



Newsletter—December 2025

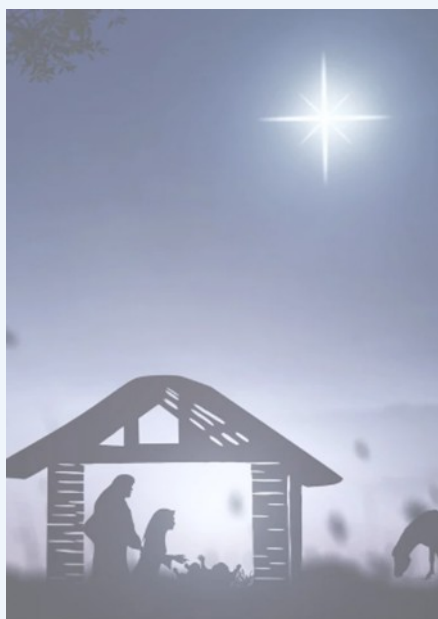
The festive spirit has truly been in full swing over the past few weeks, and it's been feeling wonderfully Christmassy! We are so proud of our children, who have embraced the season with joy and enthusiasm. They've been busy spreading Christmas cheer throughout the school, our local community, and beyond. From creative activities to heartfelt performances, their efforts have brought smiles and festive warmth to everyone around them.

Throughout Advent we have focused on the real meaning of Christmas. It is a time when we think about what God gave—His love. Jesus is God's gift to us. And when we know that, we can share His love with others. So this Christmas, let's remember: - It's not just about presents under the tree, but about God's presence with us. - It's not just about what we receive, but about what we give—kindness, friendship, and love. - It's not just about one day, but about living every day with hope and joy. When we do these things, we share the true spirit of Christmas.

We wish you and your families a Christmas filled with joy, peace, and special moments to cherish. Thank you for being part of our wonderful school community—your support and involvement make all the difference. Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year!

Merry Christmas

Miss Ross and all the staff at Tockholes!



Choir at Christmas

Our choir have definitely spread joy and happiness this term. They had a marvellous time performing at Blackburn Cathedral in a Christmas music service. They have also been to sing at Old Gates Nursing Home and Blackburn Hospital. We received a lovely message from

I just wanted to take a moment to say how amazing you all were. The enthusiasm and effort from both staff and pupils truly shone through, and it made such a difference. Thanks to everyone's hard work, the children raised an incredible **£109.90** for our charity! This is a fantastic achievement and will go a long way in helping us continue our work.



Ukulele Christmas Performance

Another fantastic performance from our KS2 children. They sang and performed to A variety of songs, including Jambalay, Last Christmas and Rudolph. A big thanks to Bolton Music Service.



Nativity

Our children sang, danced and performed beautifully in their Nativity. Overcoming a variety of illnesses, we had children standing in at the very last minute with some children taking on at least 3 roles. Well done to all.



Spreading Christmas Joy



Our children went to spread Christmas joy around the village, delivering Christmas cards, hot chocolate and snowmen marshmallow gifts and Christmas wrapping paper. Following this we have had an overwhelming response from the villagers—

“Thank you for arranging this , it was a lovely surprise especially on such a dismal day . Your children are a credit to you. It's a long time since I attended St Stephen's, made me think of happy Christmas times when I was there . I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and thanks again for visiting. “

“I wanted to say a big thank you to the school and the children for the lovely Christmas card and present that they brought to our house earlier today. We only just moved into the village last month so it was a real surprise to get the knock at the door, and it made us all feel very festive!”

“ Thank you all for your visit and the gifts you brought. What a lovely surprise!”

St Stephen’s School should be so proud of their youngsters and staff. What a lovely surprise with them calling. Thank you so much. I just wish you could bottle their enthusiasm, sheer joy, friendliness and politeness. I’d buy some. It was a real tonic. Well done everyone!”

Smarties Challenge

Smarties challenge

- 1 - Each child will be given a tube of smarties
- 2 - Keep the tube and fill it with as much change as possible.

3 - Bring your tube back into school by Friday 30th January

4 - All money collected will contribute to paying for an event for the children



Diary dates—Spring term 2026

Tuesday 13th January	Environmental/Recycling Workshop
Tuesday 27th January	Parents Open Afternoon
Wednesday 4th February	Yr 3 & 4 Discover Ballet Workshop
Tuesday 10th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 11th February	Whole school—Discover Opera
Friday 13th February	Wear Your Scarf Day

Term Dates

Monday 5th January 2026	School re-opens for start of Spring term 1
Friday 13th February 2026	School closes for half-term
Monday 23rd February 2026	School re-opens
Friday 27th March 2026	School closes for Easter
Tuesday 14th April 2026	School re-opens for start of Summer term
Monday 4th May 2026	Bank Holiday
Friday 22nd May 2026	School closes for half-term
Tuesday 2nd June 2026	School re-opens
Friday 17th July 2026	School closes for Summer holiday