



**ELTHAM**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
SINCE 1814

# Autumn Newsletter 2 December 2017

## MESSAGE FROM MR BULPITT

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Christmas!

After a week of nativity plays in both Nursery and Key Stage 1, as well as the Christmas service at St John's led brilliantly by the children including the school choir and the Christmas lunch at school... the children and staff are ready for the Christmas break to begin and for time with family and loved ones.

This half term has been packed as always, with children working hard and enjoying the reading texts and the curriculum. Staff changes this term see Mrs Hunt leave the Nursery with Mrs Ferguson and Mrs Hayes taking over Hope Class in January. We welcome Mr Gomes who will be teaching in Archery and Nesbit to release Miss Gardiner and Mrs Leonard in their role as Assistant Headteachers.

As ever the school moves from strength to strength, with the partnership with St Alfege Primary School becoming established which in turn has allowed our senior leaders to take a substantive lead on the school. This means that the day-to-day management of the school is led by Mrs Rhodes as Head of School, supported by Miss Gardiner and Mrs Leonard. The children continue to be our chief asset. Their hard work and enjoyment of coming to Eltham CofE Primary School means that our school is always a very special community and place to learn.

During our collective worship this week we have reflected on Emmanuel, God With Us. Therefore this Christmas let us be reminded of the Angel's words to Mary;

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

With very best wishes this Christmas.

Matthew Bulpitt  
Executive Headteacher

Charlie Rhodes  
Head of School

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## Merry Christmas

We look forward to seeing  
all students, parents and  
carers in 2018.



# SPORT AT ELTHAM

## ACTIVE LEARN VOUCHERS

We would like to express our gratitude to our brilliant parents who collected the Active Learn vouchers from Sainsbury's. We have managed to buy an extensive range of sports equipment to help enhance our PE provision. Included in the equipment is a Tri-Golf bag, new footballs, pop up goals, low compression tennis balls, skipping ropes and the list goes on.

Thank you so much and please start collecting again as soon as the 2018 window opens!



## CHRISTMAS CROSS COUNTRY

On a cold, winter morning in November, the whole of KS2 took part in a Christmas Cross Country run, at Eltham Park South. With the help of Mrs Leung the course was set up at a distance of 2km.

All the children tried very hard and despite the cold conditions the majority completed the course. It was lovely to watch the children cheering their friends on and encouraging them to run to the finish.

The fastest boy with a time of 4 mins 17secs was Danyel, closely followed by Stash with a time of 4 mins 20 sec. The fastest girl was Aaliyah with a time of 4 mins 41 secs with Keira only two seconds behind with a time of 4 mins 43 secs.

All the children participated in the true spirit of Eltham with many children demonstrating our value of 'Resilience' by finishing the course despite it being challenging and tiring. Well done to all.

Year #	First	Second	Third
Boys	Danyel	Ryan C	Bruno
Girls	Aaliyah	Jessica	Swayla
Year 5			
Boys	Stash	Tomi	Thomas
Girls	Keira	Elizabeth	Daisy
Year 4			
Boys	Joseph	Nicholas	Ulian
Girls	Christina	Isabelle	Aaliyah
Year 3			
Boys	Thomas	Raul	George
Girls	Jemila	Esther	Sopha



## CROSS COUNTRY

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November nine pupils took part in the cross country event at Plumstead Manor. The course was two laps of the field at the front of the school. It was marshalled by pupils from the school. The girls raced first. About 70 pupils took part and all the Eltham girls finished in the top 30 with Maisey Kenny finishing 1st, who ran a great race leading from the start. The joint score for the girls was 87, which put them in second place, a great result.

Next were the boys. Unfortunately as we only had four boys we did not qualify for the team event but individual positions are still important. Danyel was the top finisher for Eltham coming in fourth.

As expected all the pupils demonstrated good sportsmanship and were very supportive of their fellow racers.



