

NEWSLETTER 17/1/2025



Love God, Love Ourselves, Love People

WEEKLY NEWS

On Tuesday, some of our year 5s and 6s took part in the Chester School Sport Partnership's Year 5&6 Sportshall Athletics Competition tournament. Both girls and boys came second and were fantastic ambassadors of the school - well done to you all! We always love to hear about what the children do outside school - Ben from Year 3 has shared with us his incredible achievement. On Sunday, Ben had his admission ceremony to become a full Chorister at Chester Cathedral (see the picture below) - what a fabulous achievement Ben! If any other children are interested in singing, Ms Axam runs choir club on Tuesday lunchtimes. There is also some information from the Cathedral further down the newsletter about their upcoming Chorister Experience day for anybody that is interested.

Our next pop-up shop will be held in the canteen on Wednesday 12th February @ 2.45-3.45pm. Donation are welcome - please see the leaflet below.

On a practical note, we sent out a new Data Consent form via SCOpay earlier this week. This is a different form to one you have previously filled in. It is important that we hold the correct information about your child, so if you could please fill it in and return to us ASAP, that would be

much appreciated. If you do have any issues filling it in electronically, please come to the office and we will happily give you a paper copy.

To find out more about the Church community, take a look at their website - www.stmaryschester.co.uk

Instagram: overleighschool



POP-UP SHOP

Where?
Overleigh St Mary's
Canteen

When?
Friday 17th January
@9-10am
Wednesday 12th February
@2:45-3:45pm

**Pop-up
SHOP**

Come along to our Community Pop Up Shop

Good quality second-hand clothes available
Simply bring along a shopping bag and help yourself!

Donations welcome - please take to the school office

We are in need of winter wear, for girls and boys of all ages

We also have a fancy-dress rail to reduce the need to buy new outfits and reuse where possible - if you can help and have any items at home please drop off at the school office or bring along to the Pop up shop on the day!

POP-UP SHOP

WORSHIP

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in *humility* count others more significant than yourselves.

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, *but also to the interests of others.*

-Philippians 2:3-4 ESV-

VALUES AWARDS

AWARDS 17/1/2025

Class	Value	Comment
Carle Miss Evans Mrs Evans	Integrity	Value of Integrity - Bea - for always being kind and helpful and making the right choices. Bea is a superstar!
Butterworth Miss Burns	Respect	Dea has listened and applied our respectful rules that we have been reflecting on since 'respect day' Dea knows why we need to make the correct choices in school and has made a super start to the term by doing so. She shows kindness and love to her friends and reminds them of how we should behave in school. Well Done Dea!
Bond Mrs Birchall Mrs Barnes	Service & Stewardship	Griff for ALWAYS working extremely hard. Griff has an outstanding attitude to learning and always puts in maximum effort in all tasks. He has been working extremely hard with his phonics, letter formation and sentence structure. Well done Griff, we are very proud of you and all the effort you put in.
Nicoll Miss Noakes	Love	Zariya can always be seen showing kindness to others in the class and is always willing to help others that need it. Zariya is caring and respectful towards everyone, including the grown ups in school. Well done Zariya on being such a great member of our class!
McKee Miss Morgan	Respect	It is an absolute pleasure to award Isabella with this, as this isn't something she does sometimes but ALL the time. She has been really engaged in every aspect of her learning, always contributing in lessons and is always looking to help others to engage more in lessons when they are finding it difficult. You're a delight to have in my classroom Isabella. Keep being you!
Gravett Miss Griffiths Mrs Jones	Respect	Benjamin has had a fantastic start to the half term. He has shown respect by listening to the teacher and putting his hand up when he wants to talk, sharing his toys with his friends and trying his best in every lesson. We are all so proud of you Benji, well done!
Hughes Miss Hunter	Love	Enya has been awarded the value of love this week, because she has been so thoughtful and caring to her friends. Enya always notices when someone might need a little bit of help and is first to offer a helping hand. She notices when people may be sad or struggling and her empathy has been admirable. This week, Ted Hughes has had someone new join and Enya has been so helpful showing them around and guiding them. Superstar!
Meadows Mr Mander	Integrity	Jemima has been working really hard on improving the amount she is writing, while maintaining the quality. Her confidence in her own ability in writing is improving and she is producing some fabulous work, keeping on trying in all her lessons. Well done Jemima, Believe in your own ability!
Strong Mr Skinner	Integrity	Chloe is someone who always tries her hardest and is a role model to her peers. She has made great progress since the start of September. In particular, Chloe has been working on the quality of her writing in English and is always very receptive to feedback to improve it. Well done Chloe. Keep up the good work!
Morpurgo Miss McFaul	Integrity	Leah is an all-round superstar and if I could, I would have awarded her every value this week. That is why I have chosen the value that encompasses them all. She comes to school with a smile and an eagerness to learn. She is always ready, respectful and safe and can always be trusted to do the right thing even when no one is watching. She supports her classmates when they need it and always offers to help around the classroom if there are jobs needed to be done. Keep up the fantastic work Leah! You are a star!
Horowitz Miss Holdstock	Wisdom	Joseph has returned after the Christmas break with an excellent attitude to learning. He has been working particularly hard in maths in multiplication and division and has also started to focus on his presentation and handwriting. Keep up the hard work Joseph. Well done!
Austen Miss Axam	Respect	Jack is always respectful to everyone in our class but this week he has been embracing our term value by identifying others who are showing respect too. This is brilliant! Well done Jack for your continued hard work in all aspects of school life
Jeffers Miss Jones	Respect	Alfie is a polite and positive member of Jeffers Class! He is always thankful to his teachers or anyone for going the extra mile, and he treats everybody around him with respect. He walks into school with such a smile on his face, and you can tell he thoroughly enjoys his learning by his positive attitude in class. Well done Alfie, keep it up!
Blackman Mrs McGoldrick Mrs Dickson	Wisdom	Every day we are amazed by Rachel's astonishing thirst for learning, for her endless hard work and her positivity when sharing her ideas with others. We love reading her writing, seeing how she is using everything new that she is taught. Well done Rachel - and keep it up!

