



Great Gaddesden C of E (VA) Primary School

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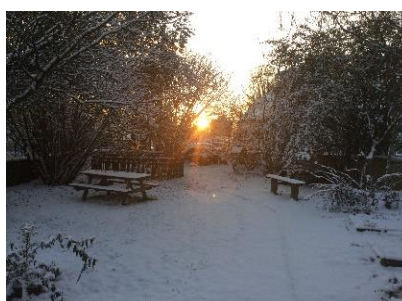
Wednesday, 20th December 2022

Dear Parents,

Although we have had a rather challenging end to the term, it is important not to lose sight of the very successful Autumn term that we have had. The children have worked so hard this term, making excellent progress.

Snow days

The snow fall certainly reminded us all how privileged we are to have such a beautiful setting for our little village school. Despite the bitter cold, the children were able to enjoy the snow, within a safe environment.



Christmas Nativity and Carol Concert

It has been lovely to be able to join together as a whole school community to enjoy all the Christmas celebrations. The church has been full again and it was such a treat to watch EYFS + Y1 Nativity play and the Carol Service. Thank you for being such a fabulous audience and for providing costumes.



Christmas dinner

In between the Christmas concerts, the whole school enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner. EYFS decorated their tables and staff and children ate together. With very careful arranging, the rest of the school managed to just about fit into the hall altogether and enjoyed the festive occasion. Many thanks to FOGGS for providing all children with a chocolate lolly, which seemed to be eaten as a starter by some children!



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Care Home singing

Last Thursday, our Year 5 and Y6 children visited St Paul's Care Home to sing carols to the residents and staff. I was so proud of the children and the way in which they brought such joy to others. The residents were so delighted and joined in with the singing. The children were particularly in awe of one resident, a retired teacher from Potten End, who at the age of 96, was word perfect with every carol !.



Pantomime trip

Despite so many of the staff and pupils being unwell, I am thankful that this exciting trip was still able to go ahead for those who were in school. By all accounts, the children were fantastic ambassadors and had a thoroughly enjoyable time.

Christingle Service

Yesterday, the children worked together to make Christingles, discussing the symbolism of the Christingle. This morning, the whole school, with Rev'd Russell and Mrs Tisbury, joined to celebrate the meaning of the Christingle in church. Our service concluded with us all joining together to sing Away in a Manger, with our Christingle flames burning brightly. A truly lovely occasion, which I hope will form memories for the children in years to come.



Christmas message

On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank you for all your very generous gifts. I would also like to extend my gratitude and appreciation for all the kind words, encouragement and small acts of kindness that we receive from you; not just at Christmas time, but throughout the year. We all work very closely as a team and without such a community spirit, we wouldn't be the school we are today. I have now been at Great Gaddesden School for 5 years and I feel most privileged to lead our super school. I am so proud of every single pupil, for the way in which they always strive to be the best person they can, guided by our school's Christian values.

I wish all our children and families a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a healthy 2023.

Kind regards,

Mrs S.M.Wickens
Headteacher