# SPORT AT ELTHAM

## BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Ms Judd, Mrs Jones and Mrs Leung took the pupils to an Basketball Event at Plumstead Manor School. Despite only having one training session together with the basketball coach, they played very well and were awarded the Teamwork certificate. This is the value attached to the event by Plumstead Manor. Presley Tong was selected by his team members as the best player on the team. Claire Ahmed said, "I enjoyed that we worked as a team and I enjoyed hearing my friends cheering me on." Another stand out player was Joe Read. He was very positive with his teammates and passed the ball well. We are very proud of the whole team. Ms Judd said that the whole team was amazing, the behaviour was impeccable and they all supported each other.

## ATHLETICS COMPETITION

Unfortunately, the athletics competition was cancelled so we held our own competition in school. The events included skipping, sprints, speed bounce, chest push (a throwing event), short distance running and middle distance running.

Everybody had great fun and supported their friends. I was very impressed with the resilience demonstrated as some people found the challenges quite difficult, but they did not give up and were keen to improve on their personal best. The results were:



### Skipping

1<sup>st</sup> place: Charlie May  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Lethikka

### Speed Bounce

1<sup>st</sup> place: Ria  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Kingston

### Sprints

1<sup>st</sup> place: Ria and Joe  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Michael, Idriss and Kingston

### Chest Push

1<sup>st</sup> place: Kingston  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Claire

### Short Distance run

1<sup>st</sup> place: Joe  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Claire  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Idriss

### Middle distance run

1<sup>st</sup> place: Joe  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Idriss  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Kingston and Michael

## CLICK AND CLIMB/SKATEBOARDING

On the 7<sup>th</sup> December, 29 pupils from Year 4 had the opportunity to trial the new extreme sport facilities at Sutcliffe Park. Following extensive refurbishment and development, Sutcliffe Park now offers an indoor athletic track, nets for field events, an indoor skate/BMX park and a Click and Climb rock climbing facility, in addition to the outdoor athletic track and field.

Year 4 pupils were selected by the number of raffle tickets they earned for active good behaviour.

On arrival at the park the children were split into two groups. One group started in the skate park while the rest went to the Click and Climb.

All the children had a great time and they all exceeded their own expectations. The facilities are amazing and to see the children progress in their skateboarding and rock climbing skills was a pleasure to witness.

Sutcliffe Park is open to the public from the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 and it is definitely worth a visit.



# FOOTBALL AT ELTHAM

## GIRL'S FOOTBALL : EITHAM vs. CHERRY ORCHARD

On Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> December Eltham held its first football match in the MUGA. The girl's football team played against Cherry Orchard Primary School.

The girls played four short matches; the first match Eltham won 1-0, Ivaila capitalised on a goal keeper spill and slotted the ball across the line. In the first match there were lots of opportunities for both sides. The second match Cherry Orchard won 1-0, their star player hit a lovely long range shot. They then went on to win the third match 2-0 with the same player scoring both goals. The last match was a draw 0-0.



All the girls were amazing and kept in their positions. Their ball skills and passing have improved noticeably thanks to the training sessions with Mrs Senner.

A big thank you must go to Mrs Senner who refereed the games fairly and consistently. The girls played brilliantly and we look forward to some more competitive matches in the New Year.

## ELTHAM vs. WOODHILL

Team: Ajibola, Callum, Ryan G, Lemuel, Brunis, Ollie, Ryan C, Danyel, Souffian

This was our first match of the 17/18 season and despite little time together as a team the boys played well in all areas. The defence was solid with the very capable Ajibola in goal. Midfield stayed in their positions and helped out in defence if required and the strikers were confident up front.

The match was very level in terms of possession and goal scoring chances and the only goal that separated the two sides was an excellent long range shot by Brunis. In the second half Ajibola made some great saves and the defence worked hard to keep Woodhill out. The score finished 1 – 0 to Eltham.