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITY

We still have lots of space available for **boys** to join our **Chorister Experience day on Sat 25 January, 1.30-5pm at Chester Cathedral** (we have reached capacity for the girls' day on Sat 18 January).

Do you know a boy that **loves music**? Choral singing is the **ultimate team sport** - our choristers work together to learn great music, have fun, and build skills for life. Plus, singing is good for you! Our chorister day is open to all boys of primary school age in and around Chester. This **free** afternoon of music and games gives children and their families a taste of the wonderful musical opportunities on offer here at Chester Cathedral.

Sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/e/r12iBWp2qe> or email dan.mathieson@chestercathedral.com for more information.

DISCOVERY · ENCOUNTER · FAITH



BE A CHORISTER FOR A DAY

GIRLS | SATURDAY 18 JANUARY | 1.30 – 5PM

BOYS | SATURDAY 25 JANUARY | 1.30 – 5PM

Does your child love to sing?

Chester Cathedral is seeking boys and girls aged 5-11 to join the prestigious Cathedral Choir.

Enjoy a fun-filled afternoon of singing games and rehearsals culminating in a service of Choral Evensong at the end of the afternoon.

All welcome, no experience necessary.

For more information and to register for this free event, please contact Dan Mathieson on dan.mathieson@chestercathedral.com

chestercathedral.com   

SECRETS TO SUCCESS

Well done to all of the children who are taking part in the Secrets to Success challenge. Some example of what children have been doing:

***Chloe** in Year 3 has been working really hard in her piano lessons, learning to play 'We Wish You A Merry Christmas' in time for Christmas Eve! Well done Chloe!*

***Heidi** in Year 5 has shown kindness and support by collecting food and donating it to members of the community who are homeless (see pictures below). Heidi is really pushing ahead with her Secrets to Success awards - completing all of her Spring activities and pushing onto her Summer award! We are wishing Heidi all the best with her cross country event this weekend!*

We currently have about 30 children taking part in the challenge, and we hope more will be inspired to take part by seeing what others are achieving.



When we enter a new year, many of us make New Year's Resolutions. But what about Nature? What can we do to help nature in 2025? That was the question I asked some of our classes. The children gathered their thoughts and made these beautiful posters, full of wishes and resolutions. We almost covered the whole wall! Now every time someone walks past, they can read about our plans to help nature in 2025.



WINTER IN FOREST SCHOOL!



