

PUPIL POST

19th December 2021
4th Sunday of Advent





Reception pretending they are different animals in gymnastics!



Final editing of Y2's 'Off to Bethlehem' ready for assembly on Wednesday), followed by general release to Y2 parents via email - watch out for it - you will love it!



Year 5 T began their final week with their Advent Prayer Service.



Two children from Reception O'Connor sharing a story in a hidey-hole.



The Bethlehem Donkey... Joseph's wife, Mary, rode on the donkey. They traveled to the little town of Bethlehem...

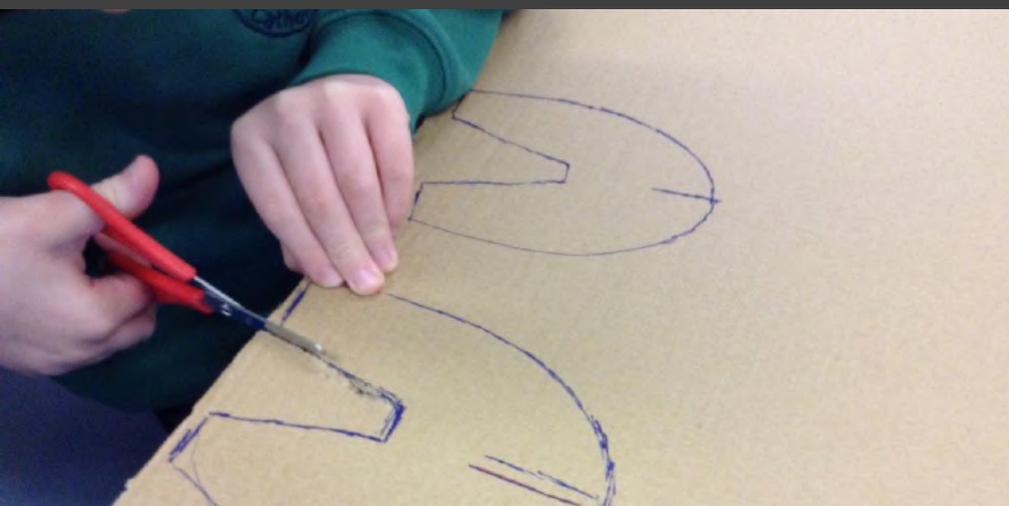


Taking on a role and ... enjoying a quiet moment...

