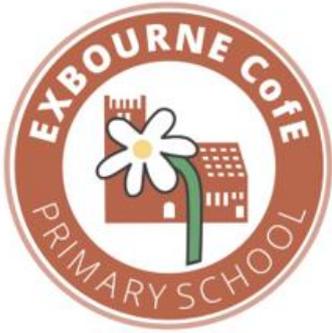


'Let us spur one another to acts of love and good deeds' Hebrews 10:24



**Exbourne Church of England Primary,
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EX20 3SQ**

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Principal: Mrs D Petersen

Dear parent/ carer

03rd December 2021

The term is closing in fast as we approach the countdown to Christmas holidays. We have seen the cold weather biting hard this week and we have all battled against the chill. This has been particularly challenging given our need for ventilating the school building as part of our COVID safety measures. The virus has not gone away and so it is vital we all take responsibility for each other's safety.



I would like to thank all staff, children and parents of Exbourne this week for braving the challenges we have faced with Covid 19 cases. In such a small school and close community, this has posed some thoughtful and considered responses and we understand how the situation can raise anxiety and uncertainty in the community.

What has been clear is how we have all pulled together to ensure the children attending school are as safe as possible and how staff been so flexible to make sure learning continues for our children in the best way we can.

We hope that our measures taken will prevent any more cases and we continue to work with you to ensure this happens. Unfortunately, some of the events such as our Nativity and Christmas Service will not have parents attending - apologies we are not able to facilitate what we hoped for at this special time of year. Keeping everyone safe is of most importance.

INCLUSION

To enact our Trust value, EQUITY, and to mark *'International Day of People with Disability'* on 3rd December, the children will be thinking about the theme *'Fighting for rights in the*

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post-COVID era.' Pupils were able to discuss what they know about disability and if the pandemic has made us more aware of disabilities. Pupils were able to reflect on the universal experience of lockdown and how restrictions have prompted us to be more mindful of what everyday life can be like for many people living with disability.

THANKFULNESS

We are sincerely grateful for kind donations from our local community this term. Merry Go Round, a second hand children's shop has kindly donated £100 to the school. Despite the challenges of running a small business in the past 2 years, during a global pandemic, they have thought of our school to which to donate some of their profit. We are so grateful to the team at Merry Go Round for their giving and charitable act of good deeds. Pop along to the shop in North Tawton to pick up used/ recycled items that will seem like new to your child(ren) this Christmas!



Merry Go Round

Pre-loved Kids Clothes & More

VISIT OUR SHOP

for a superb selection of quality secondhand items
for children aged 0-14 years (including school uniform)

OPEN: Monday-Saturday 10am - 5pm



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Pupil voice on PROPHECY and HOPE

In collective worship this week we have been learning about the season of Advent and the symbol of the candle. Reverend Leigh asked the children about the prophecy and to think about their hopes. Here are some of the thoughtful responses:

'Animals shouldn't be hunted just because they are a little bit of a nuisance.' Ted

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'I wish people would just get along and not be – Oh no my life is ruined!' Autumn

'People from different countries getting along.' Maisie

'The whole world connected together.' Frank

The children at Exbourne are thinking openly and deeply about the wider issues that we face as local and global citizens. We are so proud of them and how they respond to the 'big questions' on life.

Home Learning over the Christmas break

We are not setting home learning over the Christmas period but encourage you to continue listening and recording hearing your child read. A child that loves reading often finds school more enjoyable, learns better and gets more opportunities. Reading with your child at home helps to promote a love of reading as well as help them to improve their reading skills.

▲ Things that can get in the way of reading together

It's one of those things that feels like it might take up a lot of time – many of us worry "how am I going to fit it in" - and then feel guilty when we don't manage it! It's important to remember just 10 minutes a day can make a huge difference – and skipping the odd day isn't the end of the world either.

Some parents might also worry if they can read well enough, or if they are sharing the right books – but there is no right or wrong way to read together. It can even be a good thing for you to learn together.

When your child starts learning to read – they can be really frustrated at not being able to do it. It can take a bit of persistence and patience to make sure it doesn't turn into a battle.

More information for parents can be found here - [Place2Be: Parenting Smart: Reading with your child](#). Thank you for your ongoing support with your child's reading. Together, we are helping children love reading and through practising their skills we can make such a difference to their learning!

Our main aim over the next fortnight is to ensure the safety of our staff, pupils and families so that we can enjoy some much needed family time over the Christmas break. Stay safe, stay well and have a wonderful weekend!

