



SPOTLIGHT

Together, Everyone Achieves More
December 2025



Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you all for the cards, presents and Christmas wishes that have been shared over the last few weeks. The pupils are all very excited about the Christmas break and we hope that you will all be able to enjoy seeing family and friends.

The pupils have had the opportunity to watch a theatre production in school. Lower school enjoyed Jack and the BeanSTEM and upper school saw The Jungle Book. This is always a wonderful experience for the pupils and a great chance for them to practice booing and cheering with enthusiastic voices and devices turned up high! We hope you enjoy finding out what each class has been busy doing this half term.

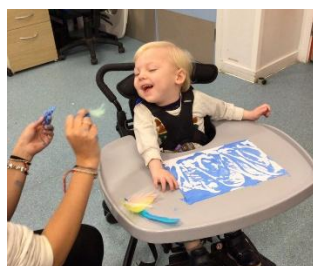
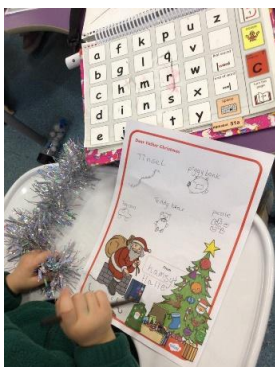
We say goodbye to Emily Wild and Charlotte Stevenson who are off travelling, Carol Davison and Michelle Fry are also off on an adventure as they start new chapters in their lives. We are going to miss them all and wish each of them a wonderful time.

Have a very happy Christmas and New Year. Pupils return to school on Monday 5 January 2026 at 9:15am.

Rosie and Sarah

Badgers Class News

Badgers have had a great half term learning all about different types of weather and Christmas. We have continued to work hard in literacy, exploring different letters and sounds, reading stories, and looking at the different types of writing we can do. We have written shopping lists, stories, invitations to parties, and letters to Father Christmas.

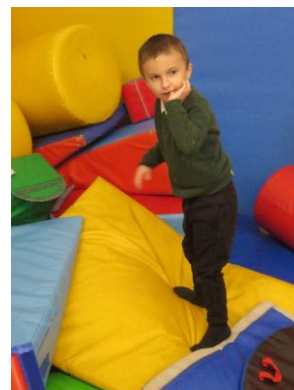


To explore Christmas, we recently took a trip to Chessington Garden Centre. We travelled on the school minibus, enjoyed a 'train ride' to Winter Wonderland, met Father Christmas and chose our own presents before having a picnic lunch. We also did some mark-making activities before heading home. Lots of fun was had by all!



Hedgehogs Class News

Hedgehogs have enjoyed PE this half term, working hard on taking turns and sharing equipment.



We have also been getting ready for Christmas with a range of activities, but cooking was the favourite!



Foxes Class News

Our class have been busy exploring and comparing old and new toys, discovering how play has changed over time. As part of our learning, Foxes class have been creating a wonderful variety of puppets, including paper puppets, sock puppets and string puppets. We have also worked together to build our own puppet stage, and we have enjoyed performing imaginative puppet shows to each other. It has been fun and creative!



In maths, we have been learning about time and how it helps us organise our day. Foxes have explored both analogue and digital clocks, practised reading and making times to the hour and half an hour and talked about the order of daily routines, during the school day and at home. We have also thought about schedules and how to sequence events.



Squirrels Class News

This term in Squirrels we have enjoyed learning about electricity and how to build and close a circuit. Squirrels have loved exploring the different components and changing them for items like a lemon to see if that would still work. We took turns using different equipment that uses electricity, our favourite was the plasma ball!



We have had a visit from Santa's naughty elf, we have loved coming in every morning to see what he has been up to overnight. Squirrels have used this each morning for their writing in literacy and have come up with some great sentences.



Woodpeckers Class News

Woodpeckers have had a very busy and exciting half term. We have really enjoyed our focus area on 999 and exploring the emergency services.

We really enjoyed our trip to the Guildford Odeon to see Dogman, it was such a good movie and of course we enjoyed our snacks too!



