



# Our Lady of Lourdes

RC Primary School

## Weekly News...

Dear Parents

It has been fabulous to hear the sound of Christmas carols around the school and to see the shepherds, sheep, stars and angels of Nursery to Year One as they proudly shared their performances with their families. As always, the Live Nativity performed by Year Two reminded us about the Christmas journey and the eternal and joyful hope that this season brings. The birth of baby Jesus is such a wonderful event, perhaps reminding us of our own treasured children as little ones.

Thank you for your ongoing support for our school. It has been a long term and I know that both children and staff are very tired. A BIG thank you to everyone who has supported school and worked with us. Our community continues to flourish as seen by the PTA school events; our Christmas Fayre raised £7,100. Your generosity and kindness to our recent food appeal means that we have been able to support several school families; thank-you.

With COVID cases rising our thoughts turn back to the pandemic and makes us realise how much we appreciate our school community and the opportunities that OLOL provides for our children. There has been much to celebrate this past term; the children have worked very hard indeed. We should quite rightly be proud of them. Please enjoy a summary of life at OLOL over the past month.

On behalf of the staff of our school, may I convey our gratitude for the generous cards, thoughts, prayers and gifts, and also wish you a very happy Christmas.

My prayers will with you throughout the holiday period and I cannot wait to hear the children's stories of newly made Christmas memories when we return in 2024.

Mrs Boon



We Strive to be a sign of Christ's presence in the world.



# Ave Maria

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## Nursery



# Ave Maria

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As part of our traditional tales topic, we have been reading the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff. We challenged ourselves to build bridges in teams using different materials. The children really enjoyed this activity and were able to build some wonderful bridges, both inside the classroom and outdoors.



### Reception



In Reception, we have been looking at bears. We re-read the book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen and then went in search for some bears in the playground!



Reception have begun their adventures to Forest School in Tarzy Wood. We have been using our senses to listen to forest sounds, created a human caterpillar in the woods, created collages using natural forest materials, played forest hide and seek and sang Forest School songs, we can't wait for more adventures!





Reception have also been looking at traditional tales and looked at the tale of Goldilocks and The Three Bears. We then worked in our table groups and decided to use our DT skills and design and create a new chair of Baby Bear from cardboard.



### Year 1

In Year 1, the focus this week has been addition and subtraction using the various methods learnt so far.



Year 1 have used their Design and Technology skills to plan and make Pottage, a food popular in the Stuart times. We investigated the suitable ingredients and chopped them carefully. This linked to our History learning about the Gunpowder Plot. It was great to see the children try new foods and many have even asked their parents to make it again at home!



## Year 2

In Year 2 this week we created our own dance routine with a partner / group. This lesson consolidated all of our previous learning! We all enjoyed creating different movements with our bodies to resemble the life cycle of a plant.

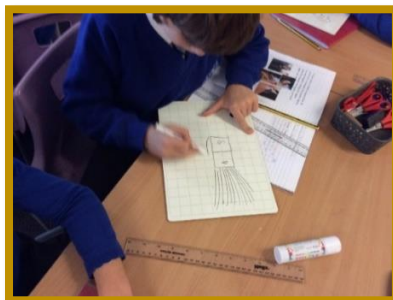


We also had the wonderful opportunity of taking part in a World War Two workshop. To consolidate our history topic 'Children in World War Two' we played the role of children who had been evacuated to a village school. We learnt all about gas masks and air raid shelters. In the afternoon we even used rationing books to visit old shops and have a go at being both the customer and shop owner. We all had a great time!

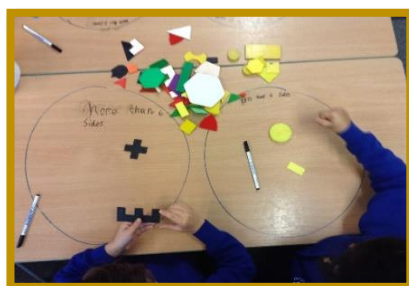


### Year 3

We have been studying shapes and looking at their properties. We especially enjoyed using simple circles to sort 2D shapes into separate categories. We were able to apply our previous learning of regular and irregular shapes as well as lines of symmetry to support our decisions.



During our Science lesson this week we predicted what a magnetic field would look like, then we investigated this using magnets and iron filings



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We investigated Stonehenge in class. To appreciate how difficult it was to build, we made it ourselves using blocks in the classroom. We had to remember the real blocks used for Stonehenge were much larger and weighed 25 tons!



We also made a pre-historic home for our DT project. Using the knowledge we have gained over the last term on the Stone Age, we researched different housing types and designed our own house. Using wooden sticks, hay, and clay we created our own version in groups.

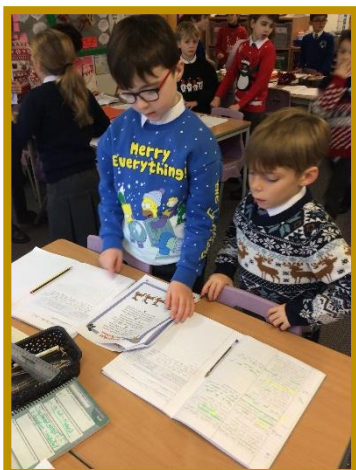
We even created internal furniture and a fire place! We realised that Stone Age people were really resourceful when it came to housebuilding, especially when it came to building the roof!



During anti-bullying week, Year 3 discussed the difference between bullying and cyber bullying, what to do when someone is bullied and how to be an anti-bullying hero. We then made a booklet of advice for our friends to read which we keep in our reading corner.







Year 3 read 'Twas the Night Before Christmas as part of our English learning to study poetry. After discussing the poetic features of the poem and the classical vocabulary, we performed our poem and gave feedback to partners. The children worked hard to memorise their verses, speak clearly and portray emotion using their voice.



