



Friday 17th
December
2021

WhatsUp @
EXETER

Principal Award

17.12.21

FS2: Ivy and Angelina

Year 1: Jessie and Jasmyna

Year 2: Olaf and Rahees

Nurture: Charlie-Mae

Year 3: April, Lionel and Sofia R

Year 4: Scarlett and Imogen

Year 5: Jayden S and Junior

Year 6: Ebony, Elizabeth and Lilly

Kirby: Charlie

Message from Mr Nicholls – Head of School:

I can't believe we are at the end of the Autumn term, and the end of my first term as Head of School at Exeter. I've thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children and yourselves, as parents and carers. It's been a delight to see you on the gate in the mornings and as you leave in the evenings.

The most important message I have, as we break for Christmas, is just simply a thank you, from myself and on behalf of the team at Exeter. As I say, it's been a tricky term but we have managed to pull through it together. Your support for the school speaks volumes of how much the community value us and the impact we're having on the community. Your positivity, as we found in the recent parent survey, just shows the confidence you have in us to ensure the community of Corby know just how amazing Exeter is and that we are the school to be at.

I'm super proud to be part of an incredible team of highly skilled people where everything they do is to make sure your child's academic education is the best it possibly can be and shaping them into the best, well-rounded, polite little people they can be, too. We wish you a very merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all, safely, in the New Year where we continue to strive to be even better than we were before!

Wishing you a very happy holiday and a prosperous 2022.

Upcoming Dates

Friday 17th December – Last day of term

Tuesday 4th January – Training day (school closed to pupils)

Wednesday 5th January – school opens to pupils

Monday 14th – Friday 18th February – Half term

Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas fair last night after school. It was fantastic to see so many people from our community supporting our school – weren't we lucky with the weather! We will let you know when we return after Christmas how much money was raised.

Winners on the stalls:

Teacher on the naughty list – Kieran C Y3

Guess the sweets – Elizabeth Y5

Boy Elf 'Pudding' – Tiarna Y5

Girl Elf 'Buttercup' – Emily Fs2

Guess the Dog 'Neville' – Ivy FS2



Meeting royalty



One very lucky and special boy in Year 2 met the Duchess of Cambridge, Kate Middleton, as she hosted at a special carol concert

‘Together at Christmas’ at Westminster Abbey on

Wednesday 8th December. Not new to being in the presence of royalty, Kaydyn has already spoken to Prince William via Zoom during the first lockdown. Kate personally stopped to talk to Kaydyn during the service. Look out for Kaydyn and his mum when the service is aired on ITV on Christmas Eve at 7:30pm.

dukeandduchessofcambridge What a special evening, seeing so many familiar faces, as well as meeting inspirational people who have gone the extra mile for their community in recent times.

Across the country, these organisations and unsung heroes have pulled together and through acts of kindness helped others in the face of extraordinary challenges.

Tune in to @ITV at 7:30pm on Christmas Eve to see this special event 🎄 #TogetherAtChristmas
View all 96 comments



Nursery

It’s been a busy time in Nursery and the children have enjoyed exploring lots of Christmas activities and learning Christmas songs to share with their grown-ups at the Christmas concert. Last week they wrote their letters to Father Christmas and then went on a walk to the post box to post them, standing on tip toes to check they had gone all the way down, they even spotted some sparkly decorations on the way!



Foundation Stage 2

We have been working our socks off in Foundation Stage 2 this term. We started our term off with a bang with our special visit from the Owls. We enjoyed learning about Plop the owl, who was afraid of the dark and we celebrated Halloween and Firework night. Leading up to Christmas, we listened to the story Dear Santa. This gave us some ideas to help us to write our own letters to Santa. Last week we walked to the post box to post our letters. We are looking forward to receiving a letter back from Santa.

We have also been remarkably busy rehearsing our songs and practising our lines for our Nativity – Wriggly Nativity. We are excited to share this with our parents.

In the classroom we have been working like little elves, designing our own wrapping paper, wrapping presents, building Santa’s sleigh and making lots of different Christmas crafts.





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Year 1

This half term Year 1 have worked extremely hard on their topic work. They have applied their art skills with pastels for their space pictures. They have developed their computing skills on Purple Mash; explored finding a

programme to create

their own space pictures and adapted the tools to create their pictures. Within their

science they have been learning about materials and testing which

materials would be best for an astronaut. We are extremely proud of the children and how they have developed their Independent learning. Super Stars!!



Year 2

What an incredible term we have had together Year 2. We kicked off the term with our work on the magic porridge pot. We practiced together trying to include as many expanded noun phrases in our writing

to really grip the reader. Then we moved onto our instruction writing. You all worked so hard on including as many imperative verbs as possible (bossy words)

to tell the reader exactly what to do. Hopefully, you were all able to go home

after these lessons and work with your adults to instruct them how to make

delicious gingerbread men ready for Christmas. In addition to this, we have been

working so hard in maths developing our skills in money. The children have been

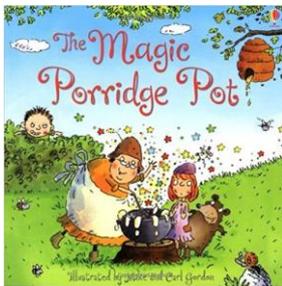
able to add money together and to find change, so hopefully they won't need as

much help spending some of their Christmas pennies this year. Lastly, we would like

to say from the whole Year Two team thank you to the parents for all of your hard work and dedication

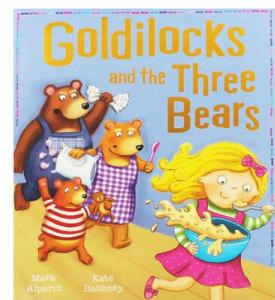
to helping support your children alongside us though this term. We know it's been a long term running up to Christmas but we've finally made it and the children have done so well.

Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.



Nurture

Wow what a busy half term! In nurture our topic has been 'Goldilocks and the three bears'. We enjoyed dressing up and acting out this story. We used Lego to make the 3 bears house and used salt dough to make the furniture the right size for each bear - this took a lot of team work and patience! As the story includes the five senses, we created a word bank of vocabulary the children said when they were touching, smelling, tasting and looking at different foods. Finally, we used mirrors to watch ourselves creating facial expressions for the characters as the story was read to us.





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Year 3

We have travelled back in time this term! Learning about the Stone Age has been so interesting for us all and how this then developed into the Bronze Age and then later into the Iron Age. The children had a go at loom weaving and discovered how these pre-historian people made tools and weapons.

Our writing this term has included a narrative about a Stone Age boy who is fed up with everything being made from stone! We have also learnt to write a letter about a journey back in time. The children have tried hard to include features such as expanded noun phrases, apostrophes for contractions and time adverbials. Year 3 have also thoroughly enjoyed dressing up for maths this term for the school's TT Rock Star Day and are now more confident at their 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times tables. Keep practising!!!

During Science, the children have been learning about forces and using their scientific knowledge to investigate which surface has more friction and also which surface is best for walking on. They have used Newton metres for the first time and created bar charts to show the results and write conclusions. We have some budding scientists amongst us!



Year 4

We cannot believe it is the end of term in Year 4! It has been a really exciting and fun term. We have all settled into the year group really well and are enjoying the responsibility of being older role models in Key Stage 2. The children were asked for their highlights of the Autumn Term and these have included being upstairs and using lockers! The children have also been very positive about Crew Time every day and reviewing their passports on Tuesdays to see how close they are towards earning their bronze merit badges. Finding out on a Friday who is the Crew Champion for the week has also been a very exciting time. The children reported back that have been very proud to wear red Crew Champion jumpers because it makes them feel proud and special, especially when staff congratulate them on their award during the week. The JLT election was another highlight this term and all the candidates in Year 4 were incredible in their election campaigns. We were so proud of the maturity demonstrated by all the pupils involved. Having assembly in the hall once more has made these occasions extra special for the children. They have also said how nice it is to be able to have lunchtime in the hall again with their friends.

Regarding the curriculum in Year 4, a highlight has been visiting the library once a week to choose a book to borrow because we all love to read in Year 4 and we enjoy recommending books we have read to our friends. In Year 4, the ICT suite is next to our classrooms and we have had great fun learning to code. TT Rockstars has been a favourite in maths, helping us to master our multiplication tables. We also



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practise these every morning as a morning activity. Science has been great fun, learning about electricity, what conducts and what doesn't, culminating in a task to create a buzz wire game where we had to make a circuit that would buzz when your wobbly hand touched the wire. We have also been learning some basic French in curriculum lessons. Role playing greetings in French was great fun.

Finally, we have absolutely loved our story time this term. After lunch, we close the blinds, turn out the lights and put a crackling log fire on our interactive whiteboard. Then we listen to our exciting class story, Viking Boy by Tony Bradman, which transports us far away into an action-packed historical fantasy adventure. This has been such a great story to listen to for our 'Traders and Raiders' project where we have been learning about the Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Viking invasions and settlements in Britain. Our writing, The Dragon's Hoard, has been incredible in Year 4 because the children have been so immersed in this subject.

The Year 4 team wish everyone a wonderful Christmas. Rest and read lots and we look forward to seeing you all back safely in 2022!



Year 5

As part of our Childhood Pledge for Environment, Amber Adams in Boughton class created a bird box during the summer holidays with the help of her family. We are delighted to have given the box a new home on the tree outside the Year Five area. We are crossing our fingers that we get some little visitors in the spring. Amber hopes to work on creating some more bird boxes and habitats to support the creatures around our school grounds. Keep your eyes peeled!

"My aim is to keep the animals safe and healthy. I may even make a bug house next time!" Amber Adams Year Five.



Year 6

Year Six have had a busy half-term with visits and trips. We have been to the Rooftop Art Centre as part of our 'Gallery Rebels' topic where we explored the work of local artists. We also went to the Corby war memorial for Remembrance Day and laid a wreath in memory of all the fallen soldiers from Corby.



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Kirby

This half term, Kirby class have amazed me with their independence. To start the half term, we wrote non-chronological reports on lions and tigers. We enjoyed learning lots of interesting facts about these magnificent animals. Then, we wrote the fairy tale, 'Snow White' which has included lots of opportunities for drama and learning to use speech punctuation. In maths, the children have been learning to count and use money. It has been great to see the children applying their addition and subtraction skills to money.

Attendance

Our school / government minimum expectation is **96%**

Year group	Attendance (Monday 13 th Friday 17 th December)
Reception	91.2
Year 1	93.8
Year 2	91.6
Year 3	92.4
Year 4	95.2
Year 5	91.8
Year 6	92.8

We wish everyone a happy Christmas and New Year. Please stay safe.
See you all on Wednesday 5th January 2022

Next Newsletter

Friday 14th January 2022

Exeter a learning community

School Term Dates

Academic Year 2021 – 2022





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Term 3	Training Day Re-open Closes	Tuesday 4 January Wednesday 5 January Friday 11 February
Term 4	Training Day Re-open	Monday 21 February Tuesday 22 February
Easter	Closes	Friday 1 April
Term 5	Re-open	Tuesday 19 April
May Bank Holiday	Closes Re-open	Friday 29 April Tuesday 3 May
Spring Bank Holiday	Closes	Thursday 26 May
Term 6	Re-open Closes Training Day	Monday 6 June Thursday 21 July Friday 22 July