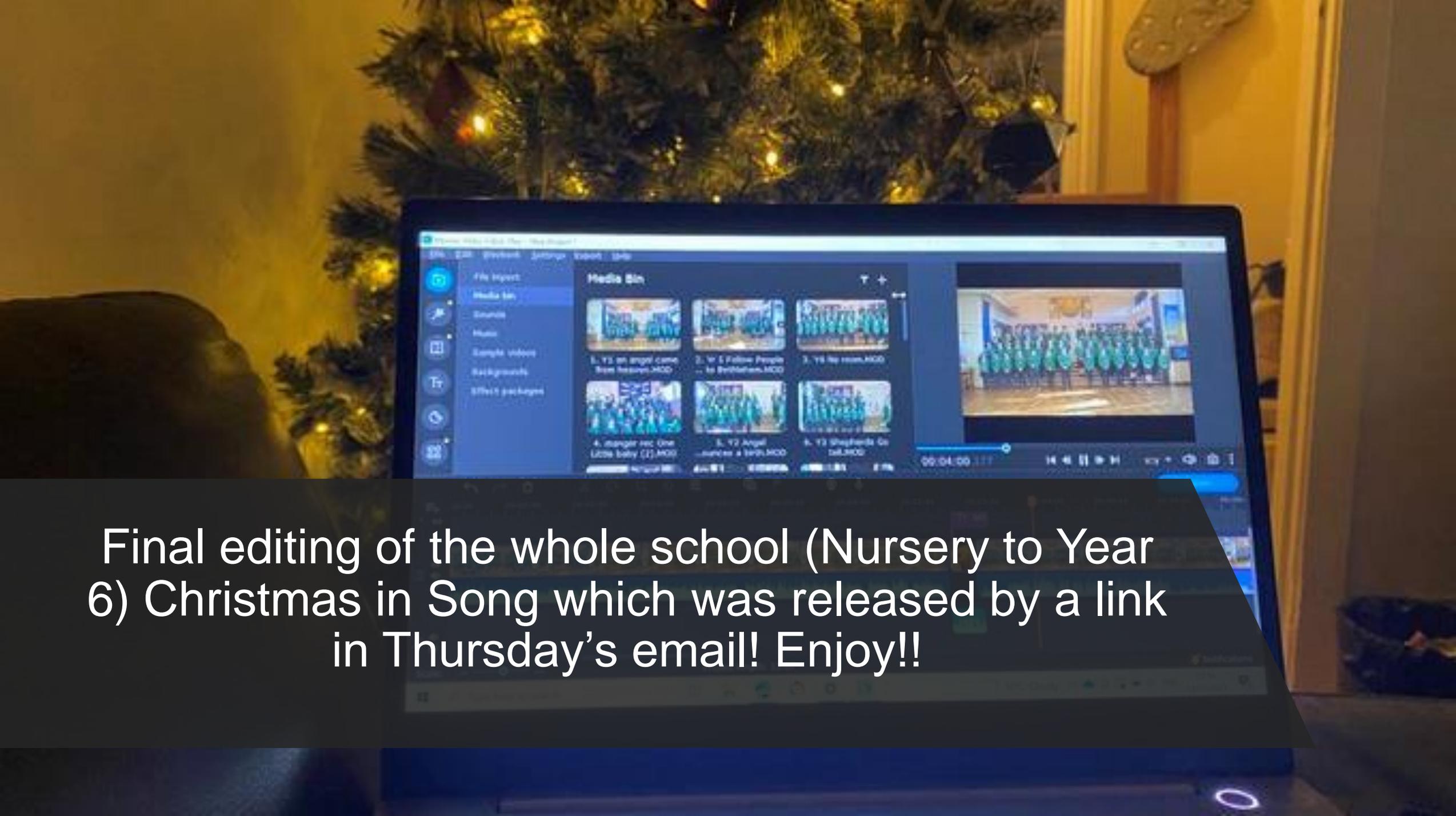


Buying gifts, wrapping them and placing them under our Christmas tree.

“Wrapping a camera!”



Lots of recycling craft activities took place in Year Six this week.

A laptop screen is shown in the foreground, displaying a video editing software interface. The interface includes a menu on the left with options like 'File Import', 'Media Bin', 'Sounds', 'Music', 'Complex videos', 'Backgrounds', and 'Effect packages'. The 'Media Bin' is active, showing a grid of video thumbnails. The thumbnails are labeled with song titles and file names: '1. Y1 an angel came from heaven.MOV', '2. Y1 & Follow People to Bethlehem.MOV', '3. Y1 No room.MOV', '4. Manger rec One Little baby (1).MOV', '5. Y1 Angel number 4 birth.MOV', and '6. Y1 Shepherds Go Tell.MOV'. A video player on the right shows a scene of children in green robes. The background of the image is a Christmas tree with warm white lights.

Final editing of the whole school (Nursery to Year 6) Christmas in Song which was released by a link in Thursday's email! Enjoy!!



All set for our final Wed
Word assembly of the
year with Y2 leading us in
their Nativity
performance.

Those learning from
home this week had a link
as usual to the assembly
in their Google Classroom
stream.

We had Gaudete to listen
to as we gathered.

£200 raised for the Catholic Children's Society by raffling four wonderful knitted figures courtesy of the talented Mrs Glover - 4 happy prize winners in assembly!





Party time in Year One!

The staff team & governors joined together with Mrs Sherry and her family to celebrate Mrs Sherry's retirement with an outdoor Christmas tea after school.

Bonne retraite!





Party time in Nursery!



Year Six enjoying the pantomime 'Aladdin' in class.



