

ST COLUMBA C OF E AUTUMN 2 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents,

As we reach the end of the autumn term, I would like to thank you for your continued support and positive engagement with our school community. Please see below for your class updates, which celebrate the learning, experiences and achievements from across the school this half term. All of which are made possible by the team at St Columba, all staff work exceptionally hard to ensure the children receive the very best support in all areas, I am very grateful for such a dedicated team.

We ended the term in the most joyful way with a whole-school trip to the pantomime. The children represented St Columba beautifully, their manners and behaviour in the theatre was positively commented on by multiple members of the public. The joy on the children's faces was truly priceless. It was a wonderful way to spend the final day of the term together and a reminder of the importance of shared experiences and belonging.

This half term has been filled with memorable moments, including Carols on the Cross, the Nativity, class concerts and our very own Roman Museum. Thank you to all parents and carers for your positive interactions with staff and for supporting these events so enthusiastically. Your encouragement and presence make a real difference to our children. We understand that this can be difficult for many, for a range of reasons, please always let us know if we can make the events more accessible for all.

I would also like to thank families for your continued support with attendance, which remains strong and still sitting between the top 1-2% nationally. Being in school everyday matters. Children need to be in school for us to ensure there are no gaps in their learning and so that school continues to feel manageable, positive and successful for them.

As always, feedback is warmly welcomed. We value working in partnership with you.

I wish you all a very happy and restful Christmas break and look forward to welcoming you back in the new term.

Kind regards,
Mrs Viola

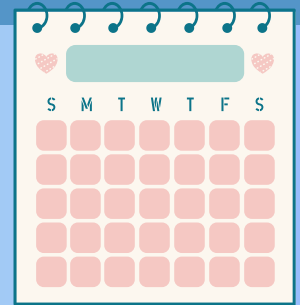


Dates for your Diary



January

5th - Return to School
28th - Coffee Afternoon



February

16th - 20th - HALF TERM

March

11th - Mothers Day Shop
23rd - Easter Service 9:30
27th - Easter Egg Hunt (Children Only)
30th EASTER HOLIDAYS

April

13th - Return to School
29th - Supporting children with anxiety workshop
30th - SATs Parents information

May

11th -14th - SATs week
22nd - INSET DAY
25th - 29th - HALF TERM

June

1st - INSET DAY
17th - Fathers Day Shop
19th - Sports Day

July

20th - Leavers Service
22nd - LAST DAY OF TERM

INSET DAYS

2025/26

3rd September 2025

4th September 2025

19th December 2025

22nd May 2026

1st June 2026

SAVE
THE DATE

HAZEL CLASS



This half term we've explored a variety of fairytales and traditional tales. Each week, the children enjoyed jumping into the story of the week, with lots of exciting reading and writing activities. Even with the colder weather, they've loved heading outdoors for water investigations, where they've explored pouring, filling, floating, and sinking. A real highlight was our local walk to Henry Cort (with a little stop at the park!) where the children became brilliant detectives, spotting things made by humans, and things made by nature. It's been a wonderful half term bursting with imagination and curiosity!



Both Hazel and Willow Class had lots of fun rehearsing for the nativity, practising their songs, lines, and actions together. They were so proud to perform on stage, and did a wonderful job sharing the Christmas Story with everyone!



WILLOW CLASS



In PE, Willow class have been working on a selection of balances and holding these for the magic 5 seconds. We explored which balances were suitable for floor, beams and wall bars.



Willow Class worked so hard to deliver an outstanding Nativity performance- and they did! We are so proud of all of them. Many pushed themselves out of their comfort zone. We hope you enjoyed the performance and are as proud as we are of them.



BEECH CLASS



Wow what a busy and successful half term for Beech class. We have thoroughly enjoyed our topic on Romans, sharing what we learnt through our reenactment and museum. Meanwhile we have been working towards our 'Guardians of the Wild' badge to support our learning on looking after the planet. The children have worked this half term and deserve a rest (but keep onnnnn..... reading!!!).

