



December 2021



# NEWSLETTER



**Dear Parents and Carers**

**On behalf of the children and staff at Shaldon Primary School, I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas!**

I have been so proud of our children this term - their passion for helping others and their kindness at this time of year has been a real joy to witness. The support and feedback that we have had from you, parents and carers, has been very much appreciated by all of us in school, and all we have achieved this term would not have been possible without your on-going help.

It has been incredibly heartwarming to know that so many of our children have been thinking of others at this time of year. Our Year 4 children, for example, were concerned about the plight of refugee children at Christmas, and took it all upon themselves to organise a cake sale. They spent their weekends baking and making posters to advertise the event. Miss Stevens then went on to invite a representative from the charity, 'Beyond Borders' to come into school and talk about the work they

do to support refugees in the south west. The children raised a brilliant £150 and we are so proud of how they demonstrated such amazing citizenship and a sense of social responsibility towards helping others.

Last year, we were announced 'Charity fundraising school of the year' by Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, and we are not letting that accolade slip, as we put on our antlers, running shoes and red noses for our Rowcroft Reindeer Run this month. We are hoping to beat last year's charity fundraising total of £5,000 for Rowcroft, a charity that is so close to our hearts and which plays such a vital role in our community.

The children performed beautifully for their Christmas Nativity and Carol Concert earlier this month. Despite the changes to our original plans, as we navigated last minute updates from the DfE and the incoming storm Barra, the children sang their hearts out and it was fantastic to see the effort that went into the rehearsals and final performance. Mrs Price and our teachers were also extremely proud of the children when they sang at Carols on the Green, and we have since received glowing feedback from members of our community.

The end of this autumn term is always so exciting, and we want our children to have a happy, enjoyable Christmas. I do know however, that Christmas can sometimes pose a few extra challenges, sometimes logistical and sometimes financial. I have included links to safeguarding support centres in case anyone needs to reach out for some help during the festive period. I would also urge any parents or carers who are in need of some support during the Christmas holidays to please get in touch with us through the school office and request a call back to discuss how we can help you during the holidays.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to FOSS for all of their brilliant work. From the Hallowe'en Dress Up Day, to the Christmas party, raffle and hampers they made, FOSS have worked tirelessly in such challenging circumstances to help raise funds for the children. We cannot thank you enough!

I hope you enjoy reading the round-up of this autumn term and once again, wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and a healthy, happy 2022!

Best wishes,

*Jenny Stewart*

Headteacher





# Reception Class



As the first term for our reception comes to an end, we certainly couldn't be prouder of all the children have achieved. They have worked so hard and made progress in so many ways. They have settled into the routine of school and demonstrating what wonderful learners they are but most importantly they have developed and formed new friendships showing kindness and compassion towards each other.

Our enquiry question for this term asked - what are the most precious gifts of all?

Through this, we have explored different versions of the nativity story which helped us to understand why gifts are exchanged this time of year. We thought about what it felt like to receive presents and most of all how it felt to give. We read stories to help us learn more and particularly enjoyed a story called the best gift of all. This made us realise that not all gifts need to be wrapped and the best ones come from the heart and are given with love.