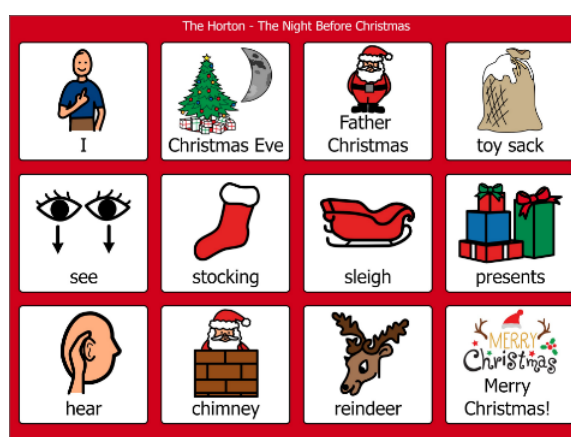
We have enjoyed our visit from PC Bloomfield who came to show us some of the equipment that police officers use and we had lot of fun exploring this.



Rabbits Class News

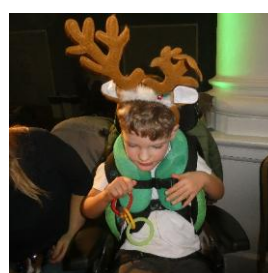
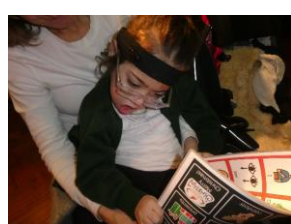
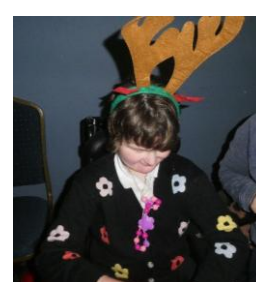
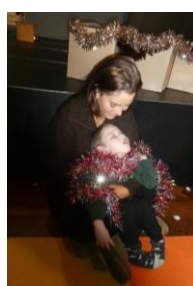
Rabbits were thrilled to go on a Christmas trip together with Foxes to The Horton Arts Centre in Epsom for the sensory show 'Short Stories Tall Tales – The Night Before Christmas', an immersive theatre experience using role-play, props, music and creative drama focussing on multi-sensory exploration.

Many of the pupils' parents and carers joined us, taking part in the performance with much enthusiasm. Rabbits enjoyed dressing the Christmas tree and even having a snowball fight! We had sensory props to explore too and our own ALD to help us make sense of the story, which really got us in the Christmassy spirit – getting ready for Christmas Eve, hanging our stockings and waiting for Father Christmas to come down the chimney



After the show, we ate our picnic lunch together sitting in the cavernous hall, chatting and planning our next visit.

Wow, we had such a great time, Happy Christmas to you all!



Owls Class News

All aboard! Owls class enjoyed a day out at Brooklands Museum where we were fully immersed in every type of motorised vehicle from the past, present and future! We discovered some old emergency vehicles, like a fire engine and an old ambulance, and compared them to the modern versions. Some of us rode in a simulated Formula 1 car and felt like Lando Norris for a few moments, and we also found a futuristic car made entirely of Lego! Our last stop was the bus museum where we got to be bus drivers and conductors. We braved the huge steps and rode on the top deck of an old bus that used to operate locally and recognised the contrast with today's busses that are equipped with ramps, making them more accessible. The staff we came into contact with were very knowledgeable and made us feel very welcome. We all returned from our trip very tired but with no speeding tickets!



News from the Friends of Woodlands

Dear Woodlands Families

Having now been in the role of Chair of FOW for 3 months, I wanted to say a personal thank you for your generous support of Friends of Woodlands. Your time, donations, and enthusiasm make a real difference to our school community, and we are truly grateful for everything you do to support our initiatives.

From myself and on behalf of the FOW committee, have a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy 2026.

With appreciation

Ben

We are delighted to introduce the online Friends of woodlands PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP!

Our FOW-run initiative is dedicated to supporting families, promoting sustainability and reducing waste within our school.

Stocked with high-quality, lightly used uniform items at affordable prices, the shop offers a practical and eco-friendly solution to buying new. All proceeds go directly back into enhancing school projects and student experiences.

