



Newbold Church of England Primary School

At Newbold we aim to support each other to live, learn and excel together as a Christian community.

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up," 1 Thessalonians 5:11

We aim for excellence - building self-confidence and independence so that children are happy and well-motivated; keen to question; inspire and embrace change. Through the Christian ethos of the school, we value difference, diversity, and grow together as a community of lifelong learners.

Living out our vision as a Church of England School

Autumn 2025



Collective Worship

During collective worship on 13.10.25 we talked to the school community about the importance of collective worship for our school. We looked at the new display which we can use to remind us that this is a time when we come together as a community to reflect on the good and bad in the world and in our lives and also explore different ideas. We should be trying to make changes and put these ideas into action when we leave the mobile to live out our lives each day.

To help us remember these ideas we are going to think about windows, mirrors and doors.

Here are the ideas that the groups thought of as to why we meet each day for collective worship:

Listen to God's Word
To pray
To learn something new
To gather as a community
So we can see each other
To worship God

To celebrate
Hearing stories
Serving
To worship
To talk and discuss
To share ideas

To think
To learn to treat others how you want to be treated
To learn our values
To be kind and caring
To help people



Collective Worship - Autumn 1

We always start our collective worship with children who are nominated as they are put into action our Christian values by lighting the candles. We all join together by saying 'As we come together today let us encourage and build one another up.' These same children blow out the candle at the end of collective worship and we say together, 'Lord help us to live, learn and excel together in our school.'

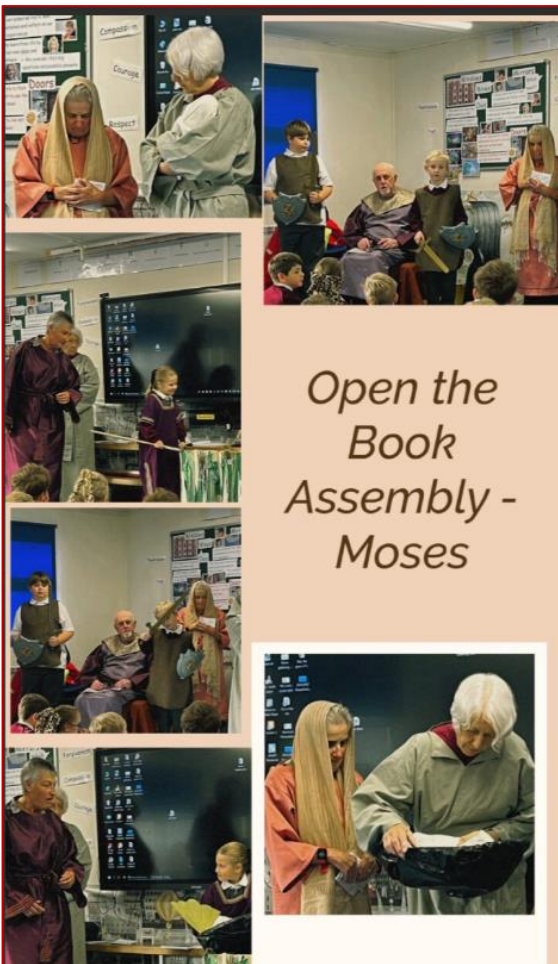


We continue to celebrate our end of week by celebrating achievements from outside school, the star of the week for each class, Happy Lunchtime champion and our mindset champions for the week.

This first half term we have been exploring the value of thankfulness, finding out about Job who trusted God when life was difficult and remembering that we need to be thankful for the world and people around us and our blessings which linked well to our harvest service. We also explored some of the stories from Genesis about creation, Noah and his ark and the tower of Babel. We have also started to explore British values of freedom and democracy.



*Open the
Book
Assembly -
Moses*



Collective Worship

What helps us reflect?

On Wednesday 15th October in collective worship, we discussed how reflection is an important part of collective worship when we are thinking about windows, mirrors and doors.

We discussed in our groups what we all thought was a helpful way to reflect.

