



You will see from our newsletter this week that there has been a real focus on our 'Community and Wider World' outcome this week.

From thought-provoking war poetry to projects which show our care for the environment, ethics and sustainability, there is a breadth of curriculum work this week that shows how well pupils have continued to engage in and out of school.

Acorn have been finding out about St Nicholas and there is evidence of some superb creative outcomes from pupils across the school.

We started the week thinking about the importance of peace, with ourselves and one another, and showing compassion for those who live in countries and situations affected by conflict. As we approach Christmas, it is an opportunity to think of others as well as ourselves.

I know families will be concerned about some of the Covid cases we have been affected by in school. We have updated our ongoing risk assessment in light of government changes and will be doing all we can in the final week of term to maintain safety before we break up for Christmas. Please talk to pupils about why we have zoned our outdoor play areas to keep year groups more separate next week in support of these efforts.

Take care and stay well,



Mrs Constantine, Headteacher

Birch class decorated our beautiful tree kindly donated by the parents of an Oak pupil and Year 10 artists have been busy painting scenes for our filmed Christmas production



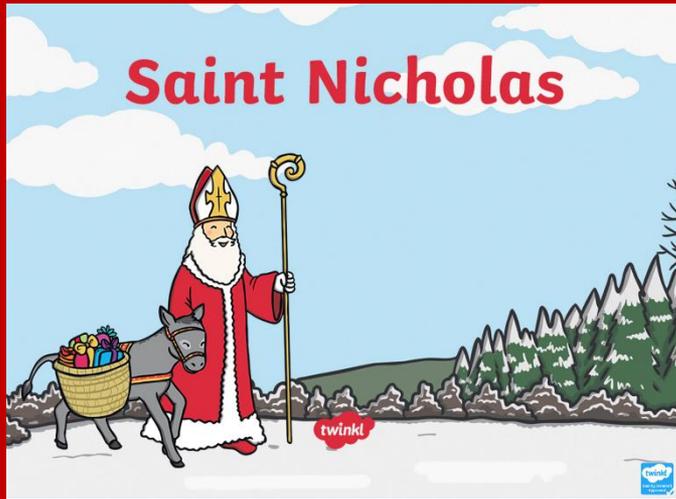
Word of the week:
Peace



PEACE

Both open hands, with fingers apart, held in front of body. Hands move apart while index finger and thumb on both hands move together to touch at tips.

Acorn Class found out about St Nicholas who celebrates his patron saint day on the 6th of December



To begin with, the pupils made observations about him, by looking at images.

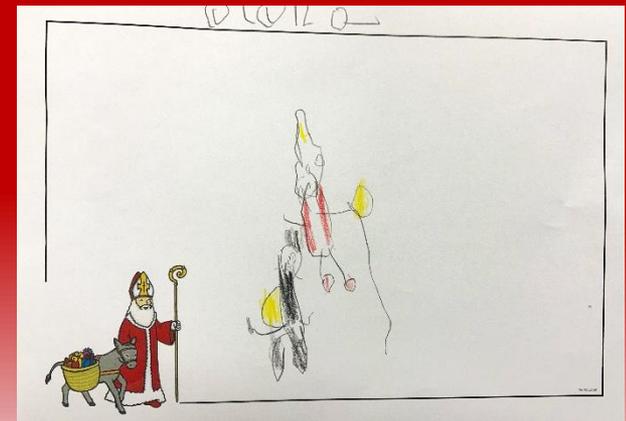


Luke noticed that St Nicholas had a donkey with him.

Elena wanted to know what St Nicholas was holding in his hand - a staff.



Baxter and Lucas noticed he looks a little like pictures of Father Christmas!



FEAST FACTS WITH ST NICHOLAS

(270-345AD)

- 1** ST NICHOLAS WAS THE BISHOP OF MYRA (TURKEY) AND USED HIS INHERITANCE TO GIVE ANONYMOUS GIFTS THROUGHOUT HIS VILLAGE
- 2** HIS TRADITION CONTINUED AFTER HIS DEATH AND FORMED PART OF TODAY'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AND SANTA CLAUS CHARACTER
- 3** CANDY CANES ARE SYMBOLS OF ST NICHOLAS' CROZIER (STAFF)



We learnt that St Nicholas was very good at sharing, even as a boy.



He wanted to help people who were poor and in need to make them happy.



He dedicated his life to God and became a patron saint for all his kind actions.