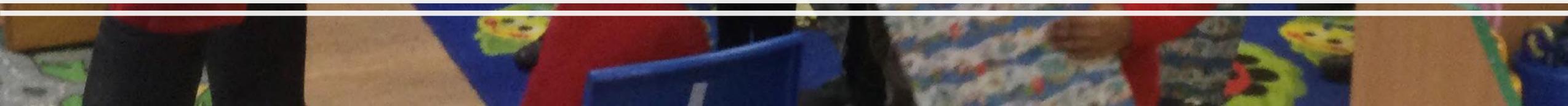
Year 3
showing off
their dance moves
for their
Christmas
party.



Pass the parcel was fun. Lots of squeals & cheering.
The children were so pleased when their classmates won a prize.
Well done to all the y3 pupils!

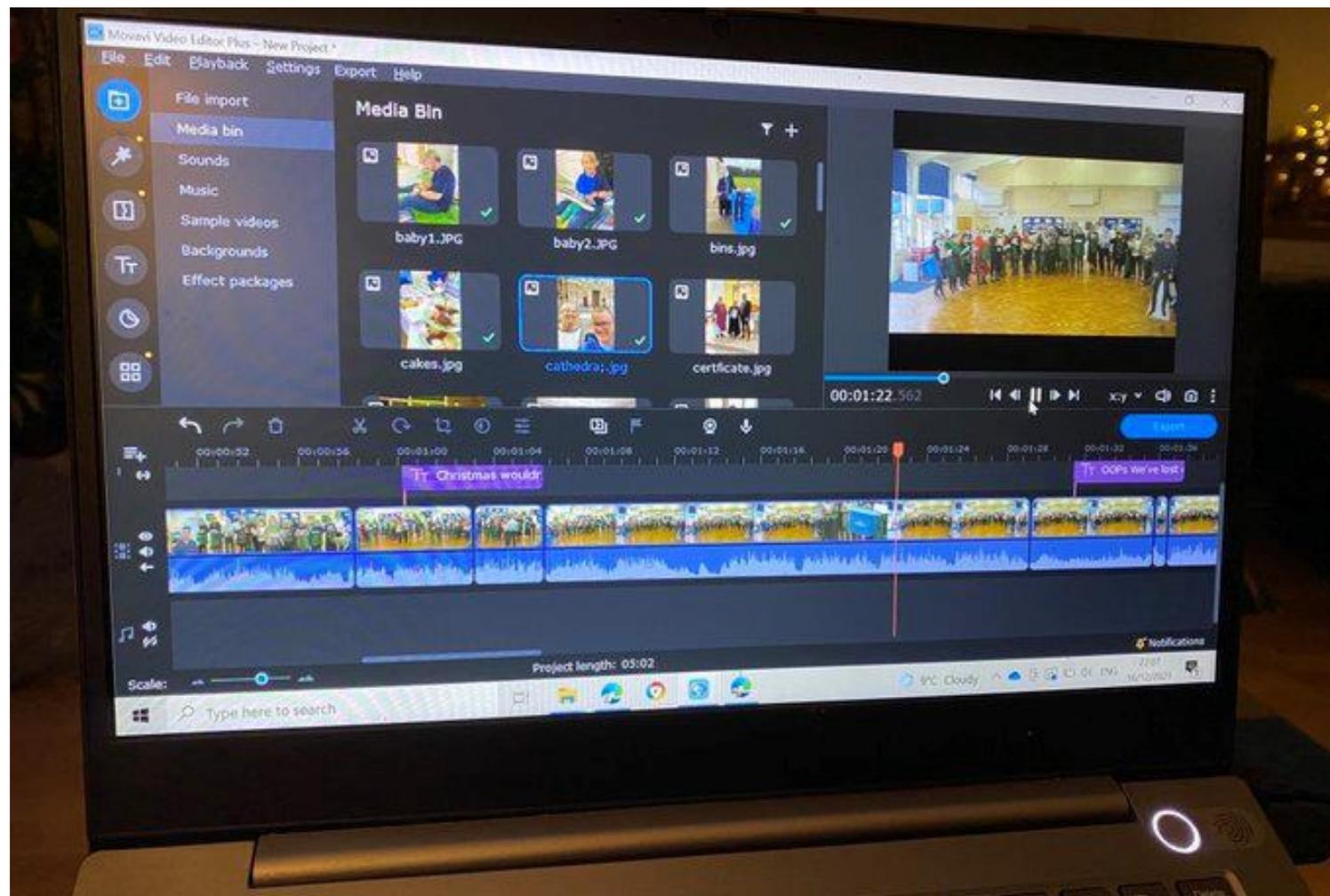


Excited faces!



