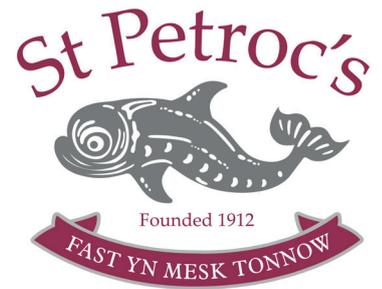


St Petroc's Post



Letter from the Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have made it! After the trials and tribulations of what can only be described as an adaptive, flexible and extremely busy few weeks, we have reached the end of the Autumn Term. For some, it was your first Carol Service last night and for others it was your last, which is quite a thought in itself. That being said the children deliver, as always, what is asked of them and to a standard that is impressive for some so young. The technology on offer at the Methodist Church, with screens controlled by iPads (huge thanks to Mr Fox and Ms Croxall), cameras, radio microphones and multiple musical instruments, enables a different flavour of Carol Service. I really enjoyed the children performing and some of the solos, in particular, really stood out to me. Year 5's version of Away in a Manger was beautiful. It was great to look out and see so many of you in attendance, along with some of our Early Years parents, carers and grandparents too. Thank you for supporting the children. I must also send a huge thanks to Deacon Debbie and the volunteers at Bude Methodist Church, for helping us in so many ways with the production, along with our ever dependable Head of Music and Drama, Mrs Cook.

This week has seen some very excited and very tired children, so I have reminded them all to get some well-earned rest over the festive break. Let's also keep their minds practising the small things - those skills that they have learned over the term - to ensure they are not lost amongst the Christmas crackers and Queen's speech. This week has seen Christmas parties and decorations, a visit to Santa's magical pop-up Grotto at Shebbear College, festive games and a plethora of Christmas attire. Plus a superb Christmas lunch, Carol rehearsals, performances and the infamous 'Red Teas'. What a tremendous amount we managed to shoe horn in! I must also mention our workshop with the Princess Yachts apprentices for the STEMfest Big Boat Build project; the prototype looks fantastic. The climax of this rather special week was an amazing Final Assembly, during which the Coles Cup was awarded and we celebrated some of the children's many achievements from throughout the term.

Please let me take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope you all feature on the appropriate one of Father Christmas' lists and that you have a truly magical time with your families. Thank you for a wonderful term and for your continued support in making St Petroc's so special for your children.

Nadelik Lowen!

Ben Hilton
Fast Yn Mesk Tonnow

Diary Dates

Thursday 19th December
to
Wednesday 1st January
Early Years settings closed

Thursday 2nd January
Early Years settings
re-open*

Monday 6th January
First day of term

Tuesday 7th January
Swimming lessons resume

*EYFS funded sessions
resume week commencing
Monday 6th January





Little Turtles

Super skills



This week in Turtles we have been feeling super Christmassy, with lots of festive music, stories and songs. The children had fun working on their personal, social and emotional skills when playing in the tent, and continued to work on their physical skills when riding on the bikes inside. The heuristic play was a big hit, especially the scarves which we used to play 'peek-a-boo' with our friends and the grown-ups!



Sea Lions



Treats and energetic excitement



The Sea Lions have had a great last week of term. We've been enjoying some special little treats at snack time, such as chocolate fingers and Pom Bear crisps. We have also been doing some Christmas dancing and party games, including Musical Statues and Musical Chairs.

We all loved making some crowns to wear while enjoying our Christmas dinner on Wednesday; it was very yummy so thank you very much to Anne, Ness and Sherri in the kitchen!

We have also been matching shapes when making the Nativity scene - triangles, rectangles and circles - to make Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus.

Last but not least, the Sea Lions would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Some of our friends will be moving to Dolphins in January so we wish you all the best in your new room. We're also very excited to welcome the new friends who will be joining us from the Little Turtles room.





Dolphins

Party time



This week, the Dolphins have been busy celebrating Christmas and enjoying lots of party games, musical statues and bumps. They carefully listened to the music and followed the instructions.