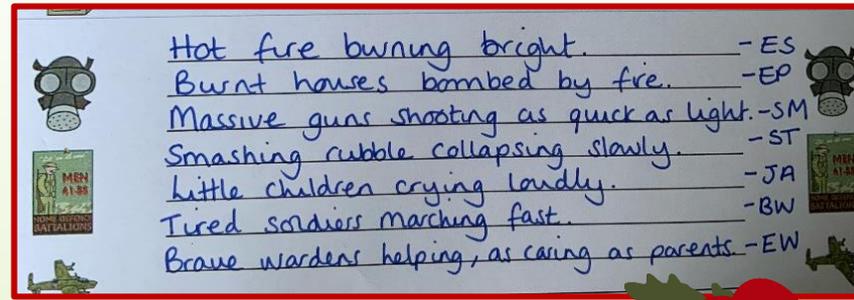
The most famous story about St Nicholas' miracles is the about three daughters.

Their father could not afford for them to get married and was very sad.

St Nicholas overheard this and at night-time, came into the man's house and put a bag of gold coins into each daughters' stockings that were drying over the fireplace as a gift.

Each year we now celebrate his generosity at Christmas time through giving and receiving gifts.

Father Christmas is also known as Santa Claus and St Nicholas because of him.



By Maple Class



War Poetry

Pupils in Year 7, 8 and 9 have been exploring war poetry this half term. They have read some very famous poems and looked at how they have been crafted by the writers. We have explored how to use language techniques to create imagery for our readers.

There have been some wonderful examples of similes, alliteration, rhyme and powerful adjectives and adverbs. Some classes have written collective poems and others have worked on individual pieces. There have been so many excellent examples of writing to express our thoughts and feeling about war.

Here are a few examples for you to enjoy...





Dangerous fire roars as hot as
 an oven. // Brave soldiers help
 as quick as light. // Invisible smoke
 spreads as quick as fire. //
 Roaring planes soar as birds
 in the sky. // Loud tanks plow
 through like bulldozers.
 Terrified civilians die as
 quick as birds.

// new line needed

Wonderful use of similes

Check by Ad
 the layout of this type of writing.

By Adam

Orchard



Big bombs falling fast.
 Hot fire burning quickly.
 Grey smoke floating slowly. loudly.
 Large buildings smashed slowly.
 Heavy planes flying high.
 Upset children crying quietly.
 Evil soldiers marching fiercely.

By Charlie

Excellent use of adjectives, verbs and adverbs

Remember Capital letters

By Charlie

Orchard

MY WAR POEM

Explosions as loud as a deadly thunderstorm.

Fire as hot as the earth's core.

Searchlights as bright as the sun.

Bomb shelters as strong as steel.

Blackouts as dark as the midnight sky.

The trenches as cold as ice.

By Freddie

Spinney

By Alec

Birch

War!

Terrifying tanks roaring and rolling through the flowers
like an angry giant.

Rattling machineguns siren and killing on a fallen battle
field.

Empty cartridges falling to the ground like stinging hail
stones.

Blood stained guns held in hands gripped tightly.

By Jayden

Orchard



Hot fire burns dangerous.

Grey smoke floats

Dusty rubble crumbles

Quiet planes fly

Sad children crying

Enemy soldiers march

*Excellent use
of adjectives
and verbs.
Well done*

By Kaius

By Kaius

Orchard



Dangerous fire burning as a lava
Dangerous smoke floating as thick
Dangerous guns hurting people's
Like lions.

Dangerous tanks killing
people guns.

Dangerous planes flying
like super men.

Dangerous animals hurting
people

By Jayden

Ⓡ Proof read to
check your sentences
have all the connectors
they need.

*You have started
to use similes
and adverbs
correctly. Really
good effort well
done.*

Next week, we are looking forward to a Tree Planting Day across the whole school. Every pupil will be invited to plant a tree sapling and label it with their name.