## EITHAM vs. CHERRY ORCHARD

Team – Ajibola, Brunis, Stash, Joshua, Thomas, Lemuel, Danyel, Ollie

For our second match we visited Cherry Orchard. This time the team played in a MUGA so there was no stopping for throw ons, corners etc and it was obvious that their team were very confident with the dimensions.

We played three lots of 10 minutes. We lost the first game 3-1, the second game 3-1 and the last game 1-0. Despite the scores the whole team played brilliantly and never gave up. Some players shone in certain positions – Ajibola was brilliant again in goal, Thomas Malia played excellently in defence and Stash worked very hard in midfield. Brunis played striker and worked hard to keep the ball up the field. A very good effort by all.



# FRENCH AT ELTHAM



## FRENCH UPDATE

Years 2 to 6 have been very busy this term in their weekly French lessons and have amazed me with their understanding of second language learning at such a young age. Year 2 have given their opinions about all kinds of animals and are starting to understand that French nouns are masculine, feminine and plural. Year 3 have used French dictionaries for the first time to choose different fruit for the caterpillar to eat each day to create their own A Very Hungry Caterpillar books, which they then shared with children in Reception.

Year 4 have been telling the time and have come up with an incredible list of words to describe people's emotions as they describe the characters in Sleeping Beauty. Year 5 have learnt about French castles and can now give a simple description of where they live. Year 6 have used French dictionaries to translate Handa's Surprise from French into English and then used the other end of the dictionary to find fruits and adjectives to create their own version of the story. Year 1 children were then lucky enough to have year 6 share their stories with them. Lots of dictionary skills in action this term, so if you wish to have your own dictionary at home, we use the Collins Primary Illustrated French Dictionary (Older print - Collins First Time French Dictionary).

We also use [www.linguascope.com](http://www.linguascope.com) in lessons, so please encourage your children to log in and boost their vocabulary at home too.



## FRENCH TRIP 2017

Children from years 5 and 6 arrived very early, but excited on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December for their day trip to France. We saw the coach driver skillfully squeeze the coach on to the Eurotunnel train before making our way to our first stop - the Canadian War memorial and museum at Vimy Ridge on the outskirts of Arras. Here, the children were able to see and experience firsthand the lines of trenches still visible 100 years after the huge battle of Arras in April 1917. The interactive museum gave the children a snapshot of life in the trenches and an understanding of how the battle was organised along 6km of the front line.

Next, we visited the imposing Vimy Ridge memorial itself and saw the names of over 11,000 Canadian soldiers engraved on the stone who died without a named grave during the First World War. We then moved on to the Christmas market in one of the main squares in Arras where I was so impressed with the children's enthusiasm to use their French to purchase their gifts and goodies. With shopping bags full and purses empty, it was time to head home. Merci et à bientôt Arras!



# CHOIR

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Choir have worked very hard this term in order to be ready for their Christmas caroling and their efforts have certainly paid off.

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, choir supported fundraising by Demelza Children's Hospice as they joined their Carolathon at Passey Place in Eltham High Street. Children, families, friends and staff also enjoyed the choir's performance immensely at this year's school carol service at St John's on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

A special mention must be given to those children who were brave enough to sing solos or duets in front of large audiences, but also well done to the choir as a whole for their dedication and beautiful singing this term. We sang again at Passey Place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30am.



# YEAR 6 AMBASSADORS

## AMBASSADORS

After a lengthy process with applications, interviews and a lot of patience from Year 6 I am delighted to be able to formally announce and congratulate our Year 6 Ambassadors:

Maisey Kenny, Anwasha Ghosh, Saumya Pushparajah, Isabel Attridge, Isla Chappell, Ella Inman, Martin Petkoff, Danyel Pougui, Charis Stafford and Amelia Elkin.



## ATTENDANCE FOR SUMMER TERM 1

At Eltham Church of England Primary School we continue to promote and celebrate good attendance and punctuality.

Not only is good attendance beneficial to pupils' achievements it is also an excellent 'life skill'.