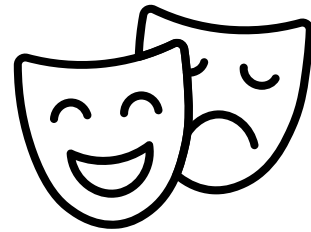
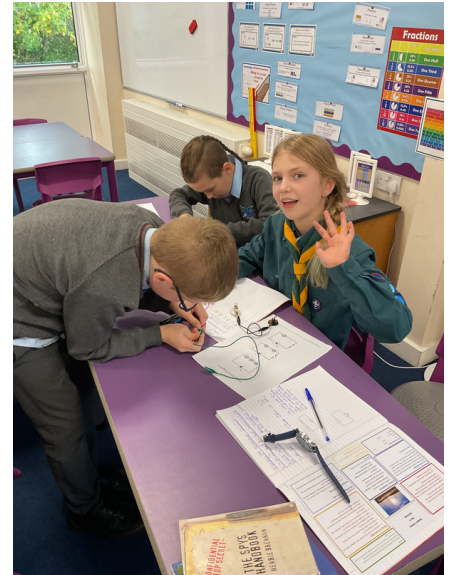


OAK CLASS



This half term we've been making electrical circuits in Science, using different components to create all different types of circuits! We've looked at the purpose of each circuit component, what would happen if a component was changed, and how to create the brightest bulb circuit!

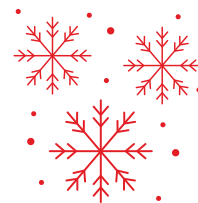
We also had BearFace Theatre come in to deliver a wonderful workshop for us. It was all about how to express your emotions, find true friends and make the right choices to have a successful life. We played games, acted out scenarios and of course, had some dress-up!



We performed our African Drums concert to the school and to our parents and carers. We were so proud to showcase everything we had practised over the last few weeks - group work, rhythm and beat, composition and traditional African call and responses.

We had a lot of fun, and made a lot of musical noise!





We would like to say a huge thank you to our PTFA for all their hard work and dedication throughout 2025. We are also incredibly grateful to all the staff, parents, and carers who have supported them in so many ways.

The Christmas Fayre was a fantastic success, raising an amazing £1,345.61. The dedication and fundraising efforts of the PTFA made it possible for the pantomime trip to go ahead.

Throughout the year, the PTFA have also funded a solar-powered WiFi bird box, the Punch and Judy show for the whole school. In addition, 10 iPads have been purchased for school use — an amazing effort that has had a real impact on our children's learning and experiences.

We truly couldn't do this without you. Well done and thank you to everyone involved!



Music Lessons

with Mrs Davis



Dear parents and guardians,
I am delighted to be offering music lessons at St Columba from January! I am a qualified classroom teacher and former Head of Music, and have extensive experience in delivering practical group and individual lessons. I currently teach in other local schools as well as running my own music classes.

- ▶ Group Ukulele with Singing lessons (Year 3-6)
£40 per term, 10 x 30-minute lessons, 6-8 pupils per group.
- ▶ Group Recorder lessons (Year 3-6)
£40 per term, 10 x 30-minute lessons, 6-8 pupils per group.
- ▶ Individual Piano lessons (Year 1-6)
£150 per term, 10 x 20-minute lessons.
A one-off fee of £12 (piano/ukulele)/ £10 (recorder) will be added to the first term's fee, to purchase each child a music tutor book and other teaching materials.
Termly lesson fees are due by the beginning of every new term (5th January) by bank transfer in order to secure the teaching slot.

All lessons will include the foundations of musicianship, such as reading music, performance skills and composition. My goal is for the children to develop not only their musical skills, but also their love and enjoyment of music in their lessons!

Lessons are during the school day on Wednesday mornings, and pupils are collected or sent by their class teachers. Please note that for recorder and ukulele, pupils will need to bring in their own instrument - I am happy to recommend good brands for beginners!

If you would like to sign your child up, please email me directly on LDMusicLessons@yahoo.com by Wednesday 17th December, stating your child's name, school year and chosen lesson. If there is more interest than spaces, I will allocate spaces on a first-come first-served basis, and keep a waiting list.

Many thanks, and I look forward to making music with the children soon!
Kind regards,

Louise Davis

LouiseDavisBA(Hons),QTS,ATCL