The children brought in some food to share with their classmates and had fun making glittery salt dough Christmas decorations, demonstrating good creative skills.

During circle time, the children have delighted us with their Christmas lists and the presents they are hoping to receive from Father Christmas.

There have been so many highlights throughout the Autumn Term. The one which stands out for the Dolphins team is the Nativity performances, where all the children were absolutely fantastic in demonstrating the hard work they have put into learning the various songs and the progress made in their confidence and self-esteem.

Overall, a thoroughly enjoyable term!



The Friends of St Petroc's



The 100 Club

Join the 100 Club!

Each number costs £4 per month, with 50% of each month's donations supporting the work of the Friends of St Petroc's and the remaining 50% being the prize fund for that month's members.

Each month, three numbers are drawn at random and the lucky winners receive a share of the prize fund!

You could win one of three cash prizes every month!

Help raise valuable funds for the school and Early Years

Numbers currently available:

- 8
- 17
- 19
- 20
- 25
- 32
- 36
- 38
- 40
- 41
- 45
- 46
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- 48
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- 98

Contact Lindsay on mail@lindsayhazeldine.com for more details and to get the ball rolling with your 100 Club membership!



Reception

All aboard!

The Reception children had a fantastically festive week, starting with a visit to Santa's Grotto at Shebbear College. They all had a good chat with Father Christmas, to ensure that he knows what they would like in their stockings when the big day comes.

"The children all coped really well with the journey, singing all the way there and back, and were very well behaved in the different surroundings."
- Miss Calienda

"Our new Reception class is truly a diverse and charismatic bunch! I have enjoyed watching the children adapt to school life and they are now fully subscribed members of the St Petroc's family!" - Mrs Cuff



We have also enjoyed developing our fine motor control, by threading beads onto pipe cleaners to make candy canes. The children were challenged to read a word before they added a bead! Reception have also been recreating the Polar Express with our new train track, helping Santa to deliver all the presents on Christmas Eve.

"It has been wonderful to see the Reception children settle into life at St Petroc's, achieving so much in such a short space of time. I'm looking forward to watching the children learn, grow and develop further in the new year." - Mrs Biddlecombe



Years 1 & 2

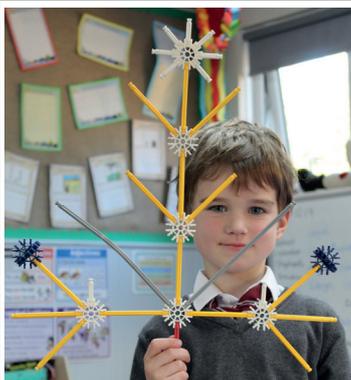
A seasonal summary

Having reached the end of a very busy term, Years 1 and 2 have settled well into their new learning environment and have all worked really hard. Looking back over the term, the children really enjoyed their day at the National Marine Aquarium when they took part in the STEMfest boat building day. They all enjoyed making a raft, testing its water durability and they were all really well behaved.

Years 1 and 2 have been extremely generous with their cake baking this term, as well as with donations for Harvest Festival and 'Love in a Box'. More recently, they have been focusing on the Christmas play and Mrs Wood was so proud of how they learned their lines and performed with such stage presence.

On Wednesday we all had a wonderful Christmas dinner, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, and we are now all feeling extremely festive after the wonderful Carol Service. Happy Christmas to you all!