We also use the Royal Borough of Greenwich's Attendance Advisory Service to monitor and support our management of pupil attendance.

Under Fast Track, families will be informed when their child's attendance has crossed the threshold even when all absences have been correctly documented and understood. If a child's attendance continues to decline and gives the AAO a cause for concern, then a meeting between the school, the parents and the advisory service is convened.

The school's target is to ensure that whole school attendance is consistently above 97% and better still above 97.5%

**Can I remind parents that all absences need to be supported with a written letter outlining the reason for the absence as soon as your child returns to school.**

**Also, that all holiday will be recorded as unauthorised, however a child's overall attendance will be taken into account when consideration is given to the Fast Track procedures.**

## Class Attendance since September 2017

Corbett	95.4
North	97.0
Bek	97.3
Mills	97.0
Archery	97.0
Tarn	98.6
Sherard	96.9
Shaw-Brooke	98.2
Nesbit	96.7
Gregory	98.1
Chaucer	97.4
WG Grace	97.8
Roper	96.5
Avery	97.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97.2</b>

## SAFEGUARDING



Remember to stay safe online this Christmas. Please take extra care playing your new interactive games and sharing information on the internet. Guidance on how to stay safe online can be found at:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



# MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

## SCHOOL DINNER

Dinner money for next term will be £72.80 and is payable by Agora.

Please let the school office know if your child is changing meal pattern.

## SCHOOL JOURNEY

There will be a meeting regarding the Swanage trip on 15<sup>th</sup> January for all year six parents.

The final payment of £250 by 24<sup>th</sup> January and £220 must be paid before the end of term

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Booking for after school clubs for next term goes live on Agora, tomorrow, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017. Please refer to the letter that was given to your child to take home for more information.

## INSET DAYS

Please note there will be two INSET days in January 2018, Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Children return to school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and children in the nursery return to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

## FOODBANK DONATIONS

A massive thank you for all of your kind and generous donations to the Eltham Food Bank Christmas Appeal.

Members of the Worship Committee and Student Voice helped bring all of the contributions to the food bank where they were shown around and given a talk explaining where our donations would go and how we have helped people in our community.



## THANK YOU

We are very touched by the very kind gifts we have received from our parents and carers, thank you for your kindness.

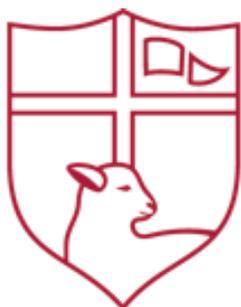
## FUNDRAISING

We would like to say a very special thank you to all our parents and carers for their generosity. This term we have collected for a number of charities and in total we have raised £1,792.48.

Macmillan Coffee morning	£ 312.32
Jeans for Genes day	£ 419.75
Children in Need appeal	£ 777.54
Christmas Jumper Day   Save the Children appeal	<u>£ 282.87</u>
TOTAL	£1792.48



## MESSAGES FROM THE SCHOOL'S PTA



# ELTHAM ASSOCIATION

### TEA TOWEL FUNDRAISER

Through the sale of the tea towels the school has raised £1392.28. Thank you to all the parents who helped sell these.

### FILM NIGHT FUNDRAISER

The screening of Despicable Me 3 raised £451.50. Thank you to the parents who helped out on the night.

### CAKE SALE

Thank you to all the parents who helped out with the cake sale, £170.25 was raised from this event.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018, at 9am, there is going to be a meeting regarding the formation of the PTA. All parents are welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH DAY

The children (and staff) really enjoyed the Christmas jumper and Christmas lunch day. Here are a few photos from the day.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM HOPE CLASS



### GINGERBREAD MAN

What a fantastic term we have had!

All the children are becoming fantastic independent learners and are getting much better at communicating with their friends as well as the adults who help them.

The children have had a great time learning the story of the Gingerbread man and have enjoyed making their own 'salt dough' gingerbread men decorations to take home.