- Looking at photos
- Go for a walk
- In bed
- Looking out of a window
- Walking in the woods
- Talking to an adult
- Listen to music
- Being outside
- On the trampoline
- Talk to friends
- Listening to God
- Prayers
- Reading
- When singing
- Looking at displays
- Deep breaths
- Sitting in the willow dome
- Visiting Coopers Cutting
- Listening to music with pictures
- Sitting still
- Lying on the astro turf
- Having space to think
- Close your eyes
- Calm music in the background
- Fidget spinning
- Drawing

Community Display



We were asked by St Matthews Church, Worthington to produce some artwork which showed 'What makes us happy...' The pictures were displayed in the church for their event and also for our school Harvest Festival. Afterwards we put them on display in school.

Harvest

On Friday, 26th September we celebrated our Harvest Festival at St Matthew's Church. We brought donations to give to Ashby Foodbank. We enjoyed singing our songs praising and thanking God for the harvest and for all those who provide food for us. Robins shared their favourite foods in a poem and Eagles cleverly used the letters from the word HARVEST to explain the importance of harvest with us. Christina talked to us too. It was lovely to see the church looking so beautifully decorated and our drawings on display.



Collective Worship Autumn 2

This half term we have explored the value of trust, not only being trustworthy and honest ourselves but also trusting our friends and trusting God's promises to us. We have learnt about some of Jesus' miracles and also some stories from the old testament Jacob and Esau, Moses, Gideon and Esther. During Advent we followed the Christmas Story through finding out about each of the different characters in turn.

We enjoyed our visits from the Open the Book team and also Vernon from Ashby Youth for Christ.



Mrs Hallam used her hairbrush to find out children's ideas during the Big Start assembly on Gideon.



Vernon visiting from Ashby Youth for Christ.

Minster Consultation



Questions the children answered at St Matthews Church Worthington:

What do we want to happen in the future in our church?

Jesus said 'Love each other in the same way I have loved you.' I think this means people should.....

Jesus said to His followers 'In my Father's house there are many rooms. I'm going to prepare a place for you!' I imagine.....

Where do you see God at work? Where do you see peace, love, joy, faith or hope?

If you could ask God one question what would it be?

Write your prayer or wish.

I can imagine the church in the future being brilliant. I can imagine..

Before our Harvest Festival service on Friday, 26th September we travelled to St Matthew's Church earlier than usual so that we could complete activities as part of the Minster Community Consultation process. The aim behind Minster Communities is to establish a sustainable and mission-focused foundation for the worshipping communities across our diocese. The Minster Communities framework was the product of the Shaped by God Together process and was approved by Diocesan Synod in October 2021.

The whole diocese is now involved in the Minster Community formation process with areas at different stages.

