

Launton C of E School Newsletter

12th December 2024 | Issue 250



On Friday 6th December, seventeen children travelled to Sibford School after qualifying in two previous rounds, to take part in the Oxfordshire Cross Country Finals. They all put in their best efforts and showed great resilience and determination throughout. There were approximately one hundred and five people in each race; for years five and six girls the race was 2000m and the year threes and fours ran 1500m. Sebastian was 5th in the whole field and Leyla was 16th.

Sebastian said, "The course was very slippery and there were branches coming out the ground around the forest which made it hard to run but no one gave up."

Sophia added "When we were waiting for our races it was very cold, so we had to keep moving. We did stretches together and jogged on the spot." A huge well done to all.

Report by Noah and Sam

On Monday, Chestnut class went to Ardley Energy Recovery Facility. We were drawn to the massive chimneys. We had a talk with the instructor first then went to a practical room where you could learn about the science of recycling through playing games, for example, a sorting game. Half of the group went on a walking tour and saw a giant pit with claws to pick up the rubbish. Magnetic waste is sorted using giant magnets. Some materials that take more power to recycle are sent to another facility. Some quite specific materials are burnt but they try to recycle and upcycle whatever they can and there is a giant model dinosaur in the entrance that has been made on the site from recycled materials.

Last posting date
Wednesday morning



Children have been so impressed watching younger children in their dress rehearsals this week, and the confidence that they have shown in performing has been remarkable.

Report about the Key Stage One Nativity dress Rehearsal

"I was King number One," explained Thomas. "I practised a lot to learn my lines." "I was Narrator number Four," said Aphaia "and I had four speeches so I practised at home and at school. I felt scared and excited at the same time when I stood up to speak." "I was the Innkeeper's wife," explained Maisie. "I practised at home and at school and I was excited to go up on the stage." "When we rehearsed without our scripts it was hard and I thought I wouldn't be able to do it, but I did it and everyone thought I did it very well," said Max. "I was Steve, the donkey. My favourite bit was the mask." "I was Shepherd number Three," said Annabelle, "and my favourite bit was when Max said "What about me?""

...and the EYFS dress rehearsal "I like being a donkey in the Nativity," said Alfie. "Please come and see our Nativity," said Willow and Alice, "because there are sheep and there are angels." "I am the innkeeper," said Adam. "I like being the innkeeper and I like my innkeeper's costume."

Message from the PTA

Mrs Austin will be selling surplus Craft Kits from the Christmas Craft Café, in the playground at 3.15pm on the last day of term, if anyone is looking for holiday activity ideas.

To contact the PTA, email

friendsofLaunton-pta@googlegroups.com

Your current trustees are:

Lucy Crawford - Chair (Yr 2)

Emma Austin - Vice-Chair (Yr 1 and 3)

Charlotte Noakes - Secretary (Reception and Yr 3)

Laura Smith - Treasurer (Yr1 and 5)

Catherine Hall - Treasurer (Yr 3)

Two dates for your DIARY FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH

24/12/24 **Sub Service** – 3pm in the Church

Do come along and play your part in the story of Jesus' birth – dressed as a Star, an Angel, a Shepherd or a Sheep if you would like to

05/01/25 **The next Family Service**, for Epiphany

11am in the Church

when we will hear about the Three Kings travelling to meet the Baby Jesus

All welcome

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S

Sadly for us

Rev'd Christ Hunt

will be leaving us in the New Year.

Anyone wishing to contribute to his leaving presentation can put a labelled envelope, cash only, please, through

Celia's (Manderson) door at

8, West End by 03/01/25

Thank you



In other news

Key Stage Two children enjoying their Festival of Lights yesterday afternoon in the hall with children singing and Beech Class playing their brass instruments.



Snowflakes – If you would like to dedicate a snowflake to a loved one, the children will hang it on the Christmas Tree for you. Make your donation to Cancer Research online via this [link](#) to our Just Giving Page and email the school office with the name of the person to be remembered and we will write it on the snowflake. Alternatively, donations and names can also be posted in the school post box during school hours or snowflakes can be collected from the school office for you to write your message on and to hang on the tree between 9am and 3pm Monday-Friday until Thursday 19th December.



Updates & Reminders

Activity Clubs - There are no activity clubs running during the last week of term (week beginning 16th December). After School Care will be running as normal Monday to Wednesday.

Term 3 Activity Clubs – Bookings are open and will close at midday on Wednesday 18th December. The first activity club starts Tuesday 7th January 2025.

| Term 3 After School Activity Clubs | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------|--|
| Monday | Benchball 5 weeks from 13.01.2025 | Years 2-4 | With Mr Mawn (Sports Teacher) Booked through Scopay |
| Tuesday | Football 6 weeks from 07.01.2025 | Key Stage 2 | With Ignite Booked through Scopay |
| Wednesday | Gymnastics and Dance 6 weeks from 08.01.2025 | Years 2 – 6 | With Ignite Booked through Scopay |
| Thursday | Art Club – Painting and Creating Texture 6 weeks from 09.01.2025 | Key Stage 2 | With Miss Nightingale Booked through Scopay |
| Friday | Netball/Basketball 6 weeks from 10.01.2025 | Key Stage 2 | With Ignite Booked through Scopay |



School Performances –

Code of conduct for visitors attending a performance in school –

1. Entry is by ticket only.
2. Access to the school hall will be from the front garden and the hall door will be opened shortly before the performance is due to begin.
3. Video and photographs that include images of children other than your own child must not be shared or uploaded to social media.

Dates for your diary

Monday 16th December 9.30am – Rowan and Willow Class Nativity

Tuesday 17th December 9.30am – EYFS – Ash Class Nativity

Thursday 19th December 9.30am – Christmas Service in St Mary's Church, parents and carers very welcome

Thursday 26th December – Last day to order School Meals for first day back

Useful Links –

[Free Football Training for Girls Year 1,2&3](#)

[Clubs and Events](#)

[Launton Village Players Pantomime 2025](#)

[Oral Health Newsletter December 2024](#)

[Support for Parents](#)

[Internet Safety Webinar](#)

Remember: Please be aware that we have children in school with **serious food allergies**. To ensure the safety of all of our children please avoid sending your child to school with anything that contains nuts this includes sandwiches containing peanut butter or chocolate spread.

Useful Links

Here is the NHS [Is my child too ill for school](#) information.

As parents and carers, there are ways we can support our children to give them the best chance to stay mentally healthy. Encouraging and guiding a child to think about their own mental health and wellbeing are vital skills you can teach them from a young age. [Children's mental health - Every mind matters](#)