



## DIGGLE STARS

**Phoebe Cumming** - for super effort and progress with reading!

**Eloise Powell** - for being a wonderful ambassador for the school on our trip to Leeds City Museum!

**Dexter Pearson** - for a legendary performance in his spelling test!

**Stanley Howard** - for always being a responsible learner and being helpful in class.

**Class 6** - for being absolutely fantastic first class for Miss Hobson

**Eva Smith** - for a consistently great approach to all her work.

**Oscar Woodall-Shaw** - for his fantastic performances in our nativity practices and always trying hard in everything he does.



## HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS



Thank you to everyone who attended our music morning on Tuesday. It was lovely to see so many family members coming along to support the children. The music centre staff were very proud of the children as they all performed beautifully.

Wednesday was Panto day and despite the cold and icy weather both groups enjoyed their visits to the Milgate Centre in Delph to watch Aladdin. The behaviour on the walk and in the theatre was brilliant.

Today has been Christmas dinner day. A huge thank you to our wonderful kitchen staff who worked very hard to provide the children and staff with a scrumptious Christmas Dinner. The hall was filled with Christmas music and laughter and the Christmas cupcakes were a real hit.

And finally today marks day 1 of our Key Stage 2 Christmas video countdown to Christmas check out our Facebook page to see what each class is up to.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Mon 19th Dec** - Year 1&2 Xmas performance 9.15am / 2.15pm

**Tues 20th Dec** - Class R xmas performance 9.15am  
- EYFS and KS1 party day

**Wed 21st Dec** - xmas non-uniform day,  
KS2 party day,  
Finish for xmas

**2023**

**Mon 9th Jan** - Return to school

overview of key dates

**Mon 6th Feb** - Open Day 9-10.30 or  
1.30-3

**w/c 27th Feb** - Parents Evening  
meetings

**28th & 29th Mar** - Class 3&4  
performance 2pm

**14-16th June** - y6 to Kingswood

**18th July** - y5&6 performance 2pm &  
6pm



## Class R

This week, Class R have been learning about why Christians celebrate Christmas and the story of the birth of Jesus Christ. The children spotted straight away that this was like the story we will be performing for our nativity!

The children have also been sharing their favourite Christmas books and writing reviews of the Christmas books we have in school.

In Maths, we have been wrapping up different 3D shapes and playing board games using all our counting skills. When playing the games we had to make sure to take it in turns, roll a dice, subitize the dots and then move our counters the right number of steps. We have also been playing some different Christmas themed movement games in P.E. During the games the children were able to practice all the skills they have been working on this half term!

Finally, the children have been practicing really hard for their Nativity performance and they had a dress rehearsal which they performed in front of year 3 & year 6. They did really well and are excited to perform for parents, grandparents and carers next Tuesday. We also finished making our Christmas cards and a little surprise linked to the new year for mums and dads - The children were very excited about having glittery toes! The children also had a great time watching Aladdin - this year's Christmas panto and eating up all of their yummy Christmas dinner.



This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page.

## Class 1

This week in English we have continued to write about our class text Lost and Found. We read about how the boy arrived at the South Pole to return the penguin to his home and wrote how each character might be feeling. We have also combined English and Theme this week by learning about the famous explorer Robert Falcon Scott and his attempt to be the first person to reach the South Pole. We used what we had learnt about the failed expedition to write a diary entry from the point of view of Robert Falcon Scott. In Science we learned about animal classification and sorted some animal photos into the correct groups. We talked about the different body parts and interesting features of each group.

We have also had lots of Christmassy fun this week! We have been busy making and writing our Christmas cards. We began practising our Christmas performance with Year 2 this week. It was lovely to see the performance coming together and hearing the poems and songs performed by Class 2. We enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Pantomime and we thought it was especially funny when Widow Twankey asked Mr Taylor to be her boyfriend!

## Class 2

This week in English, we focused on writing independently using a checklist of features in particular key spellings. We based part of our work on 'The Snowman' by Raymond Briggs. We watched the animated film where the story is told through pictures, action and music and is wordless. We used picture sequences from the story for our written versions. In Maths we have worked on numbers to 100 practising sequencing, formation and counting. IT has also been a focus this week as we learned to upload photographs to a drive, rename them and save our work. We used the i-pads to take pictures of things around the classroom. We have some budding photographers! On Wednesday we had a fantastic panto afternoon at Millgate Arts Centre in Delph. We booed the baddies, cheered the goodies and enjoyed lots of sweets.....Finally, we added the finishing touches to our Christmas performance. We enjoyed practising with Year 1 this week, it was fun to watch and listen to their songs and poems too. We are excited to perform for family and friends next Monday. Thank you to Classes 4, 5 and 6 who came to watch our dress rehearsal on Friday afternoon.



This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page.



## Forest Fun



This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page.