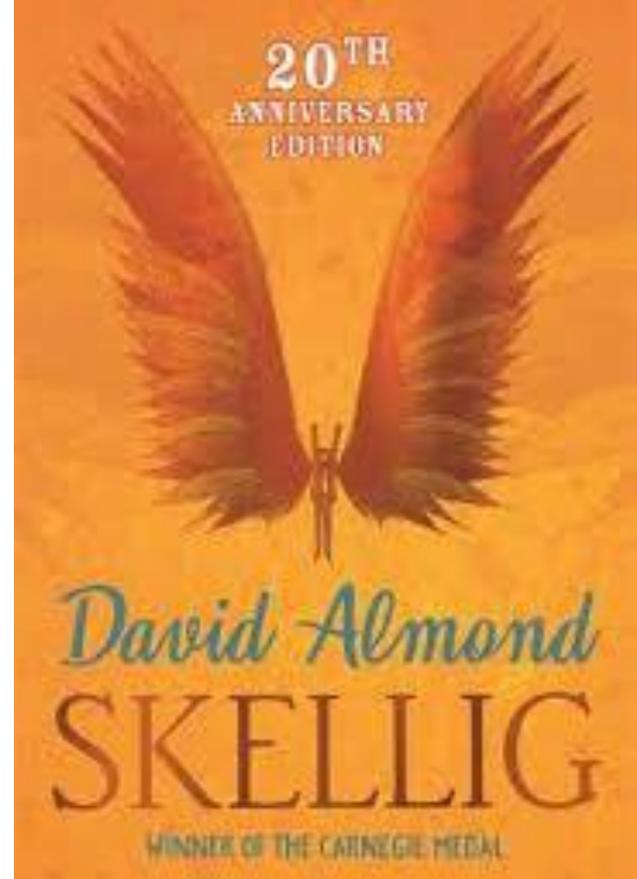
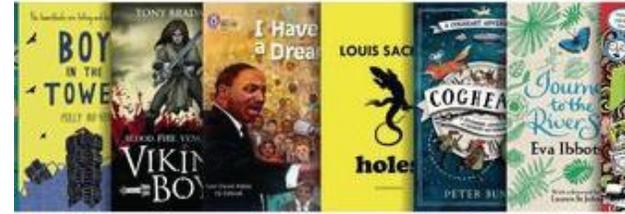
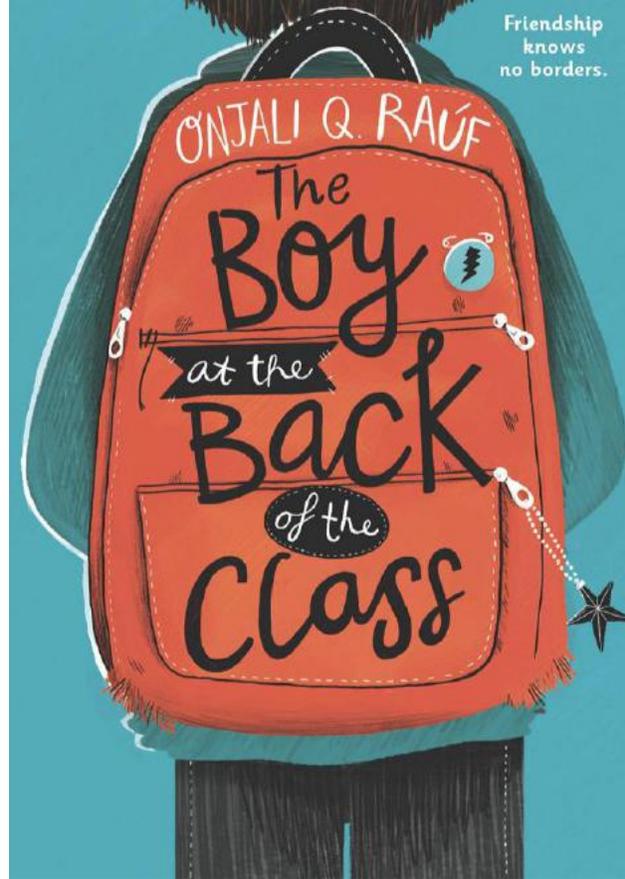


