



December 2025

Rowsley C of E Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful time of year it is in school! Christmas always brings such joy and excitement, and it's been lovely to hear the children singing carols around the building. Our infants were busy preparing for their nativity, and the whole school is filled with a cheerful buzz as we move closer to the festive season. It truly is a pleasure to share in this special time with our school community.

The whole school had the pleasure of watching the school nativity 'The Christmas Bake-Off' in their dress rehearsal. It was a wonderful and entertaining performance which we all enjoyed - I even got a Hollywood handshake! Thank you to all the staff involved especially Miss Lindley and Mrs Isherwood - it's no mean feat pulling off a polished performance.



What is going on in school?

The Julia Donaldson Class (EYFS, Y1 & Y2)

This half term, the Reception children have been learning all about seasons. In English, they have been learning the story of We're Going on a Bear Hunt. They have been exploring adventurous vocabulary, practicing writing simple sentences and experiencing sensory activities. They loved going through the deep, cold river and the swishywashy grass. The children have produced some beautiful writing!



The Judith Kerr Class (Y3 & Y4)

Judith Kerr class have done a brilliant job learning about the Romans this half term. Our trip to Buxton was a great success, with children learning about the influences of Roman architecture, getting to watch a puppet show and even trying out virtual reality headsets. The children also sampled Buxton Spring water, to mixed reviews! The class have also been doing a super job learning about rocks and soils in science, including sorting different rock samples. In core subjects, the class have worked really hard throughout the term but have made particularly good progress with their knowledge of grammar and their handwriting - well done Judith Kerr class!



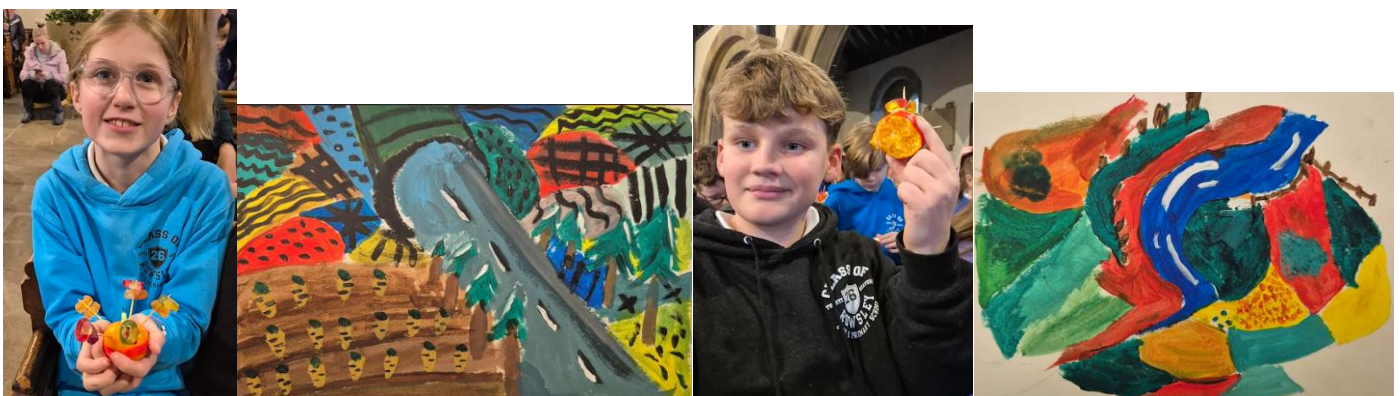
The Joseph Coelho Class (Y5 & Y6)

I am always really proud of the children in my class. It is great to teach such entertaining and engaging children.

This half term, the children have really enjoyed our art unit on colour. We learned about Van Gogh, Monet and David Hockney. The children recreated paintings in the style of these artists and completed the unit with their own ideas using the techniques we have been learning about.

They have been writing all about the evolutionary changes of the peppered moth and learning about marine iguanas.

A big thank you to the PTFA from all our Y6s who received their Leavers' hoodies this week. This year we changed things up a bit and allowed the children to choose their own colours. It is wonderful to see them looking so bright and colourful.



Pantomime

The children had a truly magical time on our whole-school trip to see Aladdin at the pantomime in Buxton! From the moment the curtain went up, everyone was captivated by the colourful costumes, lively music and lots of laugh-out-loud moments. The children especially loved joining in with the songs, cheering for the heroes and booing the villain! It was a wonderful shared experience for the whole school and created lots of happy memories that the children have been excitedly talking about ever since.