"When watching the children on stage, it's hard to believe that some of them are still only five years old!" - Mrs Wood





Years 3 & 4

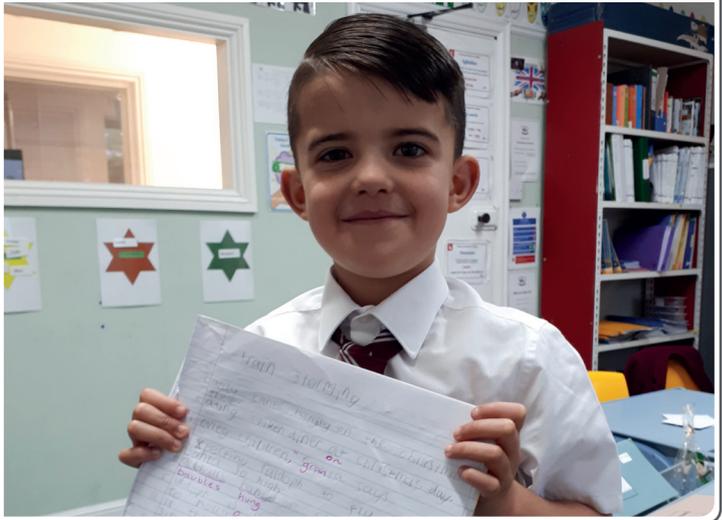
Can you see the word...?

The Year 3 and 4 children have been writing Christmas Acrostics. They have made some very interesting attempts and Mrs Cook hopes you enjoy reading Lucas' one!



"I have so many highlights from this term but I particularly enjoyed our trip to Kents Cavern in Torquay. It really brings History lessons to life when you can go and visit a place that evokes the period you're learning about. So Kents Cavern is a dream!" - Mrs Cook

Candy canes hanging on the Christmas Tree
 Eating Christmas dinner on Christmas day.
 "Lovely children," Gran says.
 Expecting Rudolph to fly with Santa so high
 Baubles hung on Christmas trees.
 Rudolph leading the way to the house
 All the people in town are singing Christmas carols
 Time for Santa to arrive
 Even the Grinch joins in with the carols!



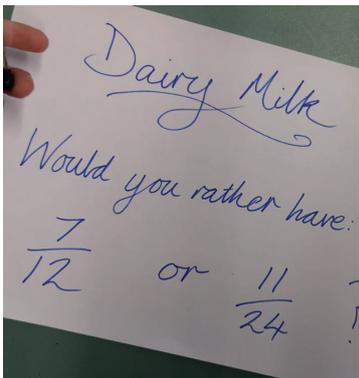
Year 5

"I was so delighted to hear that I'd be teaching the class I had taught in Year 3 and they haven't let me down yet! There have already been so many achievements and exciting days, such as when everyone got 100% in their spelling test, our moving Class Assembly and when I was labelled 'the Grinch' for wanting to ban tinsel for environmental reasons!" - Mr Fox



Choconominators

If you need to inspire children in Maths then 'just add chocolate'! Year 5 were certainly into their fractions this week, when they were presented with an opportunity to maximise their chocolate yield. Each chocolate bar had two options (fractions) which had different denominators and numerators. One was slightly larger than the other. They had to find equivalent fractions to work out which was the bigger amount! After careful calculations, they all picked their preferred option. As a reward, they all got to feast on their 'fair' takings. This was a great activity for consolidating their Maths work and easy to try at home.



