



Our Lady's News

The RUAH



**Thursday 18th
December
2025**

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**The children
return to
school on
Tuesday 6th
January 2026
@8.25am.**



Graded outstanding in all areas in our diocesan inspection in December 2024.

A message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the close of a busy and joyful Autumn Term, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of our school community. This term has been filled with learning, friendship, prayer and celebration, and we are proud of all that our children have achieved.

Advent – A Time of Preparation

As we enter the season of Advent, we are reminded that this is a time of waiting, hope and preparation. In school, the children have been learning about the meaning of Advent and how we can prepare our hearts to welcome Jesus at Christmas.

Each week, we have focused on a different Advent theme through prayer and reflection, lighting the candles of the Advent wreath and sharing moments of quiet and stillness. The children have been encouraged to think about how they can show love, generosity and compassion to others, especially those in need.

Christmas Celebrations

Our Christmas celebrations have truly brought joy to our school community. Class liturgies and nativity performances have given the children the opportunity to share the Christmas story and to remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas – the birth of Jesus, our Saviour.

Thank you to all families who joined us for these special occasions and for your support in helping the children prepare. We are incredibly proud of their confidence, creativity and reverence.



Respect, understanding, affection, humour

Looking Ahead

As we prepare to break for the Christmas holidays, we encourage families to take time together to rest, reflect and celebrate. Christmas is a wonderful opportunity to gather with loved ones, give thanks and remember those who may need our prayers and kindness.

We look forward to welcoming the children back in the New Year, refreshed and ready for another exciting term of learning and growth.

A Christmas Blessing

We wish you all a peaceful and joyful Christmas.

May the love of Christ fill your hearts and homes,
and may the New Year bring health, happiness and hope.

Thank you, as always, for being such an important part of our school family.

With every blessing,
Ms Davies and all the staff

Something to think about.....

In today's day and time,
it's easy to lose sight
of the true meaning of Christmas
and one special night.
Amidst the tinsel and glitter
of ribbons of gold,
we forget about the child
born on a night so cold.
When we go shopping
we ask "How much will it cost?"
then the true meaning of Christmas
somehow becomes lost.
The children look for Santa
and his big red sleigh
and forget about the child
whose bed was made of hay.
In reality, when we look
into the night sky
we don't see a sleigh
but a star burning bright and high.
A faithful reminder
of that night so long ago
and the child called Jesus
whose love the world would know.



News from the staff



Farewell

On Friday we say farewell to Mrs Maton, our School Business Manager, who is retiring from full time work. She has been at our school since 2017 and has made a wonderful contribution. She will be greatly missed!

Mrs Pereira, office administrator, is also leaving to take up part-time working. We wish both Mrs Maton and Mrs Pereira the very best of luck in the future.

Joining our school is Ms Houghton as School Business Manager. Ms Houghton is a very experienced School Business Manager and has worked in many of our partner schools. We are thrilled that she is joining us for two/three days a week. Mrs Hillier will also be supporting our admin office for the time being.

Baby News



Heartfelt congratulations to Mrs Chilton on the birth of her baby son Ahmed in September. We also congratulate Mr Box on the birth of his second daughter, Zoey at the end of October.

PSA News

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who came to help with our PSA events this term. The children loved the cinema night and were thrilled with the chance to do their Christmas shopping at the Bazaar. These events do not work without your help and support so thank you!

More information on PSA events and how much we have raised will be published at the start of the new term.

Teaching and Learning: Early Years

Know it, show it, think it, prove it



The children have been busy learning about the season of Autumn and the changes that occur with the weather. They have also looked at what the night sky looks like - great fun was had with tents!