Woodland Trust Nature Detectives

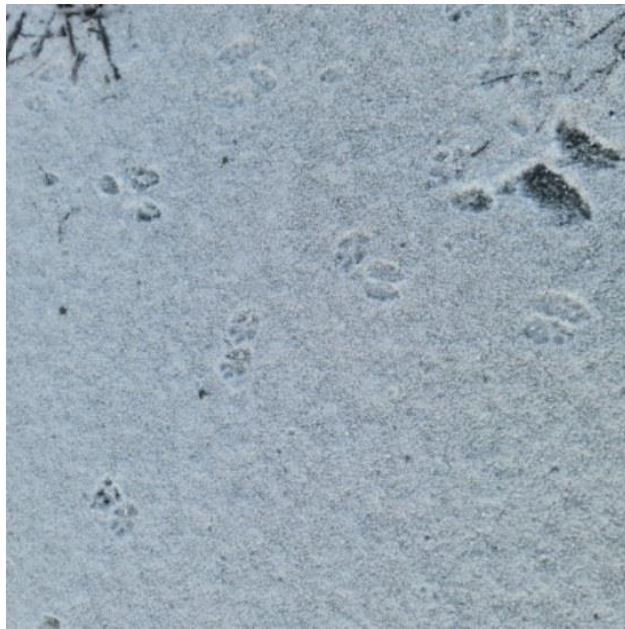
Ready to get detecting?
How many of these footprints can you find?

Fantastic tracks!

- Fox
- Rabbit
- Bird
- Otter
- Deer
- Squirrel
- Duck
- Badger
- Hedgehog
- Dog

Look for prints in soft mud near a pond or lake, after rain, or in the frost and snow during winter.
Feel free to copy and share this for personal and educational use - and don't forget there are loads more to find and identify downloaded on our website!
woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives | 0200 222 0200 | naturedetectives@woodlandtrust.org.uk
f Search for 'nature detectives' | @naturedetectives
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WOODLAND TRUST





Winter is one of my favourite seasons. We have been very lucky with the weather the last few weeks, we were able to explore the ice and make snow sculptures. You can often find amazing animal tracks in the snow. See some of the pictures below taken in our forest school area. Do you know who they belong to? - (click through the images below to have a guess). As always, please make sure your children are dressed for the weather.

	9.00 – 10.30	10.50 – 12(:20)	13.00 – 14.15	14.15 – 15.20
MONDAY				
TUESDAY		Yr 1 - Michael Bond	Yr 5 - Anthony Horowitz	Yr 5 – Jane Austen
WEDNESDAY	Yr R - Nick Butterworth	Yr R - Eric Carle	Yr 2 - Emily Gravett	Yr 2 - David McKee
THURSDAY	Yr 4 - Jeremy Strong	Yr 4 - Michael Morpurgo	Yr N - Story Creators	Yr 1 – Helen Nicoll
FRIDAY			Yr 3 – Ted Hughes	Yr 3 – Daisy Meadows

Children do forest school in all weathers, so please make sure your child/ren have wellies and suitable waterproof clothing in school.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Various lunchtime clubs running throughout the year. Some we have to run on a termly basis due to the amount of interest.

	12.00 – 12.30	12.30 – 13.00
MONDAY	-Lego Club -Numbots -Gardening Club	-Board games -Books and board games -KS1 Book club -Anime Drawing Club
TUESDAY	KS1 Dance	-TT Rockstars -Choir (12.50 – 13.15) -Hockey -Spanish Club
WEDNESDAY	-Craft Club -Gardening	-Forest School Club -Homework Club -Yrs 1,2 & 3 Welsh Club -Computer Club
THURSDAY	-KS1 Makaton -KS1 Drawing Club	-Computer Club -KS1 Computer Club -Netball
FRIDAY	-Lego Club	-Yr 6 Netball -Ziggy Club

COSMIC CANTEEN MENUS

Week beginning 20/1/25 is the **WEEK 3 MENU**.

OVERLEIGH ST MARY'S COSMIC CANTEEN

SALAD BAR AND FRESH FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY

MONDAY

- Tomato Pasta Bake, Peas, Garlic Bread
- Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans
- Cheese or Ham Batch
- Blueberry Muffin
- Water

TUESDAY

- Diced Beef Stew, Mashed Potatoes and Sweetcorn
- Vegan Option available
- Cheese or Egg Wrap
- Fruit Crumble with Custard
- Water

WEDNESDAY

- Sweet and Sour Battered Chicken Chunks, Boiled Rice, Prawn Crackers, Cut Green Beans,
- Vegan Nuggets
- Cheese or Ham Sandwich
- Jam & Coconut Sponge with Custard
- Water

THURSDAY

- All day Breakfast Sausage
- Or Vegan Sausage or chicken Halal Sausage
- Cheese or Turkey Wrap
- Ice Cream or Smoothie
- Water

FRIDAY

- Sausage Roll, Vegan Sausage Roll or Jumbo Cod Fish Fingers, Chips, Garden Peas or Baked Beans
- Cheese or Egg Batch
- Chocolate Chip Cookies
- Water