Your item(s) will be hand delivered to school reception on Fridays in the week you make your purchase, to be given to your child to bring home. We'll also be encouraging you to donate in any uniform items in good condition that you no longer need each term so we can then give them a new home via our online shop.

Whether you're looking to save money, donate outgrown items, or simply support our school community, the pre-loved uniform shop is here to help. Click the link or scan the QR code to start shopping!

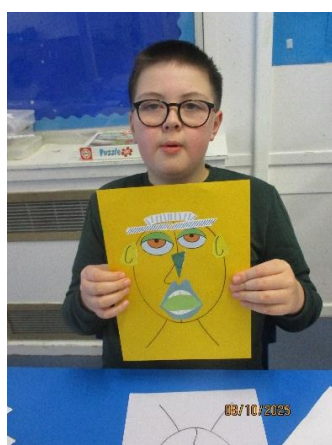
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/fow-pre-loved-uniform-shop-copy>



Elmwood Class News

The Elmwood pupils have been embracing all things 'arts & crafts' this term. The focus was on creating artworks of their faces using different materials and techniques that were inspired by various famous artists, including Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein and Frida Kahlo.

In preparation for Christmas, they all had fun creating eco-friendly decorations for the outdoor tree using satsumas and cloves. The smell in the classroom afterwards was wonderful!

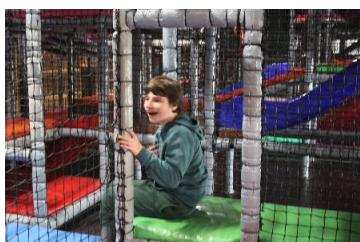


Beechwood Class News

It has been lovely to get to know the pupils in Beechwood class, we all enjoyed sharing our learning, social time and a range of activities together.

Pupils have been working very hard during phonics lessons and have shown enthusiasm for writing letters, recipes and shopping lists before Christmas.

Our food tech lessons gave us opportunities to apply our maths skills to measure the ingredients and follow instructions. We were so proud to have made gingerbread biscuits and delicious mince pies. In Science, we discussed the lifecycle of a human and chatted about the youngest and oldest members of our families. Our highlight of the term was the trip to Hobbledown Farm which was great fun.



Ashwood Class News

Some of the Ashwood students have been enjoying their work experience at Godstone Farm this term. They have learned about looking after the animals and keeping their environment clean and tidy. There has been a lot of raking and sweeping and using wheelbarrows.



Ashwood students have enjoyed preparing for Christmas by making decorations and hats for their Christmas dinner. Several were also involved in the Upper School Christmas show and worked on learning the signs for the songs. Some of them helped to deliver drinks and snacks to the visitors at the Christmas Soiree.



Orchard Class News

Orchard class have had lots of fun this term, thinking about different celebrations such as firework night and the build up to Christmas. We enjoyed recreating the sparkle and colour of a firework display in class, as well as listening to some of the sounds they might make. We wrote some sentences about the experience, using language such as “bang” “loud” and “noisy”.

We have been thinking about Christmas and have been exploring different ways to make snow as well as making lots of fun Christmas cooking and craft activities. We have been using our senses to engage in the activities, some of us especially engage well with the taste sense, and we have really worked hard to make our gingerbread and our Oreo truffles.

We were so grateful to the Friends of Woodlands for paying for our trip to Bocketts Farm. We had a brilliant time, having a ride on a tractor, seeing many animals and even hand feeding a few. We had a visual timetable to prepare us the night before, which helped with both the anticipation and any anxiety, and we knew exactly what to expect and all had a great time.



Pinewood Class News

Pinewood have had an exciting half term solidifying relationships with our peers and new class staff. We have become more confident communicators and have been working on initiating communication through questioning. We now have a class of inquisitive pupils wanting to know the whereabouts and goings on of the people around them.

At the end of November we took a trip to Godstone Farm. We spent the morning exploring their soft play and sensory areas and the afternoon getting to know the animals. We had a guided tour and learnt lots about chickens, hamsters and their 100-year-old tortoise.