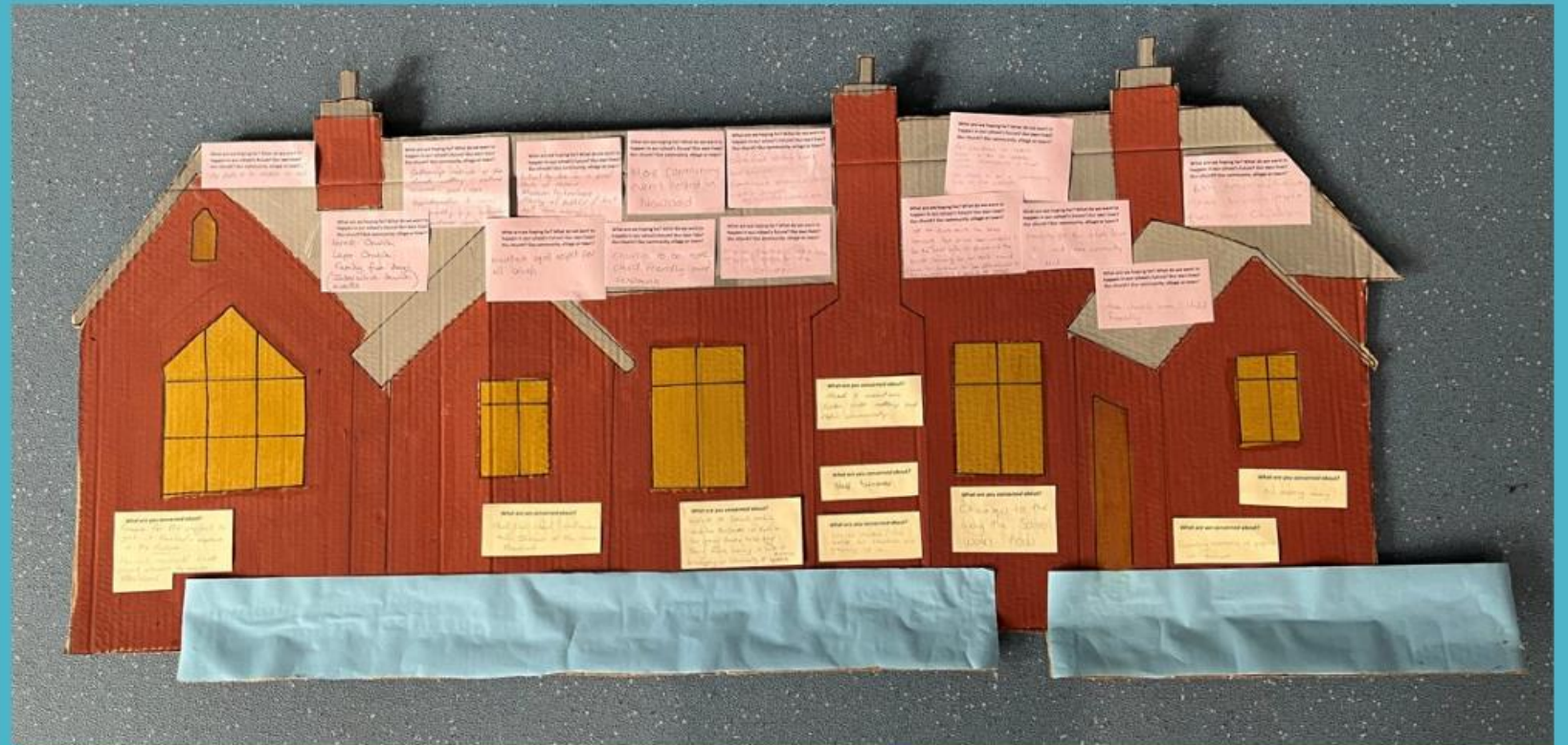
We talked together about the different questions we were asked to answer and then wrote our individual answers on different post its to make this picture of St Matthews Church.

During a later assembly both the adults and children worked in groups to answer the question How do we see God at work in our school?

Minster Consultation continued...

On October 31st we invited the parents and wider community into school so that they could also be involved in the process. We asked them What are your worries for the school? and What are you hopeful for? Ms Hitchman and Mrs Greening have put all the contributions together to send them off to the Minster Community.

Newbold CE Primary School Community



St Matthews Tree Festival

This year Robins took on the task of decorating the tree for St Matthew's Church Christmas Tree Festival. We took the theme of We Three Kings.

Mrs Mack visits school on Fridays to help us with our Art and DT so she helped us all to sew either a camel, star or crown for the tree. We then added some presents we had made as part of our craft afternoon.

The trees go on display for a few weeks in the lead up to Christmas for the local community to enjoy.



School Clubs

After school clubs have continued on four nights a week.

Autumn 1 2025

Monday: Remote control cars

Tuesday: Art

Wednesday: Drama

Thursday: Multi Sports

Autumn 2

Monday: Mini

Tuesday: Art

Wednesday: Drama

Thursday: Multi Sports

Reading Rewards

We continued to give the children rewards for their home reading. It is great to see the children coming up excitedly to receive their prizes and their determination to reach the next level to receive the next reward.



RE Today Article

We were very excited to have some of our RE work published in the RE Today Autumn magazine. Last term the pupils in Owls and Robins helped trial activities using case studies in our RE Lessons. Our work was published to support other teachers in working in this way.



Robins Autumn 1

We welcomed the new Reception children to Robins this term and they have been getting used to being in school and exploring the topic All About Me. Reception have already started learning their sounds and learning new number concepts together. They have talked about people who can help them both at school and at home and told us about their families and homes. They have produced some lovely artwork using pencil, paint and pastels. They have also started to learn how to ride the bikes safely with Mrs Farmer and this will continue throughout the year.

This half term Robins have been enjoying learning how to play target games in PE and improving their fundamental skills. They have also been practising how to keep a steady beat to music and listen for changes so they know when to change speed.