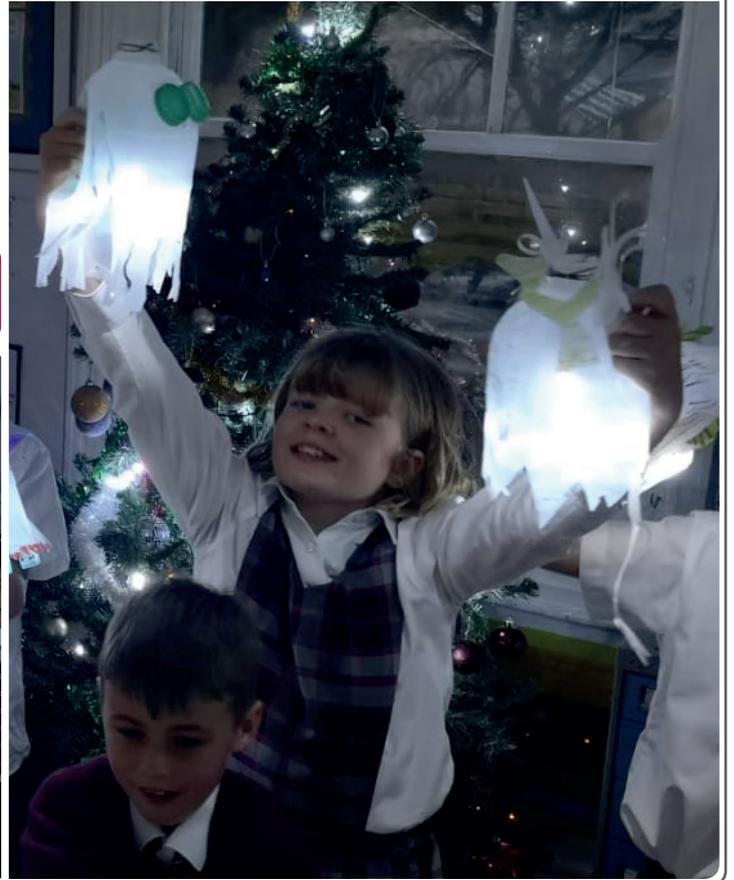


Lantern preparations

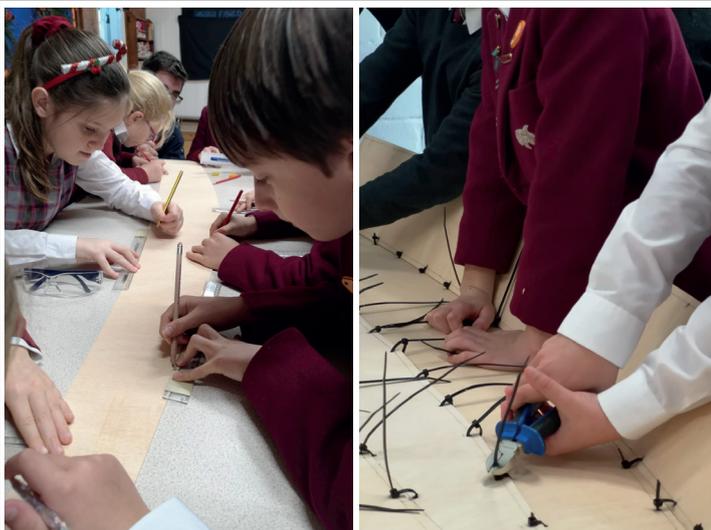
Join the parade

It has been great to work in partnership with Budehaven to prepare for the lantern procession and other festivities around Bude on Friday. The children have been glowing with excitement!

If you are able to join the parade, please meet at the Crescent Car Park at 5:15pm on Friday 13th December.



Key Stage 2 STEM Project



The morning was spent measuring, building and assembling. We'll soon start the next stages of sealing, matting and fibre glassing. This first prototype is to generate ideas for designing our own nets with CAD and this will be our focus in the new year. Alongside this, we'll be finishing off and floating our first prototype, including having a day test sailing some pre-finished designs. This furthers our commitment to 'hands on' learning at St Petroc's, with real life outcomes.

The Big Boat Build

Cast your minds back to September and you'll remember Key Stage 2 making the journey to the National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth, to take part in the launch of a new STEM challenge to design and build a boat. This week, two apprentices from Princess Yachts, Jamie and James, came in with our build pack, to get the project underway.





Cookery Club

The icing on the cake!

After weeks of measuring, mixing and maturing their ingredients, the children finally got to decorate their Christmas cakes in Cookery Club. The children all worked carefully to cover their cakes with marzipan and icing, before adding their own artistic flair. Amazing results! Well done everyone on a great term of cooking.



Red Teas

Well done to everyone who earned a Red Tea!





Christmas Carol Concert





Coles Cup Winners



End of term birthdays



Set Cup Winners





Christmas Lunch