Hope Class worked very hard to learn the songs for our nativity and we were all so proud of how well they performed.

It has been an absolute pleasure to get to know all your lovely children and I will miss each one of them very much. We wish all our families a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Mrs Hunt

## WHAT'S NEW FROM NORTH & CORBETT

### PIRATES

Reception have really enjoyed their Transport topic this half term. We had our very own bus station and used our new knowledge of money to buy tickets. We wrote about how we would like to travel to Eltham if we could, a hovercraft was particularly popular! Alongside money and time we also looked at 2D shapes; naming and describing their properties.

To celebrate our Topic we even had a pirate day and found treasure! Edible treasure! We even created our own treasure maps.



Our RE was focused on the Christmas Story which of course coincided with our beautiful performance at Nativity. What stars we are!

Next terms topic is food.

Have yourselves a very merry Christmas.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM BEK



### KINGS AND QUEENS

This half term Bek class have really enjoyed their topic on Kings and Queens. We have been learning all about Queen Elizabeth I and created our own biography on her with some very interesting facts. We also produced a letter from one of her servants describing what it was like to work for a queen with such a bad temper! We loved designing and making our own crowns for our Fairy tale theme day where children came to school dressed up as characters related to our literacy book 'The Jolly Postman' and celebrated with a royal banquet.

There has also been lots of festive cheer in Bek class. We have been learning about each of the characters in the Nativity and their role in the story. We created angels wings and sheep with messages of good news. We have had lots of fun rehearsing our songs for the Nativity and our very proud of our singing.

## WHAT'S NEW FROM MILLS



### ROYALTY

This half term we have been doing lots of exciting work around 'The Jolly Postman' and Kings and Queens and we have been very busy practising our nativity.

We have also been learning all about Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Elizabeth II. We found out that Queen Elizabeth I used to wear poisonous makeup and had rotten teeth!

Thank you to all the parents for being involved in our activities by helping make castles and crowns with your children to bring in. They all look fantastic!

Mills class wanted to say: 'Castles can be very massive sometimes and look very old.'

Merry Christmas to everybody, have a lovely Christmas,

Miss Gale and Mrs Smith and Mills Class.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 2



### NATIVITY

Tam and Archery class have been working so hard over the past half term on the Nativity production. We performed the Nativity to all of our families on 14th December and we are really proud of how it went. Thank you to everybody who came to see us. We hope you enjoyed it. We have also had lots of fun eating a lovely Christmas dinner at school and even wearing our own Christmas jumpers. We wish everybody a very merry Christmas!



## WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 3



### CHOCOLATE DAY

To celebrate our learning from this half term, Year 3 held a 'Chocolate Day' inspired by our text: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The children took part in a number of activities throughout the day including chocolate tasting, creating their own Willy Wonka inspired chocolate bars and tasting each others chocolate creations. The children were also asked to design their own Willy Wonka inspired food to enter into a competition. The entries were fantastic and all of the adults were incredibly proud of how much effort had gone into the cakes and how tasty they all were!

Our winners were;

1st. Oscar Ling (Shaw-Brooke)

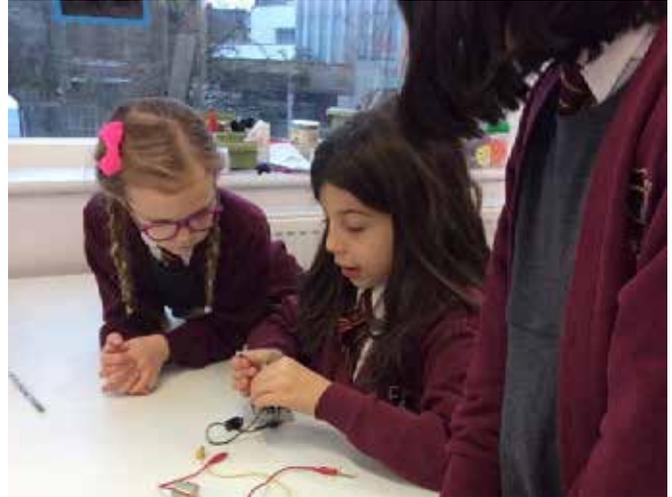
2nd George Debell (Sherard)