In RE we have been learning about what it is like to belong to different communities. We acted out a Christian Christening and learnt about the ways that a Muslim family would welcome a baby into their family.



Robins Autumn 1

Mastering number is now being taught to all of the class in separate groups each week. This allows them to focus on learning their basic maths concepts and helping them to be able to explain different ideas.

KS1 have been exploring the topic of School Day. We have been very interested to find out some of the history of our school and we are very grateful to the Newbold Heritage group for the information they have on their site and the boards they put up around the village. We found out lots of information from a memoir of a past headteacher John Stacey which gave us a little insight. We were surprised by the number of children who came to this school in the past and that there was a bell rope hanging down inside one of the classrooms.

In DT we have been exploring building shelters. We started by putting up Mrs Greening's tent, practised our knot making skills and then made our prototypes and designed our shelters. It was fun making our own shelter in Cooper's Cutting.

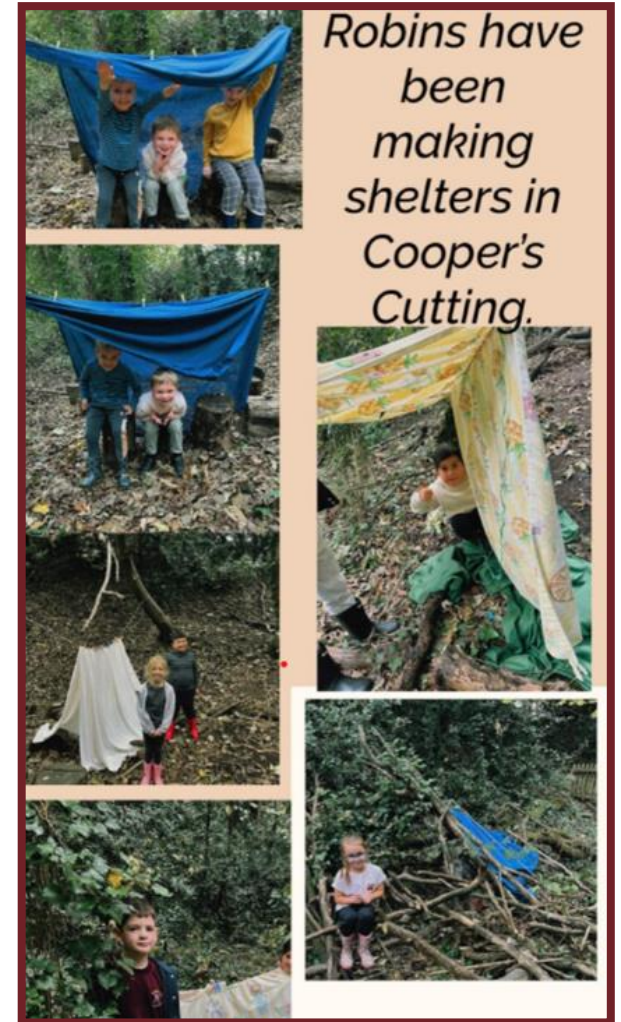
We have been exploring materials, including how they change which has led to use melting chocolate to make crispy cakes and making our own jelly and ice cream.



Robins Autumn 1

We have carried out experiments to see which materials are waterproof. You may have seen a lot of chalk markings in the playground as the class explored making shadows and practised using a compass to give directions.

We have been working on finishing different stories this term and enjoyed having to use our imagination to decide what happens when we pull the switch hanging from the sky and also entering the door we find in the mountain. It has been great to hear everyone's ideas.



Swans Autumn 1

This term, we have welcomed Miss Ford and Miss Iontton to Owls and Eagles as final year teaching students. We are delighted to have their support, albeit for a brief time.

In KS2, we have begun to understand a little more about the World Wars. After learning about the key events that begun and ended WWI, we have looked the impact this had on the beginning of WWII.

We have been lucky to welcome Mr Sims and Mrs Farmer, who have shared some family memorabilia from a soldier's and an evacuee's perspective.

Many of the class have been inspired to bring items in from home to share and talk about. Thank you to all who have contributed to our learning.

Our English lessons have allowed us to explore this point in history more – with stories based in a historical setting, based on Goodnight Mister Tom by Michelle Magorian and non-fiction, based on Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll.