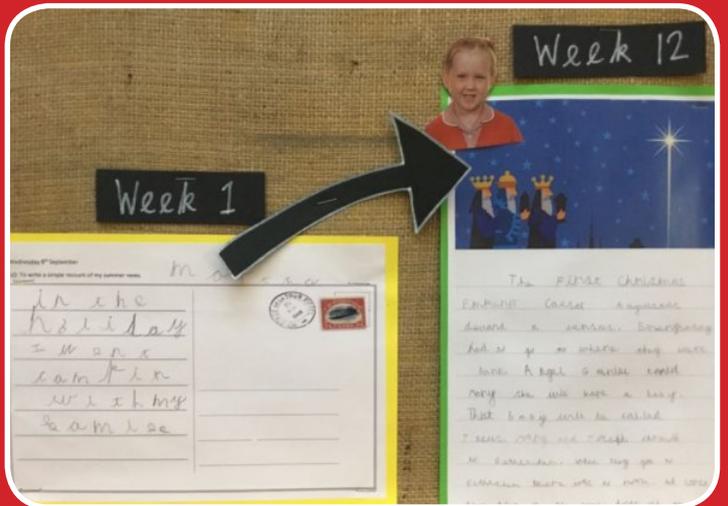
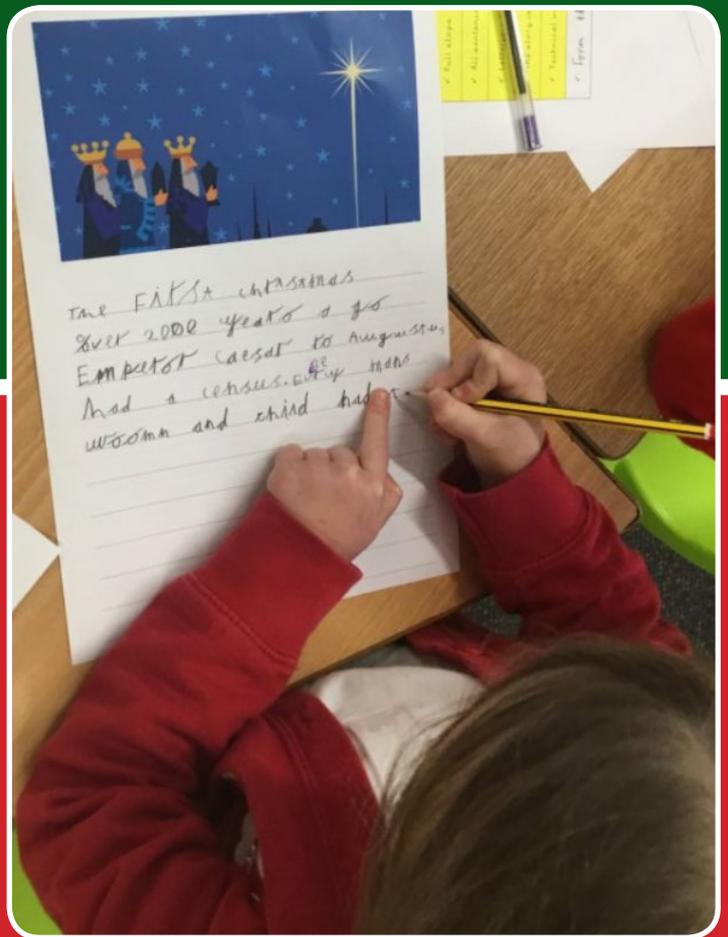


# Year 1

## Re-telling the First Christmas

In Year 1 the focus has most definitely been on Christmas this half-term. The children started off thinking about their Christmas memories and they did a lovely piece of writing about this. They then worked as historians, trying to find out what their family's Christmas memories were, when they were a similar age. The children then wrote an even better piece of writing about this. And finally, the children looked at the very first Christmas and found out great detail from this very special Christian story.

The children then wrote about this, writing a fantastic Christmas recount. Wow, the writing progress the children made in this relatively short space of time was just incredible. These photos show examples of the progress the children have made in writing since joining Year 1. Their latest piece is the Christmas story recount. Can you believe that this is writing from term 1 of Year 1!



# Year 2

## Born in a Barn



Year 2 have had such an amazing half term and shown true resilience and determination in all areas of learning. As authors, we have gathered all our new scientific knowledge, skills and understanding of how to classify and identify animals and have created a science information booklet based on the five classes of animals: mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds and fishes. The children have developed their writing skills, using expanded noun phrases, verbs and adverbs in their work to add description and detail whilst including the vital scientific facts they have learnt and discovered. We will be leaving our booklet at Shaldon zoo for visitors to read, admire and be inspired by! The children hope visitors will develop their knowledge and skills of identifying and classifying animals.

Alongside this enquiry, we have been busy rehearsing and performing our Christmas production of Born in a Barn! What a success! So much learning taking place when putting on a production - rehearsing lines, timing, movement, songs and discipline of how to enter and exit the performance space and be a supportive audience member. Super proud of the year 2 team and wishing you all a very happy Christmas time.



# Year 3

## Discovering Our Local Area

Year 3 have enjoyed an excellent term since September and have made great progress in their learning. Recently we have been learning how Teignmouth and Shaldon are linked to the region of Dartmoor as well as discovering more about our local area. We have studied maps, examined different sources of evidence and compared locations along the course of the River Teign. Our learning culminated in a trip to the Teign estuary where we were able to combine our learning around maps with the real world around us - spotting locations we had identified on our maps in the classroom.