Kind regards,



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Dates for your Diary

07th December – Key stage 1 swimming lessons (last lesson)

10th December – Christmas Jumper Day

13th December- Whole school Christmas Dinner

14th December – Waitrose Carol Singing 10.00am – 11.00am

15th December – Theatre trip for key stage 2 children -A Christmas Carol @ Northcott Theatre at Exeter. Leaving Exbourne at 10.30am estimated return at 4.45pm – **This has unfortunately been cancelled.**

16th December – Christmas Service & Nativity at the Church – 2.00pm

17th December – Last day of term

20th December – 5th January – Christmas holiday all pupils return on 5th January

GALLERY



'Let us spur one another to acts of love and good deeds' Hebrews 10:24

Phonics learning in EYFS

Reading corner in Class 1



Working together to decorate the tree



Maths learning in Year 2

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Year 6 make their mark on the Christmas tree



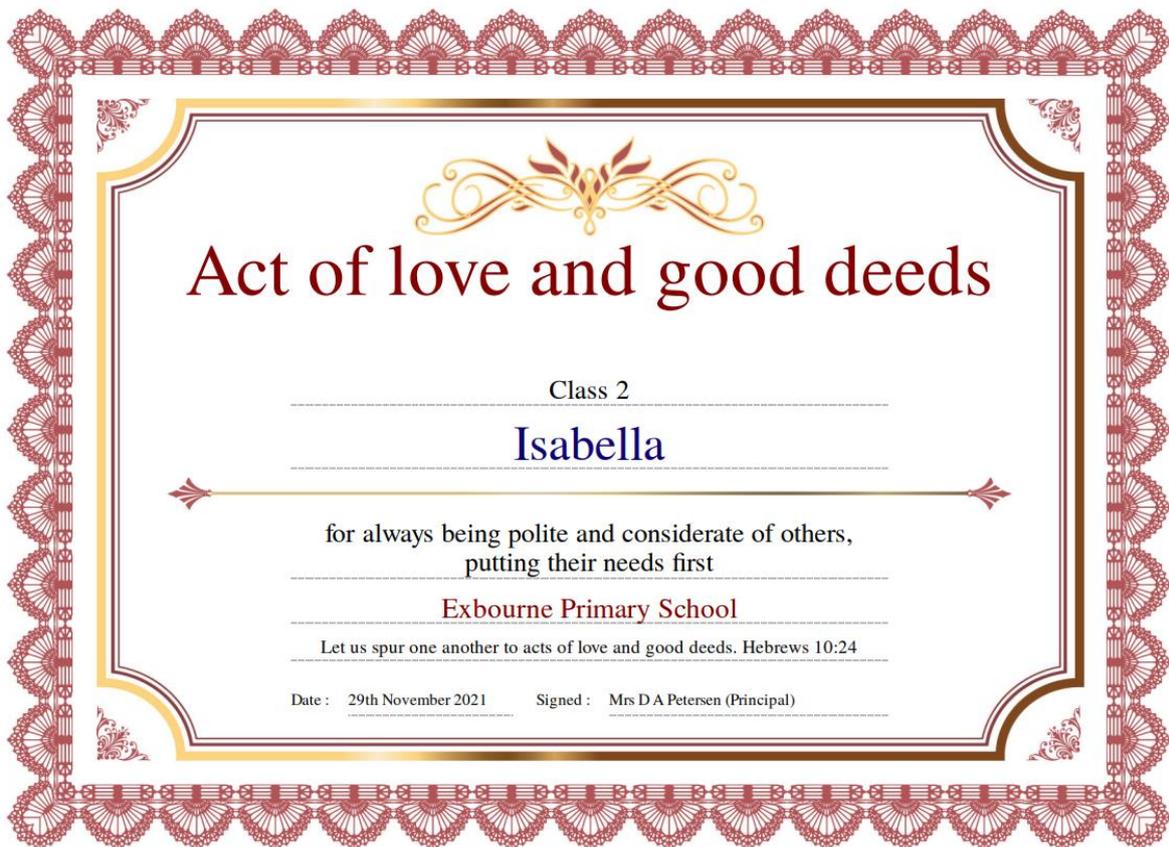
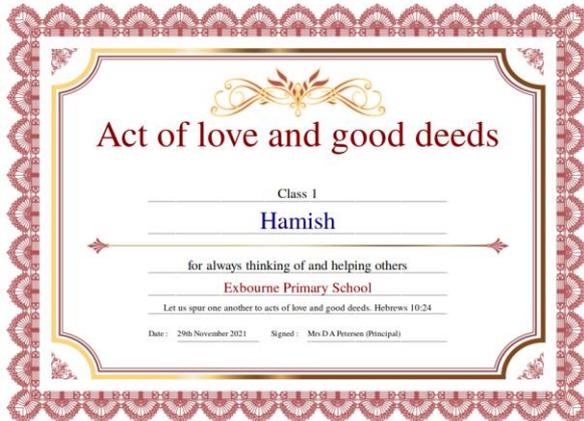
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Achievement Assembly

GOLDEN TICKET



'Let us spur one another to acts of love and good deeds' Hebrews 10:24



'Let us spur one another to acts of love and good deeds' Hebrews 10:24

Our values. Our promise. The SEEDSS of our transformation

