



ALDER COPPICE TIMES

Issue 8 - December 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our end of Autumn Term Christmas Alder Coppice Times Newsletter.

As you will see from the following pages, this has been an action packed half-term and we are delighted to share with you some of the highlights.

You will find a report from each year group reflecting on the learning which has taken place and alongside this a celebration of the many different activities (including Activity Day, Charity Market Stall Day/ Children in Need, Remembrance Day, Anti-Bullying Week and the whole range of Christmas productions and activities, such as Christmas Dinner/Jumper day and the Scroogical production enjoyed by Key Stage 2). Alongside this we have updates from our Choir and also an opportunity to celebrate individual achievements both within school and beyond.

The staff and I wish you a very happy, restful and safe Christmas holiday.

Yours sincerely

Peter Mandelstam

Headteacher



ACTIVITY DAY



ACTIVITY DAY



ACTIVITY DAY RESULTS

Well done to all the children that took part in the various activities to earn your House Team points. Here are the results of the House Team Scores for the day:

Sycamore Sharks 5440 House Points earned

Hawthorn Harriers 5179 House Points earned

Pine Panthers 4941 House Points earned

Willow Wallabies 4793 House points earned

The overall amount raised from your pledges was a fabulous £3,646.53

THANK YOU to everyone for your pledges, the monies raised will go towards our exciting new Wall Art project in the New Year.

Early Years Nativity!



Nursery and Reception made all of their grown ups very proud with an amazing performance of 'The Christmas Story.

It is a huge thing for our littlest learners to do but the children sang beautifully, danced amazingly and spoke with super confidence. Well done Nursery and Reception.

A huge thank you to all of the grown ups that filled our hall with such a warm feeling to celebrate our children.



Nativities!



Year 1 - Born in a Barn

We were delighted to welcome so many parents and carers to our Year 1 Christmas production of "**Born in a Barn!**"

The children told the Christmas story through the eyes of the stable animals, from the curious cockerels to the welcoming donkey that carried Mary to Bethlehem.

A massive thank you goes to the Year 1 staff for working so hard to put the play together.

Most importantly, we are incredibly proud of our Year 1 superstars for their fantastic performances. It was a wonderful start to the festive season!

Year 2 Christmas Show!



Year 2 - The Christmas Alphabet

We were so excited to welcome so many parents and carers to our Year 2 Christmas production of "The Christmas Alphabet!"

Children loved the modern twist on the Christmas Story and explained Christmas through each letter of the alphabet.

A huge thank you goes to the Year 2 staff for working hard to put the play together - and to the parents for providing such fabulous costumes and joining in with the 12 days of Christmas!

We are incredibly proud of the hard work Year 2 put in with practising their lines, dancing and singing!



Key Stage 2 Carol Service



Carol Concert

Key Stage 2 tried to answer the question “Who is the real star of Christmas?”

They celebrated many joyous aspects of this time of year: Christmas cards, snow, tucking into Christmas lunch and of course, the man himself, Santa Claus.

However it was the Star of Bethlehem with her recount of the very first Christmas which won the vote!

Fantastic signing, dancing and actions from all year groups, including music from our two flutists and a rendition from our Choir, made two very special services once again.

Thank you to everyone who attended to celebrate and who kindly donated to the Children’s Society’, we collected £312 for the charity.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE



Christmas Jumper & Lunch Day



Other Autumn Events

Anti-Bullying Week



We used *Power for Good* this year for Anti-Bullying Week to show that kindness counts - in our classrooms, playgrounds and everyday actions.

Together we can build a world where we are all safe and valued.

#AntiBullyingWeek#PowerForGood

GOLF EXPERIENCE

The children who took part in Golf Club at the Mark Butler Golf Academy enjoyed using the driving range to practise their skills. They especially liked using the Toptracer on the range, which uses advanced ball-tracking to capture real-time data like speed and distance, helping our young golfers to improve their game. We even had some drives over 100 yards!



Well done to all who took part.



KS2 Scroogical Pantomime Fun!



FOOTBALL MATCH



Our new Year 5 cup team kicked off their season at home against the Church of Ascension Primary School.

An astounding 7-1 win with goals from Rhen R, Alfie J, Jacob F, and two goals each from Oliver T and Kye P.

A special mention must also go to Harry M in goal with both an astonishing save onto the crossbar and an assist for Rhen.

