



# End of Term News

## Autumn Term 2021 News

*Our church school creates a firm foundation where together, with God's help and with the help of others, we learn for life, achieve our best and grow in faith.*

### **Important thank yous!**

I am delighted that we have managed to have such a successful term despite the challenges that COVID has thrown at us – I am so proud of staff who have gone above and beyond in order to keep the school running and your children learning. There have been several staff absences due to COVID and these have a big impact on such a small team; staff have regularly stepped in as cleaners, midday supervisors, TAs and teachers, taking on roles that they wouldn't usually do. To all staff who stepped in to undertake a role beyond your job description and for time beyond which you are paid – THANK YOU!!

My thanks too to the young people in our school – they have worked incredibly hard and have engaged in learning in such a positive way this term. They have accepted some changes to their routine with a smile and have been generous in their words and actions towards others. Children it is a joy to see you leaning and laughing every single day - THANK YOU!

Lastly, my thanks to our parent community who have supported their children and the school over this term. Many of you have given generously of your time to be a part of the STARS team or as Governors. Our thanks to those who sent Christmas gifts for staff, many of which have been a welcome treat with a cup of tea! We know that for many parents the link between home and school is far from what you (and we) would hope for and this saddens us all. We will begin to see light at the end of the tunnel soon....

Lastly, we wish all of our families a safe and happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Contact tracing**

As you are aware, we do not have a responsibility to track and trace close contacts of positive cases in school. However, this is something that we have always committed to do as we feel it is important to make parents aware if their child has been a close contact. With this in mind, if your child tests positive between the end of school today and Monday, please do let us know via the school office email. We will then telephone any close contacts as necessary. Many thanks for your support with this.

### A special message!

We received an amazing message for Van Gogh and Monet classes today from Father Christmas himself! The children were delighted to hear how proud of them he was – and he even reassured the children that Little Miss Naughty (who has been very naughty at school this term) is on his Naughty List! If you would like to watch our message for yourselves it can be found [here](#).



### Informal nativity

Our thanks to Van Gogh and Monet class parents who came to watch our Nativity on the playground yesterday. The children loved performing to an audience and our thanks for joining in with Away in the Manger too. We have sent a YouTube link to a recorded version to both Van Gogh and Monet parents via email and hope you enjoy this too.



*It's been another challenging term for everyone, and STARS have not been able to do some of our favourite fundraising activities, however we've still raised more than £2,000 for the school and our children, which is very impressive indeed!*

*Thank you to everyone that has contributed to these fundraising efforts. A few people give up a lot of time for STARS behind the scenes and with preparing things like bonfire kits / take aways / wreath kits / silent auction and more. Big thanks to the committee and those involved in these fundraising activities with a special thanks to Mallory Grover & James Stevens.*

*Thank you also to everyone that has put their hand in their pocket and helped with this fundraising. Every penny goes to the school for our children's education - with the occasional treat added in too!*

*If your child is in school today they will receive a lovely Christmassy sweet treat from STARS. If they don't get theirs today, don't worry, one will be put aside for them until next term - the sweets will last. Thank you so much to Vicky Kent and Sugarcoated Sweets and Treats for spending precious time this weekend putting these together for us. The kids will love them!*

*We look forward to a new year of fundraising activity in 2022.*

*Merry Christmas everyone!*

*We wish you all a  
Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year*







**Harvest,  
Remembrance and  
Children in Need**



**Diwali and Operation  
Christmas Child**

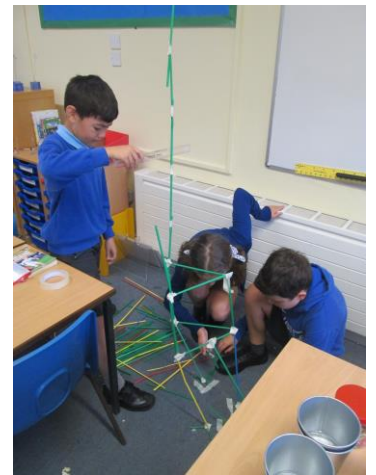
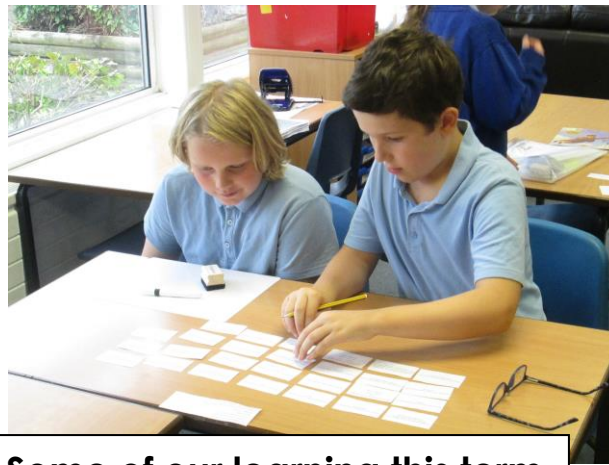


**Our Quiet Reflection**



**Picasso Cake sale for  
the Salvation Army**





Some of our learning this term







**Christmas Lunch**



**Our informal Nativity!**







**Christingle today**



*Diary Dates Autumn 2021/Spring 2022*

***All new dates are added in bold and italic.***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2021 to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 2022	Christmas Holiday
4 <sup>th</sup> January	Training day ~ School Closed
5 <sup>th</sup> January	Spring term 2022 begins
11 <sup>th</sup> January	Picasso Swimming starts (5 weeks)
13 <sup>th</sup> January	Height and Weight checks for Reception and Year 6
14 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term holiday
14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Bikeability for Year 5/6
1 <sup>st</sup> April	End of Spring term 2022

### **Our School Prayer**

**Dear Lord,**

**All** together we are Abbots Ripton School

**Bless** each one of us this day

**Bring** joy to our lives

**Open** our hearts to peace

**Together** we pray to you our Father

**Stand** by us as we grow

**May we**

**Reflect** your goodness

**In** all that we do

**Protect** the world around us and

**Take** care of your creation

**Our** family and friends we trust to your care

**Now** and forever we say

Amen