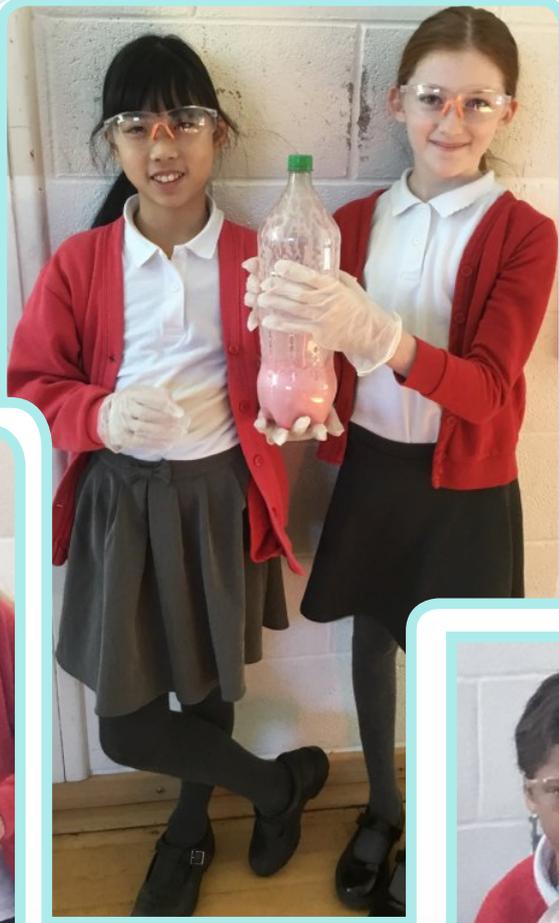
# Year 4

In year 4 this term we've been very busy! In our enquiries, they have done all sorts, from science to RE to art. I have been so impressed with the range of skills they have been developing. Throughout all of this, their half-termly gateway of leadership and determination has shone through. This determination continued all the way through to Christmas- the interhouse netball competition, learning Christmas songs, the Rudolph run- all so impressive. I'm really proud of everything they've achieved this term and they have earned a fantastically fun and restful Christmas break. I can't wait to see them again for more amazing learning in the new year. Merry Christmas everyone!



# Year 5

Children in Year 5 have loved being scientists, historians, artists and theologians this term! The particular highlight was science, when the children learnt about chemical reactions and changes of state.



# Current Learning!

Year  
6



In year 6 this half term we have been learning about electricity. We were set the task of creating a festive light box for Mrs Stewart to have on her table for Christmas dinner. We had to learn how electricity works, how to create circuits and draw circuit diagrams. We then designed a light box and we will be working hard to finish them so that Mr Stewart can choose the model she likes best!





# FOSS Update

FOSS fundraising has been a huge success this term, we have raised over £1000! We've had a Halloween non uniform day (£160), a Krispy Kreme doughnut sale (£100), Christmas Cards (£194), the ever-popular Secret Room Christmas Shop (£200) and a Christmas Hamper raffle (£390). We've also generated £117 from our ongoing fundraising through Bag2School, Stikins name labels and Easyfundraising.

We contributed £1128 towards an refresh of the Library, which is now a fabulous comfy space for the children to use.

Thank you all for your support in our fundraising efforts. Particularly with our move to using PTA-Events for booking online - it's a huge help to us to have a central point for admin and feedback so far has been great.

Our AGM took place in October, where Kathryn Bax was re-elected as Chair, Zoe Moore was elected as Treasurer and Molly Dorey was elected as Secretary. FOSS is a small team of 7 parents working together to make these things happen, and would always welcome more help!

We only have one date for the diary; our next Bag2School collection will be on 26th January. Keep an eye out for next term's fundraising!



Find us on Facebook @foshaldonschool  
Email us on foshaldonschool@gmail.com  
Log in to PTA Events [www.pta-events.co.uk/shaldon](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/shaldon)



## School Council

"This term the school council have been thinking about Christmas. They've done an amazing job decorating our post box and being our very own post people. They've been busy collecting and delivering Christmas cards to each class. Well Done Student Council!"



# GINGERBREAD WORKSHOPS

Two gingerbread workshops were held in the school hall led by local gingerbread expert and owner of Shute Fruit farm, Lori Reich. FOSS kindly provided tea and coffee for the event.



# Safeguarding

Click the links below  
to find out more



[www.dcfp.org.uk](http://www.dcfp.org.uk)

**SPLITZ**  
Support Service

[www.splitz.org](http://www.splitz.org)



[www.cafcass.gov.uk](http://www.cafcass.gov.uk)

**kooth**

Your online mental  
wellbeing community

[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

Remember – it could be nothing, but it could be something!



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Friday 17th December**

Last day of term

**Tuesday 4th January**

Return to school

**Tuesday 4th – Friday 7th January**

Year 6 Bikeability (session 1)

**Friday 21st January**

Flu vaccinations – consent forms will be sent prior

**Monday 24th – Thursday 27th January**

Year 6 Bikeability (session 2)

**Wednesday 26th January**

FOSS Bag2School collection

**Friday 18th February**

Last day of term

**February Half Term**

**Monday 28th February**

Return to school