Our player of the match this match was Jacob F for incredible skills and never giving up on any lost balls!

Well done Team.

We will see you all in the New Year where our Year 6 team will also start their league!

Mr Wall

Children In Need Charity Market

Our little entrepreneurs wowed us again this year with all their fabulous stalls on our Children in Need Charity Market Day. We had food and drink stalls, jewellery items, crocheted items, cuddly toys and football cards amongst many more stalls. Thank you to everyone who either arranged and worked on a stall or came and supported the event by buying the wonderful goods that were on offer.



Children In Need Charity Market



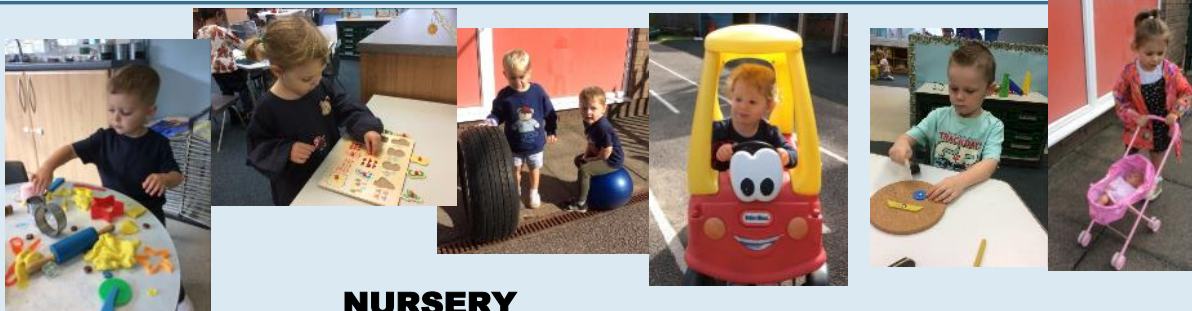
Children in Need Charity Market



Children in Need Charity Market



Nursery & Reception Highlights



NURSERY

What a busy first term Nursery have had! The children have settled so well into Nursery and enjoyed exploring their new environment. This term we have enjoyed the project 'Magical Me! Where we have learned all about ourselves! We have explored our feelings, what makes us special and our environment. We have also explored birthdays and our senses. We had a super Stay and Play week where our grown ups came and joined us in Nursery. Nursery have really enjoyed Rhyme Time where every week we share one nursery rhyme and do little tasks from it. In Phonics we have begun our journey with initial sounds and oral blending which are both tricky skills for Nursery. In Number Time we have explored pattern, shape, matching, sorting and capacity. The highlight of the term was definitely the Nativity where the children made everyone proud with a super performance of 'The Christmas Story'. The children looked amazing and did such a super job. A big thank you for all of your support this term.



RECEPTION

Reception have settled into school life wonderfully. Our timetable is so busy now and the children are enjoying Phonics, Number Time, Reading Groups, handwriting, music, PE and much much more! Our theme for the term has been 'Magical Me and My World'. The children have explored all about what makes them unique and special, explored all the different big feelings we have, learnt about celebrations in our lives like weddings, christenings and birthdays and learnt all about our environments. In Phonics the children have started their journey to become little readers. We do daily phonics where the children have learnt so many new phonemes. We love reading groups in Reception and the children enjoy having a book for the week then bringing it home to share with their families. In Number time we have been working hard to develop our Number sense and subitising. We have also explored more than and less than, partitioning and have used new tools such as a part, part, whole, 5 frame, number fans, digit cards and bead strings. Our term ended with a fantastic Nativity which we know you all loved. Our little stars did us proud. We would like to say a big thank you for all your amazing support during the children's first term in school.

Year 1 & 2 Highlights



YEAR 1

What a brilliant second half of the Autumn Term we have had in Year 1! The children have engaged in lots of exciting learning and it has been a joy to see them grow in confidence and independence. In Maths we have explored addition and subtraction within 10, using practical methods to solve number problems. We are developing into confident problem-solvers and really brilliant communicators!

In English, we have worked hard to consolidate the use of capital letters, full stops, and finger spaces, and introduced the conjunction "and" to extend sentences. The children have really enjoyed exploring our two main English texts this term: *Traction Man* and *The Owl Babies*.

In History, we have enjoyed learning all about **Toys in the Past**. The children have loved comparing the toys they play with today with those their parents and grandparents might have used.