Respect, understanding, affection, humour

Next term for nursery

Spring Term Topics				
Main Theme	Me and My Community	Winter Wonderland	Ready, Steady, Grow!	Signs of Spring
	This project supports children with settling into the new rules and routines of school and encourages them to make new friends and feel confident in their class. It teaches children about being helpful, kind and thoughtful at home and at school. This project also teaches children how they are unique and special, the importance of friendship and how people in their family, school and local community are important and can help them.	This project teaches children about the changes that happen during winter, including the types of weather associated with winter. It also explores places that have snow all year round and the types of animals that live there.	This project teaches children about food and farming and explores themes, including where food comes from, what plants and animals need to grow and survive and what constitutes a healthy lifestyle.	This project teaches children about the changes that happen during the spring, including weather and the festivals that are celebrated at this time of year.
Key Texts				

Next term for Reception

	Spring 1 st Term			Spring 2 nd Term		
Main Theme	Winter Wonderland 			Let's Explore! 		
	This project teaches children about the changes that happen during winter, including the types of weather associated with winter. It also explores places that have snow all year round and the types of animals that live there.			This project teaches children about the environments that they share with others, including their homes, school and places in the local community.		
Key Texts	<i>Jack Frost</i> 	<i>Emperor's Egg</i> 	<i>Winter Sleep</i> 	<i>Every house in every street</i> 	<i>The tree</i> 	<i>The Easter Story</i> 

Teaching and Learning: Years 1 and 2

Know it, show it, think it, prove it



Children had great fun learning about toys from the past and even had a debate about which toys were better - toys from now or toys from the past. Guess who won the debate?? The children also enjoyed a fabulous day out at Hill End where they built dens as part of their science topic. Brilliant teamwork showed the children just what they can achieve when they work together!



Next term for Years 1 and 2.....

Topic: Bright Lights, Big City!



This project teaches children about the physical and human characteristics of the United Kingdom, including a detailed exploration of the characteristics and features of the capital city, London.

Key texts:

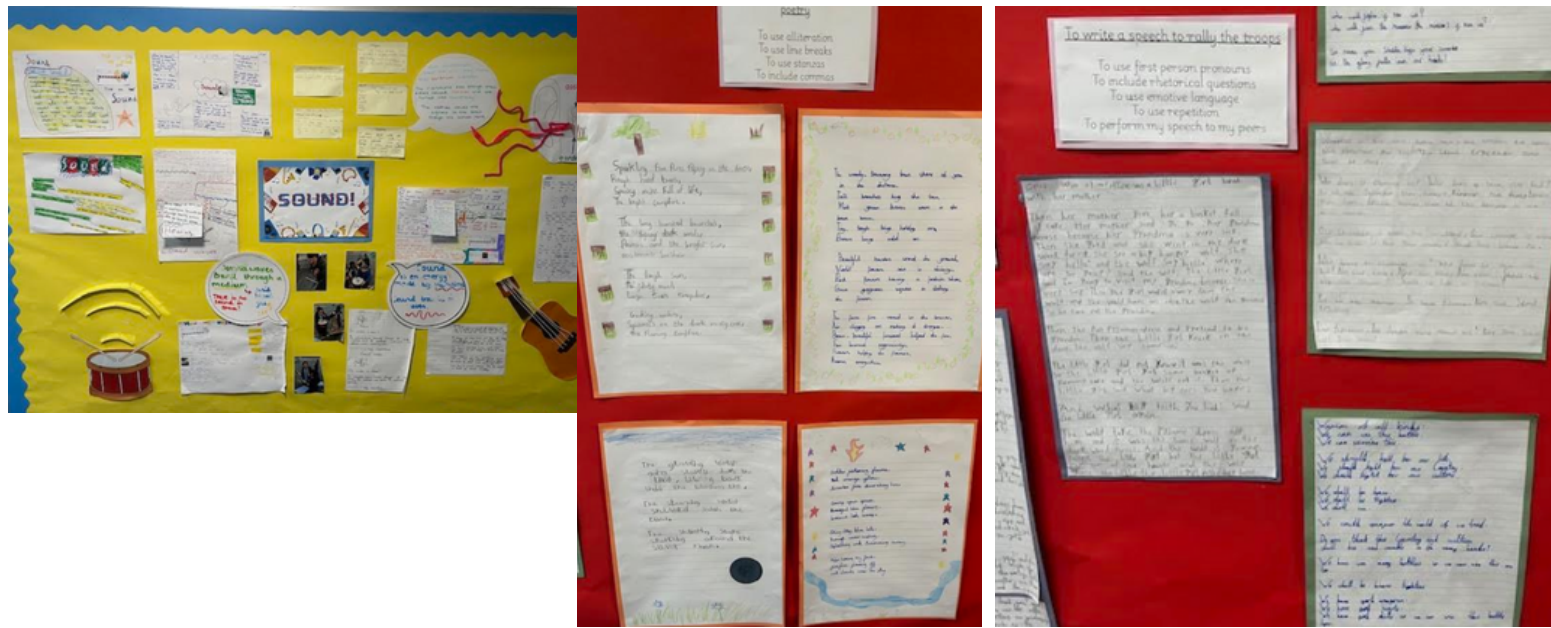


Respect, understanding, affection, humour

Teaching and Learning: Years 3 and 4

Know it, show it, think it, prove it

As well as a fabulous trip to Hill End, the children have enjoyed learning about the science behind sound, including how sound is created through vibrations. They have also written fabulous poems and motivational speeches to rally the Viking troops!



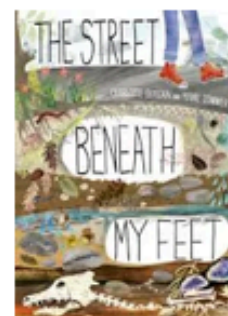
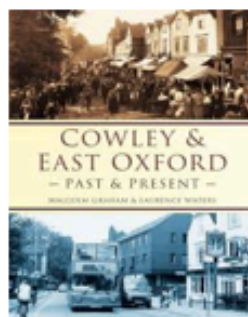
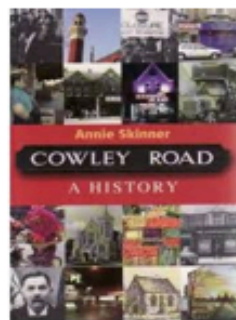
Next term for Years 3 and 4....

Topic: Cowley



This project will develop children's understanding of how Cowley has changed over time, the impact of the car factory and the children's vision of the future of Cowley.

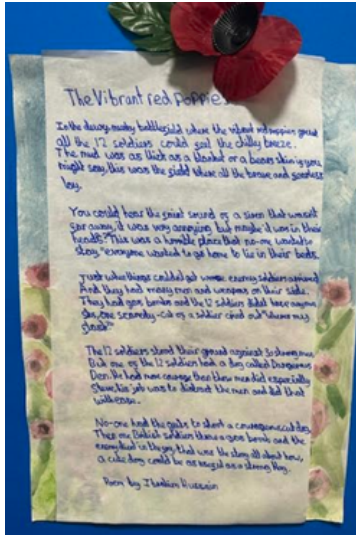
Key texts:



Teaching and Learning: Years 5 and 6

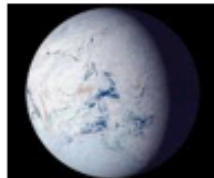
Know it, show it, think it, prove it

A wonderful trip to the Wartime Museum saw the children re-enacting what life was like in an Anderson Shelter with only rations - quite a shock to learn what life was like during the war time for some of our children! Years 5&6 have produced a range of wonderful writing this term and created excellent presentations to showcase what they have learnt. A very good way to practice their speaking skills!



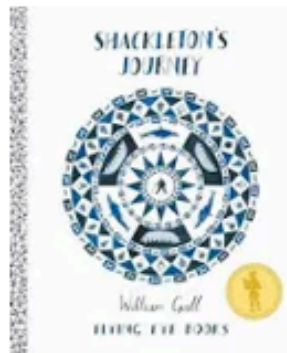
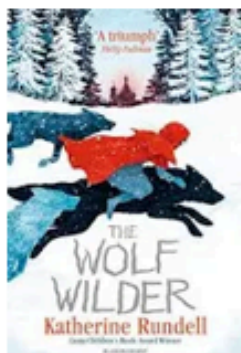
Next term for Years 5&6.....

Topic: Frozen Kingdom



This project teaches children about the characteristics and features of polar regions, including the North and South Poles, and includes a detailed exploration of the environmental factors that shape and influence them.

Key texts:



Respect, understanding, affection, humour