3rd Esther Pongui (Shaw-Brooke)

Most Creative Katie Dobson (Sherard)



## WHAT'S NEW FROM GREGORY



### CIRCUITS AND CONDUCTORS

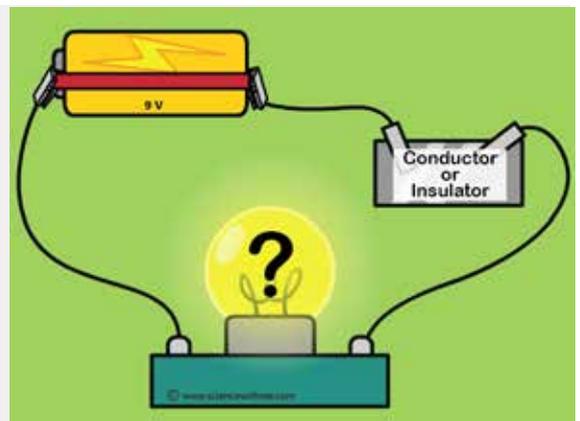
Our focus in science this half term has been on circuits and conductors, including exploring the materials that insulate.

The children have discovered circuits, thinking about the appliances that use battery and mains electricity.

We also investigated the materials that are conductors and insulators, and their uses.

Having learned the component parts of a circuit, we moved onto investigating how switches work. We made our own circuits that used switches and tested them out on a quick quiz. Finally, we completed an experiment to adjust the brightness of lightbulbs.

The class have been very engaged in this topic, especially in creating complete circuits.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM NESBIT



### ADVENT

Children in Nesbit class have worked tremendously hard all term so it was timely for us to spend some time this month considering the meaning of peace from a faith and a personal perspective. Our advent candle has been lit regularly in class and we have used that time to remember the true meaning of advent; a time of anticipation, reflection and hope.

Children wrote prayers that were personal and meaningful to them and these were shared together. It was overwhelming to hear their gracious and selfless words and a reminder of just how special our children are.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM WG GRACE



### LITERACY

WG Grace class have been reading *Street Child* as part of our Literacy this term.

Children have had multiple opportunities to act out different scenes from the story which has helped them to gain a better understanding of the characters thoughts and feelings during challenges they have faced.

They have all enjoyed the challenge of performing in front of the class and have begun to experiment with using different tone of voice and using actions to display emotions.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM CHAUCER



### LITERACY

This half term in literacy, Chaucer class have been reading *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty.

The book is set in Victorian London and the main character, Jim, finds himself being cast out with his family, hoping not to end up in the horrible workhouse. We have had a lot of fun acting out a scene from the book where Jim and his mother walk through the snowy streets of London.

Unfortunately, Jim does end up at the workhouse and, after being badly beaten by the school master, decides he has to leave. Chaucer class looked at a map of the workhouse and tried to come up with interesting ideas about how he could escape.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 6