The highlight of the term was undoubtedly our Christmas show, "Born in a Barn!". The children performed beautifully, singing songs and saying their lines for everyone to enjoy. We wish all our families a very merry Christmas and a restful break. We look forward to seeing everyone back in the Spring Term for more adventures!



YEAR 2

What a fabulous half-term Year 2 have had to finish off 2025!

In Maths, we have started addition and subtraction within 100.

They have been applying their number fact knowledge when adding and subtracting with larger numbers. Pupils have also been learning about position and direction, mastering their left and right turns. In English, children have been putting their writing skills into action and have begun to create some lovely pieces of extended writing in the form of a non-chronological report and a diary. The children have been engaged in the texts studied—*Tadpole's Promise* and *he Owl and the Pussycat*.

Finally, Well done Year 2 for learning the songs and lines for our Christmas Production, you should be very proud of yourselves.



Shared Learning Experiences

YEAR 2

Year 2 had a wonderful day showing off their amazing work from this half-term to their grown-ups. In Maths, they explored how to represent different numbers by using the base ten resources. They also answered some problem-solving questions.

In English, the children worked with their grown-ups to correct some sentences and create their very own story! In Science, the children explained what they had learnt about staying clean and being hygienic and applied their knowledge when creating a hand washing poster. Whilst in Art, the children used art work by William Morris to inspire them to create their own art works.

Thank you to everyone who attended and for your support!



Year 1

The children in Year 1 loved welcoming their grown ups for our first Shared Learning Experience. We worked our way through a variety of activities. We showed some fantastic maths skills using number bonds to 10 to help us solve some tricky problems. We picked some fairy tale characters and wrote some simple sentences to describe them. We showed off our excellent DT skills by creating our own moving picture and put our mapping skills to the test to draw a map of our journeys to school.

A huge thank you to all the grown ups that attended, the children loved having you as their learning partners!

Year 3 Highlights

Year 3 have had a brilliant and busy half-term! In Science, the children have learnt about the different types of rocks, fossils and soils. The children enjoyed becoming rock detectives and pedologists (scientists who study soil), using their investigative skills to make observations and form their own scientific enquiries.

In English, the children have examined the language and structural features of a non-chronological report and a letter. They worked hard to produce two quality pieces of writing that include the key skills they have been learning in class.

In Maths, the children have learnt how to use the three mental methods for addition (partitioning, adjusting and redistribution) when adding both two and three-digit numbers – including equations with three addends – and they have learnt a brand-new times table (4s). It has been wonderful to see the children enjoy exploring different strategies in Maths, and their effort this half-term has been superb!

To end a very productive half-term, the Year 3 children experienced their first Carol Service at All Saints Church. They certainly enjoyed rehearsing their songs, and it certainly paid off. All the children sang beautifully, and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience of visiting a church and getting to sing in front of their adults – thank you to all those who attended and supported.

Merry Christmas, Year 3! You have worked hard this term and deserve a rest.

From the Year 3 team, we wish you all a safe and happy Christmas break.



Year 3 Shared Learning Experience



Year 3 enjoyed sharing their mathematical learning with their adults during our Year 3 Maths Shared Learning Experience.

Thank you so much to everyone that came and enjoyed being a Learning Partner for the morning.

Year 4 Highlights

YEAR 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic term of learning! In Science, the children have been exploring *States of Matter*, investigating the properties of solids, liquids and gases and investigating how materials can change state.

In Maths, children have been developing their understanding of place value, working confidently with four-digit numbers and using their knowledge to solve a range of problems.

In English, the children have successfully planned and written their own non-chronological reports. They worked hard to organise information clearly, use formal language and include engaging facts for their readers.

Our creative subjects have been just as exciting. In Art, the children have been developing their skills in sculpture, experimenting with foil and new techniques to create imaginative 3D pieces. Meanwhile, in DT, they have been designing and making moving models using cams, learning how mechanisms can change movement.

Well done, Year 4 - keep up the brilliant effort!

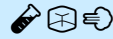


Year 4 Visit - Thinktank

YEAR 4 VISIT

☀️ Year 4 Science Adventure! ☀️

Year 4 pupils had an exciting trip to the Thinktank Science Museum in Birmingham!



As part of their Science Topic on States of Matter, the children explored hands-on exhibits. They investigated how materials change state, took part in an interactive workshop, and even saw real-life examples of science in action!