In science, we are learning about how light travels, in preparation for an investigation into what material makes the best black out curtains.



Robins Autumn 2

As we come to the end of this long autumn term we can look back on many exciting activities. The Christmas nativity has taken up a lot of our time and I am sure you are proud of the children for working so hard and enthusiastically to retell the Christmas story of Everyone Loves a Baby. It has been great to have Miss Green with us this term and we are very grateful to her for all her hard work in Robins. She has moved onto another school for the spring term but the good news is that she will return for her final placement in the summer term. We have enjoyed exploring space travel this term with Reception flying to the moon in their cardboard boxes and KS1 writing their own stories based on the Space Dog Book by Mini Grey. We have also found out about the history of space travel and this has helped us to understand timelines and find out about Neil Armstrong and his life.



Robins Autumn 2

Mrs Mack came into school each week to help us to sew a felt decoration for the Christmas tree at St Matthew's Church, Worthington. Ms Hitchman put our ornaments on the tree for us to represent the theme of the carol We Three Kings. Hopefully we will have these returned to us so that you can see their sewing and keep it for your own Christmas trees. We also joined in with a virtual lesson on Chanukah and then went on to find out more about the Jewish festival. This was our final lesson for the half term and we have been finding out how Jewish people live. It has been good to see the progress the children are making in their reading and writing and becoming much more independent.

In maths, alongside number we have started to learn to name 2D and 3D shapes which they found quite challenging and also telling the time which is a difficult skill. In PSHE we have been talking about our emotions and anti-bullying. We have been practising putting some of the things we have learnt into practice. I think we particularly enjoyed the lesson on relaxing!!



Swans Autumn 2

This half term, KS2 have had the pleasure of supporting Miss Ford and Miss Iontton on their journeys to become primary school classroom teachers.

Following a history theme, we have written historical narratives in English which include flashbacks to events in WWII and persuasive texts to encourage people to use blackout blinds and make the most of rations available. We have written diary entries from the point of view of an evacuee and recounts from the perspective of a Jewish child that had escaped on the Kindertransport to the UK. Both of these pieces of writing were based on our Class text - Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll.



Swans Autumn 2

In Science we have finished our investigations into which type of materials make good blackout blinds. As well as learning about key events and people of WWII.

In DT we learnt about the 'make do and mend' movement. During the war, people were encouraged to repair, reuse and repurpose clothing due to severe rationing and war time shortages. The children have practised a range of simple stitches culminating in the production of a sewn fabric bookmark.

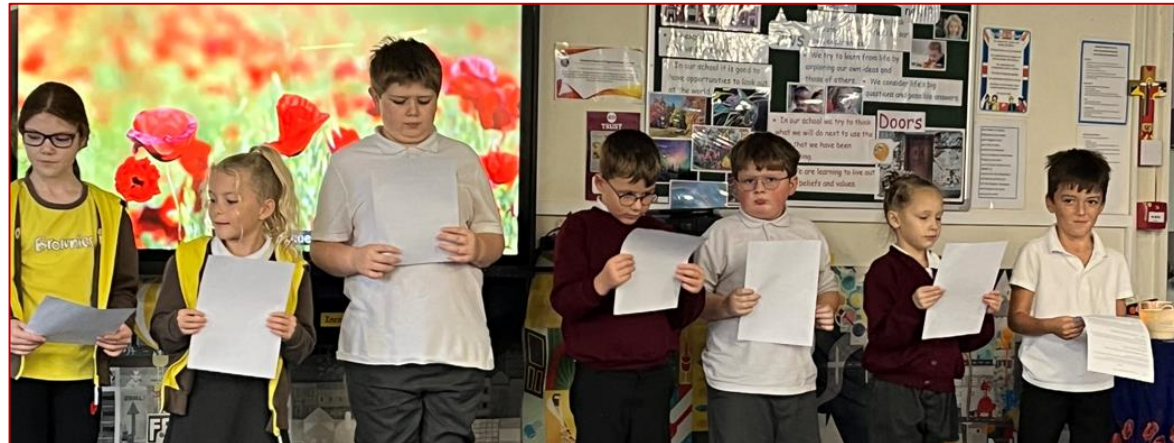
To end our World War II topic, we enjoyed a whole school themed activity day to bring together all that we have learnt.