Amazing fun & games on Thursday in Year 5

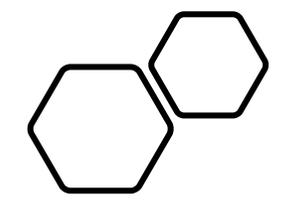


The final edit of the term was for Mrs Sherry ... we looked forward to sharing it with her in assembly.

Mrs Sherry was on the playground on Friday morning to say farewell!



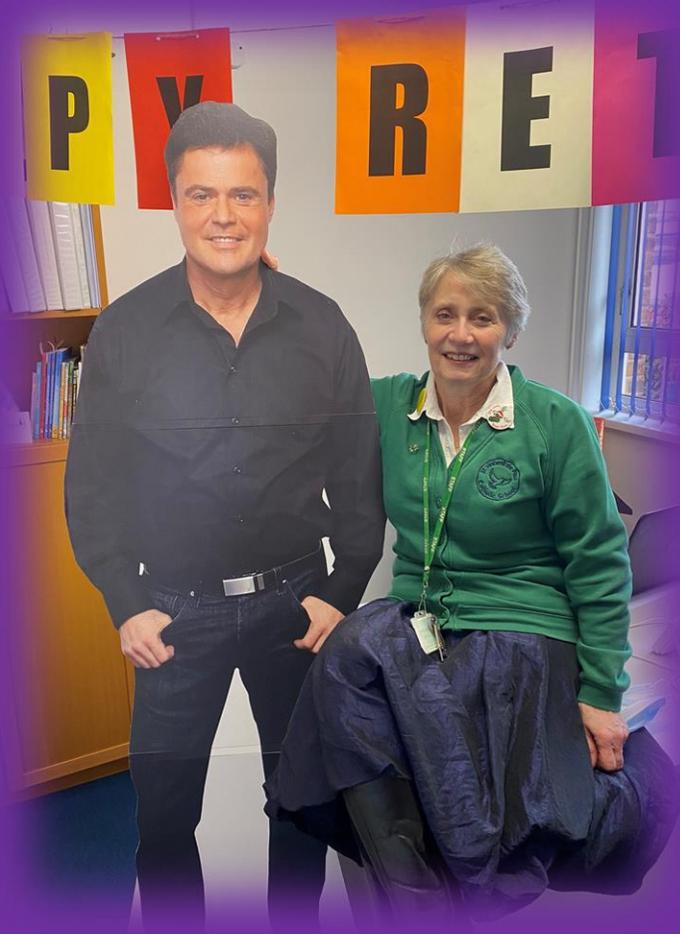
Y6T have read an incredible 106 books this half term, bringing our total up to 208 for the year!



Merry Christmas from Yr1.
The children have enjoyed making their Christmas centrepiece - a big thank you to Mrs Baker and Emily for supplying these great resources and showing us how to do it! Thank you!



Mrs Sherry had a special visitor to say farewell to her - the internet didn't allow our zoom assembly so we had to do things differently but all have wished the wonderful Mrs Sherry a happy retirement.





We are called to be the hands and face of Jesus as we learn, love and grow together

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17th December 2021

Dear parents and carers

Today we have reached the final day of the Autumn term and what a term it has been! I must take this opportunity to thank the entire staff team who have gone above and beyond each day to ensure that your children have the very best opportunities to learn whilst remaining safe and secure. I would also like to thank your children for their amazing commitment to their learning and to the sense of community this term - they have been amazing and are a credit to you! Finally, my thanks turn to parents and carers for your cooperation and consideration and for your support for the whole community. It has been hard not to have events where you are able to be present in school but we are hopeful that these times will come even if we have to wait a little longer than expected. Please do watch out for ParentMails over the Christmas period in case there are any changes to plans in relation to school operation in January

This week has been particularly busy with so many creative Christmas activities. The school is covered in sparkles (but no new glitter as one of our COP26 commitments!) and there is a beautiful sense of excitement and expectant joy as we travel through the school. This week saw some noisy Christmas party games in each class and all children have watched a lively virtual pantomime in their bubbles this week courtesy of the PSA.



