last Wednesday (13th).



Thank you for your generosity with all the selection packs and sweets donated for the Food Bank in Wellingborough.



Dolphins visited the Mosque in Wellingborough as part of their RE studies.