It was a brilliant day of learning, discovery, and fun - sparking lots of curiosity and scientific thinking. Well done, Year 4 for representing the School so well!



Year 5 & 6 Highlights

YEAR 5

Another incredibly busy and productive time in Year 5! The children have been deepening their understanding of biomes in Geography and have shown impressive skill when using atlases to interpret and locate key information. In History, they have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the impact of the Ancient Greeks and their remarkable achievements.

This term, 5A have had the opportunity to develop their design skills while learning about bridge structures, while 5C have been focusing on refining their sketching and drawing techniques in Art.

In English, the children have been captivated by each new chapter of *The Nowhere Emporium*, using the text as inspiration to apply their language skills in creating vivid setting descriptions and have produced a non-chronological report linked to their Science learning.



YEAR 6

Despite working hard towards their end of Key Stage 2 Tests, Year 6 have continued to enjoy a wide and varied curriculum.

Science has seen the children learning all about electrical circuits, conductors and insulators and the different components that can be used. They have designed and then made a quiz board which they can use with a series circuit.

They have enjoyed furthering their knowledge of Spanish; learning to describe the rooms in their homes and names of transport. "Bien hecho!"

In History, they have learnt about the impact of the Blitz during World War II. Geography has focused on the topic of Migration, learning about the reasons people migrate and the impact on countries, and Computing has allowed us to discover programmers of the future as the children have learnt the skills to create their own catching game.

REMEMBRANCE DAY





SPECIAL RECOGNITION **Jujitsu Champions!**



A BIG CONGRATULATIONS to Harry and Charlie who gained medal success at the European Jujitsu Championships.

Charlie secured a silver and bronze medal, whilst Harry took away the gold! Well done - you should both be extremely proud of your success.



PANTO STAR



Panto Star - Jett in Year 6 has successfully auditioned for 3 pantomimes. His latest one is the Panto at the Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre alongside Stafford's Gatehouse Theatre after auditioning for and securing roles in Sleeping Beauty, as well as appearing in Jack and the Beanstalk in February with the Mary Steven's Hospice.

A super achievement - well done Jett.

Sedgley Christmas Light Switch On



Well done to our Choir who sang at the Christmas Lights Switch on in Sedgley. They even got to meet Santa!

Thank you to all those that came along to support the Choir. Our Chair of Governors, Miss Blake came along to watch and said what a pleasure it was to see our School Choir performing at the Sedgley light switch on, she thought they were fabulous.

She also wanted to say thank you on behalf of the Governors and give staff and singers a huge well done.

CHARITY SUPPORTERS



HELP THE HOMELESS

Our very own Mrs Baker braved the elements on Friday 14 November to take part in a sleep-out, at the Molineux, to support local charities providing a little Christmas comfort to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Thank you to everyone that donated to support this charity.



AIR AMBULANCE

Emily and Darcey in Year 6 held a Tombola to raise money for the Air Ambulance.

Thank you to everyone that donated and well done girls for supporting another very worth while charity.



BritishRedCross

We raised £151.41 for our Poppy Appeal this Year.

Thank you to everyone that donated.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION



COMMUNITY AWARD WINNER YOUNG PERSON OF THE YEAR!

Emily in Year 6 was nominated and won the *2025 Dudley Community Award for Young Person of the Year* for all her Charitable works she carries out across the year.

The winners were revealed at a dazzling ceremony at the Copthorne Hotel, Brierley Hill. The awards seek to celebrate all the wonderful things that are happening across the Dudley Borough and to shine a light on the many, many success stories it is home to.

Well Done Emily - You should be very proud - what a fabulous acknowledgement of all your good works.

PREMIER LEAGUE ATTENDANCE

This is our Premier League attendance for week ending 12 December - Who will be our final winner for this term?

It has been an exciting few weeks in the Premier League with 6A and 3A still battling it out for the top spot. The League results so far are shown below.

The winner of this term's Extra Play will be determined by our final fixtures and announced at the end of term.

Sadly, there have been no classes winning a Classopoly award so far this term although 3A and 6A have come very close.

Remember that to achieve one of our awards, classes need to have no children late through the gate.