We were sad not to be able to welcome you to our usual nativity play and our ever-popular Christmas in Song event again this year. On Wednesday Year 2 families will have received a link to their children's brilliant nativity and on Thursday all families will have received a One Drive link to our whole school 'Christmas in Song' video. I am sure that you will enjoy watching every moment of it!

Please keep these videos for your own personal use and do not share them beyond your home or do not have permission for this. This is why we are not sharing them via any social media platform.

Today the school community has paid tribute to **Mrs Sherry** who is retiring after clocking up an amazing service record:

- 30 years as a teacher
- 27 years teaching in Stevenage education (primary and secondary)
- 17 years (over two periods) at ST Vincent de Paul School
- 14 years as a Deputy Headteacher, including a stint as Acting Headteacher
- 21 years as a Governor (including 12 years at JHN) and a further 10 years as an ex-Deputy Governor whilst Deputy Head

Mrs Sherry was delighted this morning as parents and pupils gathered outside to wish her farewell before school; and although the internet didn't allow us all to join together for a zoom farewell was able to visit each class who presented her with beautiful handmade cards and a traditional blessing:

*May the Lord bless you and keep you, Mrs Sherry
May the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you
May the Lord turn His face towards you
And give you peace forever.
Amen*

Mrs Sherry even had a special famous visitor today!



We thank Mrs Sherry for everything that she has gifted to our school and the wider community many years. Mrs Sherry's legacy will live on - I have promised her this, not least in an annual 'Sherry Laudato Si' award which will be presented each Summer to an individual who has a great commitment to the environment. **Good luck and God bless you, Mrs Sherry!**

The Christmas newsletter has been sent via ParentMail.

On behalf of the staff team and the governors of the school, may I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. May the festive season for you mirror the beauty of the child in the manger and may your family be blessed with peace, happiness, love and joy. Thank you for your kind words, messages, gifts and cards - they have been much appreciated by all!



We look forward to welcoming everyone back after the Christmas break on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

May God bless you and those most dear to you.

Yours sincerely

Jon White
Headteacher



Thank you so much for the very generous donations to the Reverse Advent Giving project;

we are sharing them between the Foodshed and the St. Vincent de Paul Society, St Joseph's.

Congratulations to Mrs Sherry who received a Papal Blessing and a certificate recognising her outstanding service to Catholic Education from Westminster diocese Education service after Mass at St Joseph's.



In this final week of Advent, please read and reflect upon this Sunday's gospel about The Visitation

Mary had been told by an angel that she was to give birth to a son named Jesus. When she heard that her cousin, Elizabeth, was also going to have a baby, she went as quickly as she could to visit Elizabeth. Mary went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Elizabeth gave a loud cry and said to Mary, "Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For as soon as your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed are you for believing the promise made to you by the Lord."





VISITORS

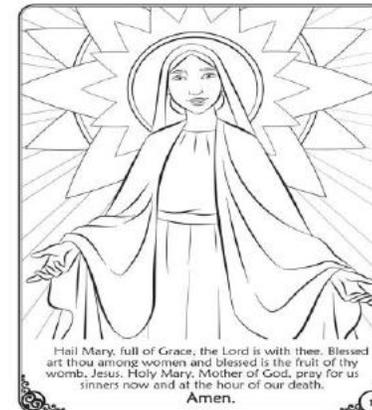


SCRIPTURE
Elizabeth said
“Of all women
you are the most blessed,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.”



TEACHING

Hail Mary



WORSHIP

Hail Mary

[Hail Mary - Gentle Woman - YouTube \(youtube-nocookie.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nocookie.com)



LIFE

Who comes to visit your home?

Who do you go and visit?

How do you feel when visitors come to your home
and spend time with you?

How does God feel when you visit church?