To supplement this theme, we have investigated what features can be inherited by passing on genetic information and the benefits of this in relation to natural and artificial selection. We have also looked at fossils to see how they are used to tell us about evolution over a long period of time.

In English, we have also studied poetry, writing our own, self-reflective poem.

Remembrance Day

On November 11th 10.30-11.05am we met together with parents and the wider community for an act of Remembrance. Christina Walmsley joined us from St Matthew's Church to take part. Some of the Swans took part in talking about the meaning of Remembrance Day and saying prayers and readings. Christina told us a little about the symbolism of the poppy and read the poem In Flanders Fields by John McCrae. We spent two minutes in silence at 11.00am.



Anti-Bullying Week

From 10th-14th November we focused on thinking about what we can do to ensure that everyone feels safe in our school. The theme this year focused on how we can actively use our Power for Good, and what we can do to stop bullying.

On the Monday we all wore odd socks. There's a serious message behind the fun: let's pull on odd socks to show we're ALL unique and different, and let's be kind to each other and respect each other's individuality.

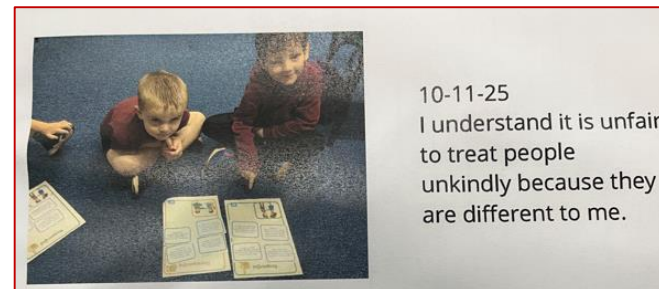
Do we treat others as we would want to be treated?

We watched the live lesson from 2024 about treating others with respect.

In PSHE the different classes are looking at units which explore anti-bullying.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/live-lessons/articles/ztfxb7h>



<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2025/anti-bullying-week-2025>

Children in Need

On Friday 14th November the children came into school dressed up and brought in donations so we could raise money for Children in Need.



Community Lunch

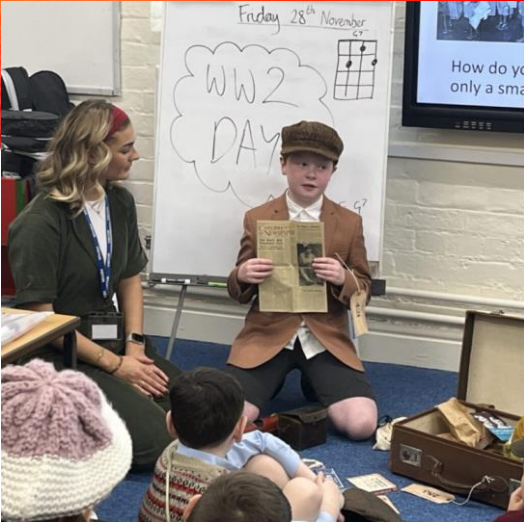


On Wednesday, 5th November we again welcomed members of the local community into lunch. Some of the Eagles helped to serve the delicious meal that Julie had prepared. It was good to spend time together.

In December we introduced a new kind of community lunch and invited grandparents to join us for lunch. It was special to have lots of grandparents eating with their grandchildren.

World War 2 Day

On Friday 28th November our Student teachers took responsibility for leading a whole school experience day about World War two as KS2 had been finding out about it in there lessons. Everyone came in dressed for the theme and spent the day taking parts in lots of different activities. It was a great way to celebrate KS2's learning and share lots of information about the era.



Christmas Fundraising

Throughout December we brought in donations for the foodbank as part of our reverse calendar.

As well as a chocolate in the advent calendar this year robins had a little book for each day that told a little of the Christmas story each day.

We raised £27.50 for Save the Children by wearing our Christmas jumpers to school on Friday 12th December.



Robins entered the Christmas Card design competition for the Leicester DBE.



Chanukah

9th December

The whole school joined the Jewish Museum for an online live broadcast based around Chanukah. They told the children about the story behind Chanukah and some of the ways Jewish people celebrate. We had a vote on our favourite food.