Our topic for RE in Year 3 has been visitors in preparation for Christmas. We studied the story of the Annunciation where Mary was visited by an Angel. We wrote a diary of how she felt after discussing the various emotions she may have had and performing a freeze frame of the moment the Angel came to her.



We have been learning about measuring in Maths using centimetres and metres. Year 3 took to the playground to use their metre sticks and estimating skills. We estimated the height of an object on the playground then accurately measured it to see if we were correct.



## Year 4

Year 4 have been learning hockey skills for outdoor P.E. They began by reviewing previous skills, such as passing and using the stick to stop the ball when passed from a team member. They have also been using ball control skills to dribble around cones. Indoor P.E. has been just as challenging. Jumps, rolls and teamwork played a huge role in our gymnastics lesson this week.



In Year 4 over the past few weeks, we have taken part in a range of different activities, which have included: visiting the science museum, conducting our own science experiment investigating the effects of different liquids on our teeth, creating our own music using a computer program and designing and stitching our own Roman togas. They have enjoyed designing their costumes and working as a team to sew and make alterations.





The children have been using AI to create music and repeated beats in computing. They have developed an ear for bpm and shown outstanding talent using various online tools.

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This term we visited the Science Museum and enjoyed learning about ancient medicines, the human body and we even visited the space exhibition.



### Year 5

Year 5 had a very exciting opportunity to complete a cross curricular workshop at the Natural History Museum. The children created a Mars Rover using Lego before testing their prototype on a replica of Mars' surface. They were given additional challenges during the creation stage, such as a limit to the mass of their prototype. We observed the children use a range of skills including those from: Science, Coding, D&T, Mathematics and English. As always, the children were complimented by staff at the Museum on their exceptional behaviour. Well done Year 5!

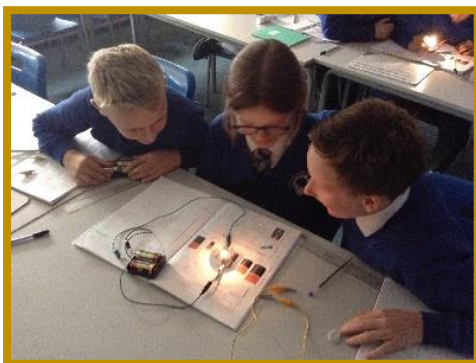


Year 5 also built on their previous learning about gravity and delved deeper by researching the man who discovered gravity: Sir Isaac Newton. They created a presentation using google slides including facts about his life, notable achievements and his three laws of motion. They were able to record how Newton challenged and used the work of scientists that came before him (Galileo) to develop his own ideas

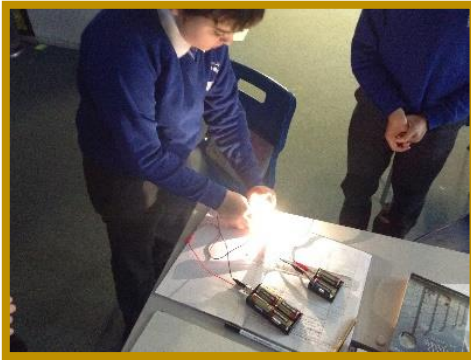


### Year 6

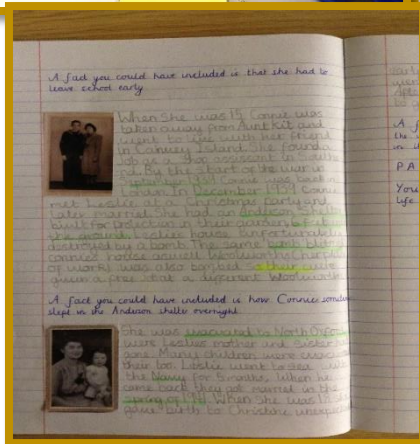
The Year 6 choir sang at Woodbine school, Cambridge Nursing Home and at Our Lady of Lourdes church this week.



In Science Year 6 were exploring Voltage. They initially predicted what would happen to the bulb as they increased the voltage. Then, they set up their own fair test to check if their prediction was correct by creating a variety of different circuits using batteries with different amounts of volts.



Year 6 were visited by the London Museum this week for an interactive workshop. The workshop delved into the fascinating life of Connie Hoe, a Blitz survivor and witness whose story is both inspiring and educational. Y6 had the unique opportunity to explore Connie Hoe's life through exploring sources and testimonies led by the museum educators. They learned about her impactful contributions and the era she lived in, gaining valuable insights into what life must have been like for people across the country involved in The Blitz during WW2.



## Skittleman Christmas Visit



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### OFSTED Update

Thank you to everyone who sent messages of support and told us what they liked and appreciated about our school. This really lifted the staff. Particular thanks to the parents who sent in food and cakes to keep us going! As soon as the report is available we will share it with you.

### LOL PTA

Thank you to everyone who supported the PTA Christmas raffle and our wreath making evening. Together, they raised just over £1,500. Special thanks to Kathy for running the wreath making workshop.

Finally, please enjoy this prayer written by Nehemiah and Amrai in Year 6.

Lord in heaven, hear my prayer,  
Keep me in your loving care,  
Be my guide in all I do,  
Bless all those who love me too.

He wakes me up; He makes me sleep,  
Provides for me the food I eat,  
When I cry, I call on him,  
Because I know with Him I win.

Even though the hardest day,  
I trust in Him in every way,  
He's the One who sees me through,  
Jesus lives, I know it's true.

With loving-kindness, He smiles on me,  
Because He died, I am free,  
Lord, for all, I thank you so  
I know you'll never let me go! Amen

A huge thank you to all our parents for your continued support.

Have a lovely Christmas.

Mrs Boon and the LOL Team

Ave Maria

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