### PILGRIMAGE

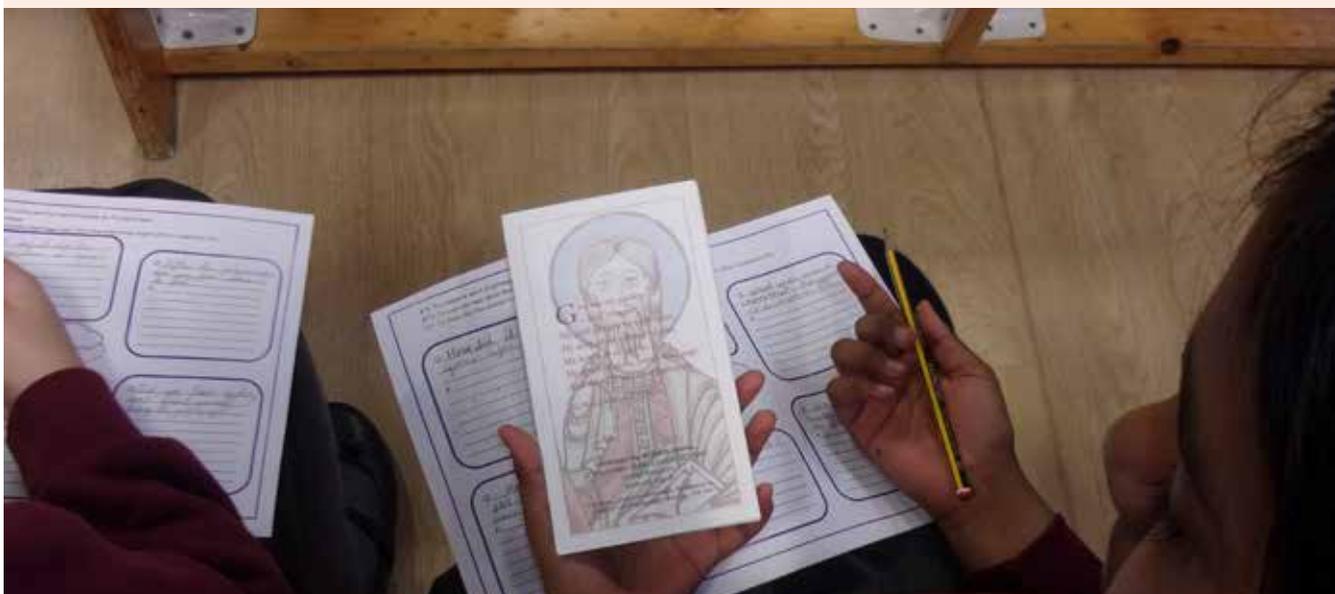
Mrs D'Cruze organised a visit from Roper parent Mrs Chemkhi to enrich the children's current RE topic: Pilgrimage.

Mrs Chemkhi kindly prepared a fascinating powerpoint and shared significant artefacts from her walk through Northern Spain from Camino Santiago to Finisterre. The children were captivated by her experience and thoroughly inspired by her commitment and resilience.

This visit unquestionably deepened their understanding about what is involved in a pilgrimage, what motivates a believer to take part and the effect it has on a person's life from authentic experience.

Most of all the children learnt: the journey is more important than the destination.

Mrs Bailey and Mrs D'Cruze



## SCHOOL TERM DATES 2017 / 2018

Please note that we use the local authorities published term dates as a guide to our term dates. Below are the dates for the next academic year – please note there is one School Inset Day to be confirmed:

### AUTUMN TERM

(Term one)

Wednesday 6 to Friday 20 October 2017

#### STAFF INSET DAYS:

Monday 4 September 2017

Tuesday 5 September 2017

#### Half-term holiday:

Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2017

(Term two)

Monday 30 October to Wednesday 20 December 2017

#### Christmas and New Year holiday:

Thursday 21 December 2017 to Monday 1 January 2018

### SPRING TERM

(Term three)

Thursday 4 January to Friday 9 February 2018

#### STAFF INSET DAYS:

Tuesday 2 January 2018

Wednesday 3 January 2018

#### Half-term holiday

Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February 2018

(Term four)

Monday 19 February to Thursday 29 March 2018

#### Easter Holiday

Friday 30 March to Friday 13 April 2018

### SUMMER TERM

(Term five)

Monday 16 April to Friday 25 May 2018 (except May Day Bank Holiday on 7 May)

#### Half-term holiday:

Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June 2018 (spring Bank Holiday on 28 May)

(Term six)

Monday 4 June to Friday 20 July 2018