Robins Nativity

Tuesday 2nd December
2pm & 6pm



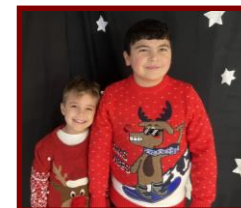
Welcome to our
Nativity 2025

Everyone Loves a Baby

By Mark and Helen Johnson



Everyone loves a baby. Well *nearly* everyone. The normally cheerful children of a Bethlehem innkeeper aren't so sure about babies – their newly-born brother is very noisy and a bit smelly. Heading off to see their friend, the children discover news of a special and unusual baby about to be born... baby Jesus. Will they end up liking babies after all?



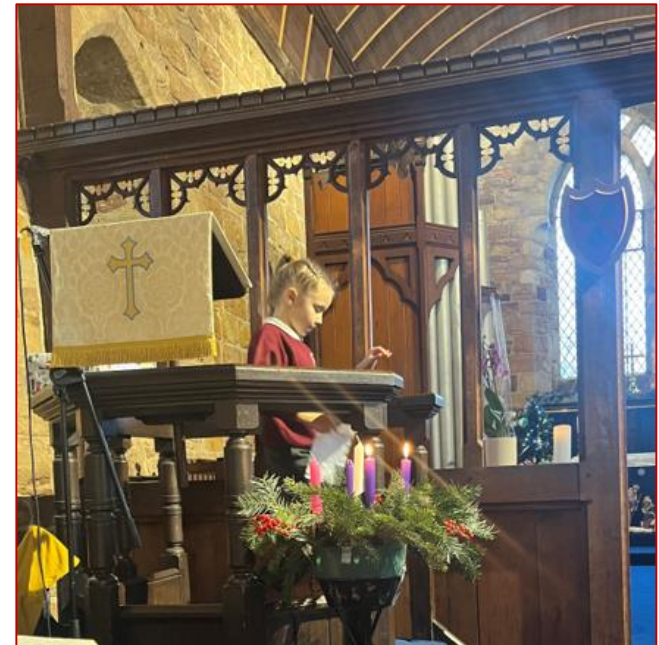
Community Christmas Decoration Making

On Friday, 5th December the wider school community were invited to come into school and take make Christmas decorations together. Everyone went home with lots of pieces of craft, and we also had some to sell at the school fayre.



Christmas Service at St Matthew's Church, Worthington

On Thursday, 11th December we invited our wider school community to St Matthew's Church for our Christmas carol service. We sang Come and Join the Celebration and This Child together. Robins sang Angels Singing, a song from their nativity and Swans gave a presentation on the work of the Salvation Army. The whole theme was about love and welcoming others this Christmas. We finished with singing the Benediction song to everyone which is a prayer. Mrs Walmsley then talked to us and also gave a present to Mr and Mrs Greening as they prepare for their next adventure in Norfolk.



Christmas at Newbold

Friday, 12th December was a busy day at Newbold. We had Christmas Jumper Day, our Christmas dinner and FONS organised our Christmas Fayre to raise money for the school. Thank you to our cook Julie and the FONS team for all your hard work.



Christmas at Newbold



On Friday mornings we are happy to welcome our parent and carers with their pre-school children to Little Ducklings. Mrs Farmer runs the session weekly session. As well as playing with the toys everyone enjoys refreshments, crafts and singing together.

St Matthew's church Worthington gave us bags of Christingles to make at home.



Christmas at Newbold

On the morning of Wednesday, 17th December the whole school went to see the pantomime in Diseworth, Jack and the Beanstalk. In the afternoon we had fun, dancing, competitions and games at our Christmas Party.

On the last day of term, the children arrived to find a knitted Santa for them hanging on the fence. Thank you to the Secret Santa who provided these for the children.



End of Term Achievement Assembly



On Friday 19th December we had our final achievement assembly of 2025. The Owls played Jingle Bells on their ukeleles and the children who have music lessons performed to the wider community. There was also a child chosen as the star of the term from each key stage and a winner for the John Burnett cup. After 13 years at Newbold we said goodbye to Mrs Greening and wished her well for the future in Norfolk.



The happy lunchtime champions had lunch with Ms Hitchman.