

5th December 2025



Science Week

This week has been filled with excitement as the whole school participated in fun and engaging science activities. We started the week with a WOW assembly, making 'Cola Super Fountains'. We predicted which cola drink would work the best to make the highest fountain!

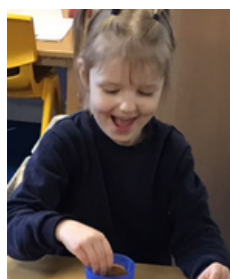
Diet Coke was the best! We loved making lots of mess in the hall and Mr Bannister loved clearing it up! Thank you, Mr Bannister!

In assembly, we also shared a **BIG QUESTION** with the children:

What are the best snacks to leave out for Father Christmas?

Nursery children explored which Gingerbread men survive best in puddles, Reception children found out the best ingredient for making marshmallow snowmen, Year One children tested which biscuit is best for dunking and Year Two children investigated which liquid dissolves candy canes most effectively.

On Thursday, the excitement continued as all the children swapped classes to work with different teachers on awe and wonder experiments. They made salt snowflakes, Santa's magic milk, and even explosive snow, which was a big hit! A special thank you to Mrs Francis for organising a fantastic Science week. The children (and grown-ups) have had a wonderful time! Be sure to visit Tapestry to see more photographs from this exciting week!



INSA Christmas Decorations

Again, we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our INSA volunteers for supporting the children with making decorations for the school Christmas tree. INSA is requesting a voluntary contribution of £1 (via ParentPay) from each family to help raise funds for our school. A HUGE thank you to Upson's Farm Shop for donating our lovely tree. As a thank you, we will be donating £25 to St. Andrew's Church.

Goodbye Miss Thomaidou

As we approach the festive season, we would like to send our warmest wishes to Miss Thomaidou. She said goodbye to everyone in assembly today and will now be starting her maternity leave. The staff and children had great fun suggesting baby names! We are all so excited for her and wish her a restful time before her Christmas baby arrives! We look

forward to meeting the newest member of her family in the New Year. We will of course, let you know any news in the New Year!

In the meantime, we are delighted to welcome Mrs. Bennett to our school next week.

We know she will be a fantastic addition to our team.



INSA Bend The Rules Day

Today has been a 'rule bending' day! The children have had fun today bending a few school rules and at the same time, raising money for our school. We have had odd socks, crazy hair and lots of festive jumpers. Thank you to INSA for organising this fun event!



Christmas Pantomime and Entertainer

On Thursday 11th December, Year One and Two children will be walking to the Village Hall to see the Pantomime 'Snow White'. This is a joint event with St. Andrew's Junior School. Nursery and Reception children will be entertained in the school hall by a Christmas entertainer. Both events will be funded by INSA, so a BIG thank you, again to them.

Special Assembly

Yesterday, the children enjoyed a wonderful assembly led by Libby from Chelmsford Vineyard Church. She was interested in our Key Stage 1 topics of 'Heroes Versus Villains' and 'Courage Versus Fear' and talked to everyone about what a hero is and what courage means. Two fantastic volunteers then helped Libby to tell the story of David and Goliath to show how it is not always the biggest person who shows the most courage. Thank you, Libby!



Stars of the week

Duckling Class: Aarlo

Butterfly Class: George

Ladybird Class: Ezra

Hedgehog Class: Tommy

Squirrel Class: Tara

Fox Class: Archie P

Badger Class: Bonnie-Rae



Attendance trophy: Ladybird Class

Attendance this week: 94.5%

ERIC tokens

This week's winners are the **ORANGE** team with 136 ERIC tokens. Fantastic job!

Dates for your diary

9th December - Year 1 Christmas Concert **2.30pm**

11th December - Year 1 Christmas Concert **9.00am**

11th December - Christmas Panto (Year 1&2) and Entertainer for Nursery and Reception Children (these are to be held in school time—no parents)

16th December - Reception Christmas songs **9.00am**

16th December - Year 2 Christmas songs **2.45pm**

19th December - End of term (finish at 1.00pm)