Christingle

This is one of my favourite services and this year's did not disappoint. Our Christingle service is a very special and meaningful occasion for the whole school. The children took part thoughtfully and respectfully as they learned about the symbols of the Christingle — the orange representing the world, the candle for Jesus as the light of the world, the red ribbon for love, and the sweets for kindness and generosity. The service was filled with beautiful singing and quiet reflection, helping everyone to think about hope, care for others and the true meaning of Christmas. It was a lovely time for our school community to come together and share this special tradition. Thank you to all who attended. I hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. I would also like to thank Steve Bagnall from Church in the Peak for his engaging talk. I am confident that the secret of the jelly babies will be shared. A huge well done to Poppy and Ellie for their fantastic performance of 'Walking in the Air' on the piano.



Breakfast Club

Please be aware that Breakfast Club starts at 8am and breakfast is served until 8.40am. Due to staff needing to be outside with the children, and the classroom needing to be set up for the day, we cannot serve breakfast after this time. Children are welcome after 8.40am but we cannot give them breakfast after this time.

Safeguarding at Rowsley CofE Primary

🎄 Keeping Everyone Safe This Christmas 🎄

As we enjoy the festive season, it's important to remember that *safeguarding* — keeping children and families safe from harm — is something we all share responsibility for, all year round. If you ever have concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child or adult, please don't hesitate to speak up. You don't need to be certain — just worried — and support is available even during the Christmas holidays.

📞 Important contacts for Derbyshire:

- **Call Derbyshire (Children's and Adult Safeguarding):** 01629 533190 — available 24/7 for urgent concerns about a child or adult at risk.
- **Derbyshire Police (non-emergency):** 101 — for concerns that aren't immediate emergencies.
- **Emergency services:** 999 — if someone is in immediate danger
- **NSPCC Helpline:** 0808 800 5000 — for free advice about child protection concerns.
- **Childline:** 0800 1111 — children and young people can talk confidentially to trained counsellors.

You can also always email myself (c.hewitt@peaktorfederation.co.uk) or Mrs Wyer (a.wyer@peaktorfederation.co.uk) should you feel you need support. Please keep these numbers somewhere safe and share them with family and friends — together we can look out for each other and make this Christmas a happy and secure time for all. ❤️

Carols in the Community

A big **thank you** to Mrs Hodgson for giving up her lunchtimes to practise with and organise our school choir — her dedication is greatly appreciated. On Wednesday 10th December, the choir visited Peak Village to sing for our local community. The event was very well attended, and we would like to thank everyone who came along to support us, and who donated to the PTFA. Adding to the magic of the occasion, a beautiful rainbow appeared while the children were singing, making it a moment we will remember for a long time.



Christmas Crib Service

All are welcome at the Christmas Crib Service at St Katherine's Church, Sunday 21st December at 2pm. Thank you to those who have volunteered to read at this lovely service.

PTFA

Thank you to the PTFA for the Christmas Fair, which was really well-attended (especially the chocolate tombola). It takes a lot of time and effort to set up these events for the children so a huge thank you to all the members for giving up their time to make this event so special.

Thank you to the PTFA for the Y6 Hoodies. They look amazing. The PTFA pay for all the hoodies so there is no cost for parents/carers.

Other items funded by the PTFA this term include new toys for the wraparound care clubs and travel for two school trips.

Every penny raised by the PTFA goes back into supporting or providing treats for every child in school, and we are enormously grateful for their efforts and the difference they make to our pupils. Thank you also to the parents, carers and other members of the school community who donate to the PTFA and attend events.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Details
January		
Monday 5 th Jan	School Re-opens	Everyone back to school.
Friday 23 rd Jan	Y3/4 Drumming Concert	2.15pm in the Village Hall. Year 3/4 parents/carers invited.
February		
Friday 13 th Feb	School Closes	End of Half Term
Monday 23 rd Feb	School Re-opens	School re-opens

And finally...

The staff at Rowsley CofE wish you all a very 'Merry Christmas' and we wish you all the best for 2026.

The school newsletter can be found on our school website and diary dates are on the school website calendar.

If you have any queries or questions, please do speak to us or arrange a meeting. You can email the school at info@rowsley.derbyshire.sch.uk or email myself at c.hewitt@peaktorfederation.co.uk

If you would like a paper copy of the newsletter, please let me know and this can be arranged.

Live 'life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10b)

Claire Hewitt

Deputy Head Teacher