We continue to use our electronic AAC devices to develop not only our PODD use but learning too - reading stories, engaging in phonics activities, number songs etc. We found some fun Christmas Grid sets and were able to decorate Christmas trees and snowmen using our eyes or direct touch.



We hope you have a love filled break together and a well-deserved rest. See you in 2026!



Important Dates for Spring Term 2026

Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January

Monday 5 January
 Tuesday 20 January
 Tuesday 20 February

Christmas Holiday

Spring term starts, 9.15am
 Parents evening, 5 – 7pm
 National Safer Internet Day

Monday 16 to Friday 20 February

Monday 23 February
 Monday 2 March
 Tuesday 3 March
 Thursday 5 March
 Monday 9 March
 Friday 27 March

Half Term

School re-opens for Spring term
 INSET Day, school closed
 INSET Day, school closed
 World Book Day
 STEM Week starts
 Break-up for Easter, 1pm

Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April

Easter Holiday

Lower School Lunch Clubs



Big Bubble Club



Writing & Drawing Club



Ribbon/ Parachute Games



Dance Club



Music Club

Upper School Lunch Clubs



Exercise Club



Physio Club



Lego & Games Club



Dance Club



Ball Games

A message from the Therapists

EQUIPMENT - WHO TO CONTACT:

It is your responsibility to maintain equipment by cleaning regularly, checking all fixings are secure and that any straps including those with buckles or Velcro continue to fasten. Pelvic straps should be used when the child is seated.



- For queries about a child's position or posture in their classroom seating please contact OT. Their email address is emily.yelland@hrcaregroup.com.

- For queries about a child's position in their standing frame, walker or sleep system please contact physio by emailing rebecca.fisk@hrcaregroup.com.



- For broken equipment or issues with maintenance (standers, chairs, walkers and sleep systems) please call Millbrook on 0330 124 1247.



- For Issues with wheelchairs (including positioning and maintenance concerns) please contact wheelchair services on 0330 124 8210 or by email surreywcs@rosscare.co.uk.

- For issues regarding orthotics (including boots, splints, gaiters, helmets etc) please contact Epsom General Hospital Orthotics on 01372 735 568 or email esth.orthoticsserviceegh@nhs.net.



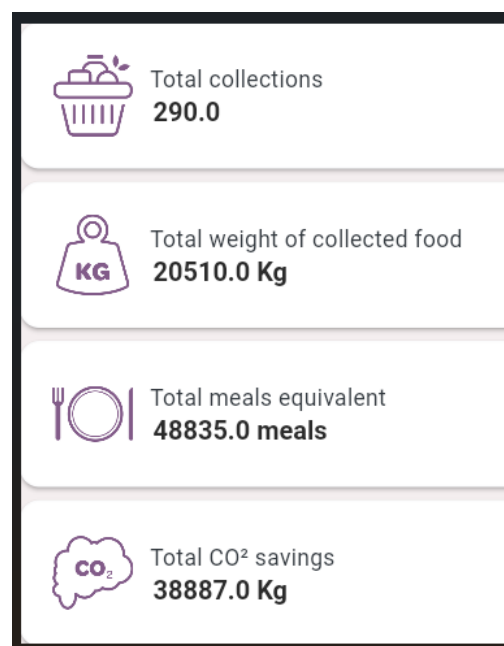
- For queries regarding home equipment (including seating, bathing, hoisting) please contact The Children with Disabilities OT Team on 0300 470 9100.

The Woodlands Fridge

The Woodlands Fridge has been running on a Saturday evening for just over two years now!

Each week we collect perfectly good food from Tesco's in Leatherhead that would otherwise be thrown away and make it available to anyone that can use it. In that time, we have rescued and shared the equivalent of over 25,000 meals.

We never know what we are going to be given until our Woodlands volunteers arrive to collect and each week the content and amount varies, however it is well worth a visit on a Saturday evening, so please do come along with your shopping bags.



Watch out for our text on a Saturday evening, including the school holidays. This is offered to all of our families and staff.

We received this certificate from the Epsom & Ewell Foodbank in recognition of our harvest festival donation. Thank you everyone for your generous donations.