W/C: 20th January and 10th February

 **OVERLEIGH ST MARY'S COSMIC CANTEEN**

SALAD BAR AND FRESH FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY

WEEK 1

TUESDAY

- Pork/Quorn Meatballs in a BBQ sauce
- New Potatoes and farmhouse mixed vegetable
- Ham or Egg Wrap
- Fruit Crumble and Custard
- Water

WEDNESDAY

- Roast Chicken Dinner/Quorn Fillet or Homemade Cheese Flan with Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding and Carrots
- Cheese or Turkey Batch
- Vegan Jelly
- Water

THURSDAY

- Spaghetti Bolognese/Vegan Bolognaise with Garlic Bread and Hard Cheese
- Cheese or Ham Wrap
- Ice Cream or Fruit Smoothie
- Water

FRIDAY

- Chicken Nuggets or Fish Cake
- Vegan Nuggets
- With chips and garden peas or Baked Beans
- Cheese or Egg batch
- Mini Muffin
- Water

MONDAY

- Tomato & Basil pasta bake (GF) with Garlic Bread & Mixed Veg
- Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans
- Cheese or Ham Batch
- Chocolate Chip Mini Muffin
- Water

W/C: 6th January and 27th January

 **OVERLEIGH ST MARY'S COSMIC CANTEEN**

SALAD BAR AND FRESH FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY

WEEK 2

TUESDAY

- Cocktail pork sausage filled Yorkshire pudding (Halal/Vegan option available)
- Mashed Potato, gravy and mixed veg.
- Turkey or Cheese Wrap
- Rice pudding and toppings
- Water

WEDNESDAY

- Roast Dinner with Roast Potatoes, Sausage wrapped in Bacon, Carrots and Swede
- Vegan Quorn Fillet
- Cheese or Egg Batch
- Lemon Drizzle Cake and custard Sauce
- Water

THURSDAY

- Chicken Goujons or Veg Nuggets
- Potato Wedges, Mixed Veg or Spaghetti Hoops
- Cheese or Ham Wrap
- Fruit Crumble and custard
- Water

FRIDAY

- Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza
- Breaded Fish Fillet with Chips
- Beans or Salad
- Cheese or Egg batch
- Mini Ring Doughnuts
- Water

MONDAY

- Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans
- Mac and Cheese with Garlic Bread & Sweetcorn
- Cheese or Ham Batch
- Chocolate chip Muffin
- Water

W/C: 13th January and 3rd February

ATTENDANCE

Green	98 - 100%
Yellow	95 - 97%
Orange	91 - 94%
Red	90% or less

Eric Carle	91.8%
Nick Butterworth	96.7%
Helen Nicoll	95.2%
Michael Bond	95%
Emily Gravett	96.3%
David McKee	94.8%
Ted Hughes	96.7%
Daisy Meadows	95.3%
Michael Morpurgo	98.6%
Jeremy Strong	98.3%
Anthony Horowitz	98.7%
Jane Austin	99%
Malorie Blackman	98.3%
Oliver Jeffers	90.7%
TOTAL	96.1%

TERM DATES

HOLIDAY	DATE OF CLOSING	DATE OF OPENING
CHRISTMAS 2024/2025	Friday 20 th December 2024 (2.15pm finish)	Tuesday 7 th January 2025
SPRING HALF TERM 2025	Friday 14 th February 2025	Monday 24 th February 2025
SPRING HOLIDAY 2025	Friday 4 th April 2025 (2.15pm finish)	Wednesday 23 rd April 2025
SUMMER HALF TERM 2025	Friday 23 rd May 2025	Monday 2 nd June 2025
SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2025	Tuesday 22 nd July 2025 (2.15pm finish)	

INSET DAY: Wednesday 23rd July 2025

BANK HOLIDAY: Monday 5th May 2025

When we have finalised arrangements regarding the academy conversion, we will be able to notify you of dates for the 2025/2026 academic year.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2025 DATES

Friday 14 th February	Last day of Spring 1 term – 3.20pm FINISH
Monday 24 th February	First day of Spring 2 term. Values day: INTEGRITY
Friday 4 th April	Last day of Spring 2 term – 2.15pm FINISH
Wednesday 23 rd April	First day of Summer 1 term. Values Day: SERVICE AND STEWARDSHIP
Friday 23 rd May	Last day of Summer 1 term – 3.20pm FINISH
Monday 2 nd June	First day of Summer 2 term. Values day: THANKFULNESS
Tuesday 22 nd July	Last day of Summer 2 term – 2.15pm FINISH
Wednesday 23 rd July	INSET – SCHOOL CLOSED

CONTACT US

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