## Class 3

This week, Class 3 have enjoyed an amazing visit to Leeds City Museum where we all had a go at embalming a 'body' and working our way through the mummification process. We even got to see a real mummy and learn all about his life and got to see real Egyptian artefacts that we had been learning about this term. It really brought our learning to life and consolidated the theme. We had some cold sessions in forest school, and had to work as teams to make a shelter for our squirrel (and thermometers). Some of our temperatures dropped but some teams were more successful and managed to raise the temperature a little. We learnt about insulation and had good discussions, reasoning why some teams were more successful than others.

## Class 4

Class 4 have had a very festive week. We finished off our last SMSC lesson where we talked about 'doing the right thing'. We also recapped on our times tables knowledge by completing a Christmas-themed maths activity. We found time to fit in a wonderful trip to Delph to watch the pantomime on Wednesday morning. The highlight of our week was our amazing trip to the Leeds City Museum where we saw a real mummy!

## Class 5

This week we have been finishing off the chapters of our novel *The Nowhere Emporium* and are rapidly reaching the climax. In our mathematics we have been looking at elements of arithmetic including calculations with fractions as well as long multiplication and subtraction. We have also looked at fractions and percentages. We have also worked hard to finish our WW2 theme and our science.

## Class 6

This week in English we have focused on some SPaG objectives, looking at the use of commas and expanded noun phrases, when they are used. In Maths this week we have continued with fractions; looking at how to multiply and dividing fractions by integers. For our computing lesson we have continued to create our own websites, thinking about the different pages we could create. In Theme we have had a discussion about the Holocaust and have discussed what this meant for the victims. We have spent a lot of time rehearsing our christmas video for next week- we hope you are looking forward to seeing it next week!

This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page





## Reading for Pleasure

Stanley couldn't put his Free Reading book down and was first up so he could make a head start.

Great to see him enjoying his reading and getting lost in another world...

Please feel free to share your 'Reading for Pleasure' moments with your child's class teacher then maybe they may feature in a future Newsletter.



## This week we all went to the Panto ... "Oh Yes We Did" ...

What an amazing performance of Aladdin the children were treated to on Wednesday at the Millgate Theatre in Delph. KS2 went in the morning and KS1 went in the afternoon. The children participated beautifully, and laughed lots. Thankyou to all the actors and supporting staff who make it such a great show.



## Christmas Musical Festivities

We welcomed parents into school on Tuesday to listen to their children perform a mini concert. We organised things a little differently this year, having a rolling programme where parents came just to their child's section, and we feel this worked very well.

The children certainly spread the christmas cheer.



Thank you to the Music Centre staff for all their efforts in supporting the children on their musical journey. Thank you so much to the family and friends of the children who were able to attend - the children really enjoyed performing to an audience.

Thank you also to FODS for providing refreshments.







On Sunday the KS2 Choir took part in the Saddleworth Musical Society Concert at Uppermill Civic Hall. The children performed and behaved beautifully. We were very proud of them. The concert held a retiring collection to support the Ukrainian people and this raised £700.





## Year 3 & 4 visit Leeds Museum

Class 3 and 4 had a fantastic time at Leeds City Museum. We embalmed a mummy and even saw a real one, learning all about him. We saw real Egyptian artifacts and the whole day really did round off our theme nicely and consolidate our learning from this term.









## It's Christmas Dinner Day

Mr Tillett and the kitchen staff served up a delightful Christmas dinner today. The children had helped choose the menu through the School Council, and with Christmas songs playing and lots of merriment to be had, the dinner was very much enjoyed by pupils and staff alike.





Please make use of these warm spaces and share this info with anyone you think may benefit from local warm spaces this winter.

## Keep Yourself Warm

The cost of living crisis is challenging to us all.

Local churches & Saddleworth Parish Council are opening up rooms as Warm Spaces to help people to keep down their heating costs.

Please come along to any and you will be made welcome.

### UPPERMILL

Ebenezer Congregational Church.

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays each month, 10.00 until 12.00

Sacred Heart Centre. Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, 9.30 until 12.30

St Chad's Parish Centre, Station Road, Saturday mornings 9.30 until 12.00

Uppermill Methodist Centre, Thursdays from November 17<sup>th</sup>, 11.00 until 2.00, please use side door

Civic Hall, Fridays November 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 9.00 until 12.30, please use side door

### GREENFIELD

St Mary's Parish Church, Wednesdays, 1.00 until 3.00

Greenfield Methodist Church, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays each month, 2.30 until 4.00

Christ Church, Friezland, Thursdays, 1.00 until 4.30

### DELPH

St Thomas Parish Church, Mondays, 10.00 until 12.00

Delph Methodist Church, Wednesdays, 1.30 until 4.30

Being cold can seriously damage your health. So, please come to these warm spaces where you will receive a warm welcome and a free hot drink.