Place	Class	Points	Position in Chart	Movement
1st	6C	25	=	Stay top
2nd	3A	24	=	Stay 2nd
3rd	5C	22	=	Stay 3rd
4th	4C	19	=	Stay 4th
5th	5A	18	=	Stay 5th
6th	4A	13	=	Stay 6 th
6th	6A	13	=	Stay 6th
7th	3C	11	=	Stay 7th

Times Tables Rockstars Top 10



3A TOP TEN ROCKSTARS	SCORE
Evan	3,120
Archie	2,775
Mason	1,962
Arthur	1,652
Thomas	1,381
Arthur	980
Lola	471
Aria	451
Thea	428
Kavia	358

3C TOP TEN ROCKSTARS	SCORE
Aurora	45,751
Jennifer	20,567
Orla	11,291
Florence	5,129
Evie	3,348
Harry	2,946
Seth	2,066
Dexter	1,870
Lucy	1,174
Xavier	927

4A TOP TEN ROCKSTARS	SCORE
Hughie M	6372
Hughie H	2347
Olivia	1783
Amelia	1651
Frazier	879
Spencer C	864
Brody	637
Oliver W	508
Freya	483
Jacob	421

4C TOP TEN ROCKSTARS	SCORE
Ethan	2996
Sahib	2007
Layla	1371
Alexander	1328
Elliot P	1139
George	862
Millie	745
Oliver S	663
Evie	627
Gabriel	353

Key Stage 2 Accelerated Reader Top 10



3A TOP TEN READERS	Word Count
Penelope W	204, 147
Arthur T	128,390
Evelyn W	120,492
George D	70,415
Arthur W	40,961
Charlie G	37,296
Mason, J	36,879
Lola T	33,587
Avarnah T	32,706
Thea T	31,383

3C TOP TEN READERS	Word Count
Jennifer A	190,078
Harry A	46,289
Evie G	45,338
Florence B-E	40,008
Orla H	37,416
Erin T-F	29,088
Aria A	27,214
Lucy S	23,018
Aurora W	19,747
Parker-Rae H	15,459

4A TOP TEN READERS	Word Count
Elliot D	127,026
Jaiveer	106,842
Hughie H	102, 114
Amelia	92,622
Brody	84,260
Jacob	71,631
Nahla	67,526
Frazier	50,417
Adelynn	47,543
Archie	46,444

4C TOP TEN READERS	Word Count
Aria	93,163
Leo J	92,899
Spencer-Rai	83,605
Harriet	83,605
Sehaj	65,997
Gabriel	64,712
Clara	63,699
Oliver S	58,521
Sahib	58,124
Brodie	57,100

Key Stage 2 Accelerated Reader Top 10



5A TOP TEN READERS	Word Count
Samuel J	184,480
Eliza S	153,348
Georgia T	146,350
Max M	126,153
Georgia H	106,897
Jenson J	89,293
Zachary L	74,233
Maisy H	61,925
Jacob J	51,739
Melina K	51,443

5C TOP TEN READERS	Word Count
Isabella E	392,291
Liam B	284,087
Emily D	229,513
Rhen R	187,351
Oliver T	152,396
Freddie B	139,539
Alfie J	127,720
Harper E-B	107,467
Isabel S	87,650
Isabella R	81,813

6A TOP TEN READERS	Word Count
Theo D	327,726
Harry G	263,234
Sonam D	155,341
Samuel M	154,204
Edith B	133,984
Daisy T	132,656
Seerat K	93,156
Darcey-Lei H	88,952
Elliot B	86,753
Harrison G	85,967

6C TOP TEN READERS	Word Count
Lola D	338,423
Tyhler W-J	113,222
Karishma K	110,341
Ethan G	88,211
Harry T	82,543
Daisy-Mae J	61,579
Eloisa D S	45,854
Matilda W	42,310
Thomas M	39,203
Anaya N	28,438

End of Term

Nursery finish on Thursday 18 December

Reception – Year 6 finish on Friday 19 December

Children should be in normal school uniform. Children in Years 1 - 6 are able to bring in non-electronic games from home to play in school with other children.

School finishes:

1.20pm - Reception

1.25pm - Years 2, 5 and 6

1.30pm – Years 1, 3 and 4



Thank you to all of our families for their support this year and we look forward to continuing to work with you in 2026.

**The Spring Term
begins for all our children on**

Monday 5 January 2026.

Please make sure any medicines are brought back in that day and that your child brings their PE kit back in ready for use.

A reminder that children in 4A will be swimming from Tuesday 6 January 2026.

