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**'Placing learning at the heart of everything we do'**  
*Raising Aspirations, Realising Ambition and Stimulating Curiosity*

**Newsletter No.6**

**Friday 19 December 2025**

As we are at the end of a long term, and a very busy year, we would like to thank you all for your support – it is great to see the community pull together for the benefit of all. Over the last few weeks, we have seen this in the Christmas Fayre, the Carol Service, the Nativity, and, most importantly, in everyday school life. Let's all hope that we can keep the season of good will going into the new year, and beyond.

Whilst we know that this can be a busy and stressful time of year for many, we all hope that you have as restful break as you can and look forward to seeing you all return safely on Tuesday, 6 January 2026.

We are saying goodbye and good luck to two of our valued members of staff – Mrs Rens and Mrs Cuthbert. We wish them all the best in their new ventures. You will be missed here at Priestley.

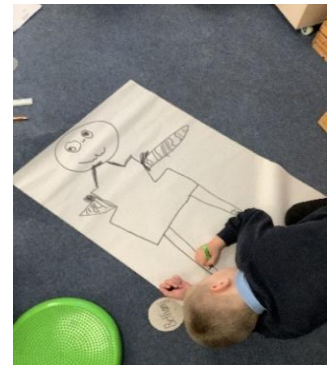
**EYFS & Year1**

December has been a very busy and exciting month in Ducklings and Goslings. We loved reading the story of *The Gingerbread Man*, thinking carefully about the characters and settings. This inspired the children to design their own new character – the wonderfully imaginative Stinky Cheese Man!

In Maths, Reception children explored 2D shapes, while Year 1 children investigated 3D shapes, using them to make patterns, models and pictures. We also enjoyed ordering Christmas pictures by length, learning about long and short.

We have been extremely busy practising and performing our Nativity, which the children were very proud of. Alongside this, we got creative by making and writing Christmas cards and creating cuddly snowmen. It has been a fantastic month full of learning, creativity, festive fun and a Christmas dinner that was enjoyed by all.





## Years 1 & 2

Pufflings and Cygnets have had a very busy and festive time recently. We enjoyed getting into the Christmas spirit on Christmas Jumper Day and loved sharing a delicious Christmas dinner together. Our Nativity was a wonderful success – the children did an amazing job. All their hard work practicing paid off! In DT, we've been busy getting creative by designing and making our own windchimes, developing our practical skills and creativity. It's been a fun and memorable end to the term, and we're very proud of all the children's hard work and enthusiasm.







## Year 3 & 4

In Year 3 and 4 we have been busy preparing for our Christmas Service at the Church. In Teal, we wrote Haikus about different key parts of Christmas. In Sandpiper, we wrote on paperchains to show how we can link kindness together. In Harlequin, we wrote a poem about the colour of Christmas and how we see this all around us. The children worked really hard in their groups and produced fantastic performances. Alongside this, the children have been creating key knowledge facts cards and posters about the Vikings. Please ask them what interesting facts they can remember about the Vikings.







## Year 5 & 6

This week we began preparing for all things Christmas! Working in groups, we have researched facts about how Christmas is celebrated in other countries to share with the school at our Christmas Concert. Do you know Christmas Traditions in Mexico? Do you know what the equivalent of Father Christmas is in Poland? Ask us and we can tell you all about it.



We enjoyed creating the Chocolate Oreo Reindeer for the Christmas Fayre – hopefully, you got to try one!

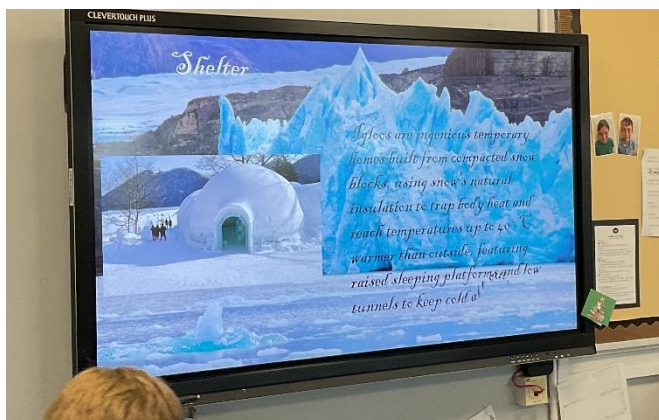
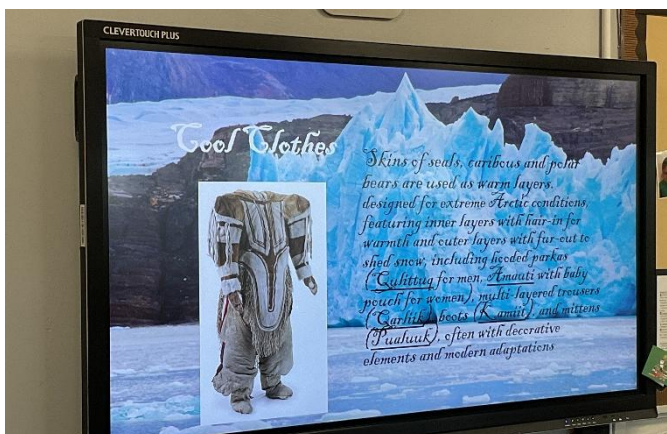


In computing, we explored how to solve problems using spreadsheets. We had to use our knowledge gained this term to work out 3 different scenarios of being paid amounts of pocket money over time. We created formulas and use the four operations.





Finally, a special mention to Philip. He used the learning from our geography session on Monday to create a fantastic PowerPoint presentation about how to survive in the Arctic. It was informative, interesting and well designed. His classmates and I enjoyed watching it and seeing what he had achieved.



## Citizenship Committee

The Citizenship Committee have been helping with various jobs at the end of the term. Two very helpful and polite role-models helped by wrapping presents to go under the Christmas tree in the grotto. Others helped to sort out the spare uniform supplies and then, after the Nativity on Tuesday, the children helped to sell cakes, soft toys and reindeer food, in the playground after school. This raised £93 for our school. Thank you to the Committee for your help and showing great enthusiasm throughout. They have all been great examples to other children; enthusiastic, polite and eager to carry out tasks for the benefit of everyone. They have all been so positive that all of the volunteers have passed their probationary period, and will be receiving their badges at the beginning of next term – congratulations.

## Christmas Fayre



Thank you for all the fantastic cakes you created for the Christmas Cake Competition and the cake sale – they were very impressive, and tasty.

And the four winners were....

Congratulations: the standard of the cakes (artistic and imagination) rises every year.

Sidney (Goslings)



Freya (Kingfisher)



Ava-Rose (Harlequin)



Emery (Ducklings)



And an honourable mention to...







Santa had a great time meeting you all and Mrs Mitchard loved helping out as Santa's elf! We were grateful for Mr Gibbens who came out of retirement for the evening to be our guest raffle caller; the children were pleased to see him too.

A whopping £1500 was raised for school funds; we will be asking for suggestions so that we can prioritise its use in the new year. In the meantime, many thanks to all those involved – organising, and taking part, it was genuinely great to see so many of our community enjoying themselves together.

## Santa Dash

On Friday, 12 December, a wonderful team of cross-country runners made their way to Kingsbury Green. Our team of Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 showed resilience and determination as they raced around. All children showed a wonderful level of sportsmanship and was complimented on their hard work by the sports ambassadors at the event.