## New Club for KS2 with Groundbreakers

# TUESDAYS TOGETHER

FOR  
KEY STAGE 2 CHILDREN (YEARS 3-6)  
ACROSS SADDLEWORTH

FUN  
GAMES  
STORIES  
CRAFT

Tuesdays | 6:30 - 7:30 pm

St Thomas' Church, Church Lane, Delph

# Groundbreakers



## Notices

### Parent Pay

Please make sure your Dinner Money and BASC fees are up to date. Please clear any outstanding debts before the start of next term so you can begin the new term on a clean slate.

Consider using the auto top-up function in Parent Pay for dinner money as using this meaning you don't get in debt.

Music fees for Autumn should now be paid up - you are welcome to make payments early for Spring and Summer.

### Christmassy Non-Uniform

Due to the cost of living crisis, we are not asking for a donation for the wearing of non-uniform this year. While school budgets are very stretched, we appreciate family budgets are too.

## Using Oldham Foodbank

Oldham Foodbank works using a voucher referral system.

Anyone can find themselves at crisis point for a number of different reasons. In order to provide the most appropriate help for the circumstances of a given situation they work with local agencies to issue foodbank vouchers. The local agency can also provide long term support if needed to help address some of the issues behind the reasons for a crisis.

Oldham Foodbank works with a number of different agencies, such as Citizens Advice, children's centres and health visitors. To find out more about the agencies that hold their vouchers and how you can get help go to Oldham Foodbank's website.

If you are able to help Oldham Foodbank with donations of time, money or food, please see their website <https://oldham.foodbank.org.uk/>

### GIVE HELP

We want to make sure that no one in our local community has to go hungry, but we need your help to make this happen. Your gift of financial support, time, business partnership and food can make a real difference.

#### DONATE MONEY

Big or small, every gift you give helps transform lives.



#### VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are the life blood of foodbanks. Your skills could be just what we need.



#### PARTNER WITH US

Your business could help us make a real difference in the local community.



#### DONATE FOOD

Our foodbank relies on the goodwill and support of the people of Oldham helping their fellow...



## Struggling with the Cost of Living?

Help is available, whatever you are going through.

**WE  
CAN  
HELP!**

Helpline: 0161 770 7007

Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm

Breakthrough UK has set up a text service, **07860 022876**, for people who cannot or prefer not to speak to the Helpline team over the phone.

Help in a crisis

Help to maximise your income

Help with your household bills

Help for families

Help for older people

Help with Housing

Help with money problems

<https://www.oldham.gov.uk/wecanhelp>

## Amazon Smile

As we approach Christmas, if you make any purchases on Amazon, please consider using Amazon Smile and setting your chosen charity to Friends of Diggle School.

You can set this on the Amazon App by clicking the 3 horizontal lines to access the menu, then selecting "settings" from the list and then Amazon Smile. You need to renew this action every 6 months or it reverts back to non-smile Amazon.

To shop online via a browser make sure you go to [Smile.Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk) rather than just normal Amazon, and the charity you are supporting should appear under the search bar - make sure it says Friends of Diggle School.

Every bit of money FODS raises comes back into school, and Amazon Smile is a great way to help just by doing your normal shopping.



## Parking Concerns

We have been contacted by several concerned parents and local residents regarding unsafe parking on the roads around school, which has seemingly got worse since the cold weather has arrived.

There are plenty of places to park safely on Huddersfield Road, and the canal carpark if there are no spaces on Sam Road.

It has recently been road safety week in school, and your children have been learning all about being safe around roads. Their safety relies on the adults around them modeling responsible road safety themselves.

Please help all our children stay safe on the way into school and when leaving school by parking responsibly and in line with the Highway Code.

As a reminder:

Please do not park on the double yellow lines (unless you are a disabled badge holder)

Please do not park on the pavements

Please do not double park (this mainly happens on Sam Road)

Please do not park on the zigzags between 8am and 5pm

Thank you for your support in keeping all the children safe.

**IDLE FREE ZONE  
TURN ENGINE OFF**



Young Lungs at Work

## No Idling Please

Now the weather is turning cold, please can we remind parents not to sit in their cars with the engine running when parked on the roadside.

Idling creates a hot-spot of concentrated emissions which the passing children are then breathing in.

*The Highway Code states: "You must not leave a vehicle's engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road."*



**2023**

**A NEW YEARS DAY  
OUTDOOR  
SERVICE**

*Will be held at  
12.00 Noon outside*

**THE  
DIGGLE HOTEL**

*Featuring:-*

**DIGGLE BAND**

**ALL WELCOME**

**CHRISTMAS  
AT  
KILNGREEN CHURCH**

**CHRISTMAS EVE  
MIDNIGHT SERVICE**

**A Service of Holy Communion  
with Carols starting at 11.00 pm**

**CHRISTMAS DAY  
FAMILY CELEBRATION**

**A Service for all ages with  
Holy Communion  
starting at 9.30 am**

**Feel free to bring a present to  
show us.**