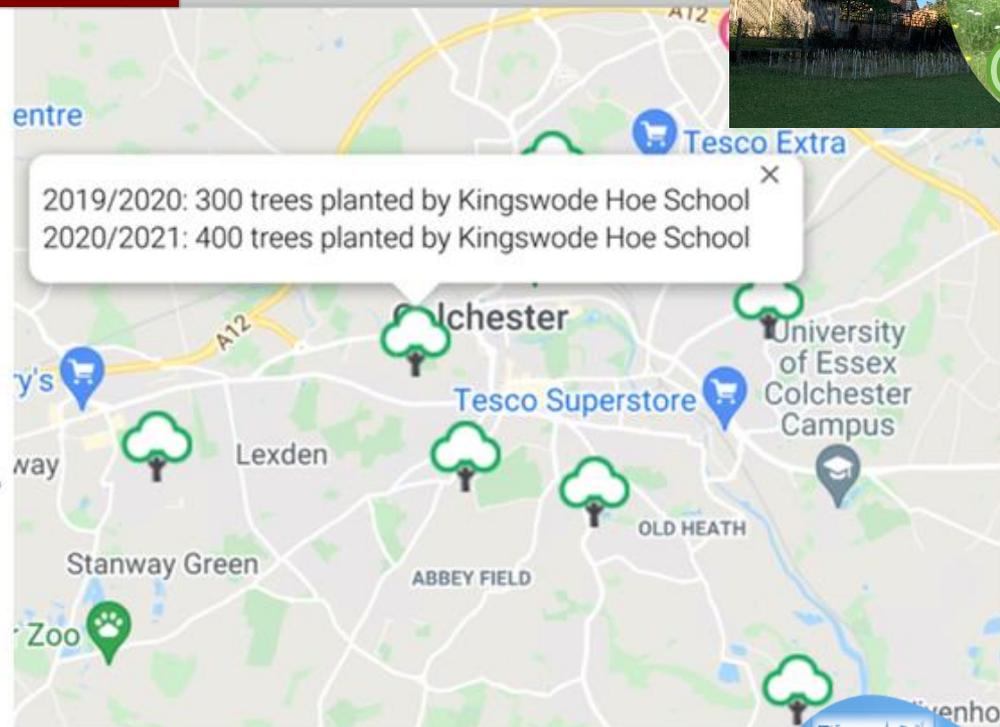
Throughout their journey at Kingswode Hoe, they will have many opportunities to care for their tree as it grows.



OUR ENVIRONMENT

Year 3 of our Planting Plan

- 700 saplings have been planted so far
- This year we aim to plant 850 saplings to create a hedgerow boundary for the wildflower and pond area
- This will be used for taking the curriculum outdoors and engaging pupils with nature
- The remainder will replace those that are damaged/missing



What we plant today, we grow tomorrow



OUT & ABOUT



This week, year 10's visited Fingringhoe Wick Nature Reserve. They practised their map reading skills, discussed a variety of wildlife and discovered a broken bird's egg whilst on their travels. Once back at school they were able to identify the egg as a pheasant. We also discussed getting involved in 12 Days Wild.

Can you go WILD this Christmas?

Sign up for #12DaysWild
wildlifetrusts.org/12dayswild



12 Days Wild is The Wildlife Trusts' heart-warming Christmas challenge encouraging people to do one wild thing a day from the 25th December to the 5th January.

A mini, festive version of summer's 30 Days Wild, the 12 Days Wild challenge is a reminder that even during the longest days and darkest nights, the natural world has amazing things to offer.

It can help us feel better connected with the outdoors and to each other as thousands of people across the UK take part and share the fun and inspiration online.

Spending time in nature has given many of us a boost this year. We can feel happier and healthier outdoors, and carrying out small, Random Acts of Wildness might just help to banish some blues this winter.

If you would like an activity pack please see Mrs Sugden or
[visit](#)

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/12dayswild>

FOREST SCHOOL



It has been pretty wet and chilly in the forest at times this week but that has not deterred Primary classes and Year 7 pupils from throwing themselves into the spirit of Forest School and enjoying their time together outdoors!



FOCUS ON... SUSTAINABILITY

Weald pupils have been involved in our innovative recycling project and through our partnership work with Langham Oaks school, they have seen how the sheet materials they have made can be turned into exciting new products...



***Please see the base of your collection box for safety instructions- BATTERIES CAN BE A HAZARD**

To coincide with the holidays and the inevitable use of batteries at this time of year, we have decided to re launch our Big Battery Hunt campaign.

Every Lower School pupil (Primary- Year 8) has been supplied with a collection box and we would encourage you to use this for your old batteries. Once it is full, we can add it to the main container in school and help make sure that no battery ends up in landfill.

If you would like extra boxes, please do get in touch. The Big Battery Hunt is an initiative that we take part in through out the year and we welcome your continued support.

ACTIVE ACHIEVEMENTS



Elliot attended The Phoenix Christmas Swimming Gala and was awarded a gold medal for coming first in the 50 metre breaststroke race.

**Fantastic achievement,
Well done!**



Pupils have been introduced to **Boccia** in their PE lessons this week

Boccia is a Paralympic sport designed for athletes with high support needs and has no Olympic equivalent. It is a target sport played indoors with soft leather balls. It is a sport of intriguing tactics, incredible skill and nail biting tension. Once you see it or play it you will be hooked!

Year 7 pupils really enjoyed learning how to play.

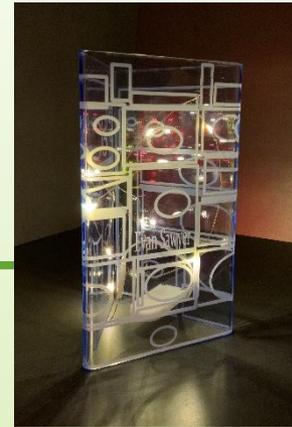
Visit <http://boccia.uk.com/> for more information.

You can also visit <https://www.activityalliance.org.uk>.
The national charity and leading voice for disabled people in sport and activity.



MAGNIFICENT MAKING

Pupils baked mini Christmas cakes in Acorn this week, all ready to decorate



Spoiler alert...some very special Christmas presents made by pupils could be coming your way!

Examples of decorative lighting designed and manufactured by Maple pupils

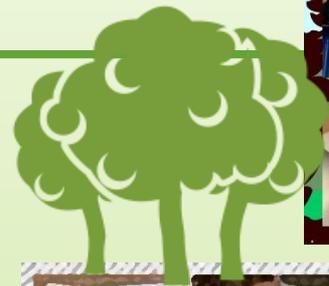
Credit time activities

A nature inspired creative session and some Christmas craft



From playing games with friends, dancing and singing to lego and cooking, pupils thoroughly enjoyed their final credit choices of the term to end the week

Let's look at Orchard...



Orchard class have played a money game in Numeracy this week, they had to work out their money, by addition, subtraction

COVID-19 UPDATE

Government guidelines have now changed in relation to the Omicron variant and rising cases. We continue to review our risk assessment and end of term activities in light of this.

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>



Please let us know if you need more home testing LFT kits.

We do note this every week but genuinely greatly appreciate support from parents and carers who regularly test pupils and continue to monitor pupils for main symptoms.



Click on the image for guidance leaflet about the benefit of regular testing

If you need more home test kits, get in touch

Let's keep well for Christmas!

As mentioned on page 1, there have been some changes to guidance in the last week as you will be aware from the media reports about 'Plan B'.

The key points to note around the Plan B measures are:

- ✓ Attendance remains mandatory, unless in exceptional circumstances
- ✓ Teaching should remain face to face
- ✓ Regular LFT testing is strongly encouraged

Please continue to be vigilant, we will notify families of any positive cases in the final week of term and advise any close contacts to get a PCR test.

Thank you again for all you are doing to help keep school as safe as possible.

Get in touch if you have any queries and notify Mrs Constantine or Mr Lee at covid@kingswodehoe.com out of hours with any updates.

Final week of term

Day	Mon 13	Tues 14	Wed 15	Thurs 16
AM	Tree planting slots Hatfield making morning	Birch Forest School Yarra Farm group out Epping making morning	Christmas jumpers Y11 out on work placements	Rendlesham making morning
Lunch	No Meat Monday Macaroni Cheese G M Cheese + Tomato pasta G M Garlic Bread G E M Sweetcorn salad Apple Pie + cream G M S	BBQ Meatball subs B C G So M Beans and Cheese subs M G Coleslaw salad E Fluffy Jelly M	 <p>Christmas lunch Separate Lower and Upper School sittings Turkey or Vegetarian option</p>	Pot Luck lunch to finish fresh stock before Christmas break
PM	Tree planting slots Year 7 party	Online panto link	Watch Christmas film production	Live on Teams- Carol service Decorations down

Key to allergens in menu items:

Milk	M
Fish	F
Soya	So
Gluten	G
Sulphites	S
Celery	C
Egg	E
Mustard	Mu

Groups will have festive activities planned for their classes throughout the week.

Outside areas have been zoned again as part of our updated risk assessment to minimise mixing across the school in the final week of term.

Whole school events that we would have loved to invite parents and carers to and/or attend in person will now be filmed or via Teams.

The NHS has been in touch and will be in school on Thursday 6 January offering the flu vaccine (via nasal spray).

Please promptly return the consent form, which will be sent home on Monday 13 December. Your co-operation will be greatly appreciated.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/>



Don't forget to wrap up warm! Pupils need named coats, hats and gloves

DIARY DATES

**Christmas timetable starts:
Monday 13 December (see page 16)**

Christmas Break:

**Friday 17 December- Monday 3 January 2021
inclusive**

Thursday 6 January - Flu Vaccine



Coming up...

Themes this half term:

Week beginning	Theme- linked to six outcomes/world events
	Community & Wider World: Remembrance
	Identity & Self-Expression: Children in Need & Anti-Bullying week
	Resilience & Independence: Road Safety
	Reading for pleasure: C. S. Lewis
	Community & Wider World: St Nicholas Day
13/11/21	The Nativity

