



• Respect • Responsibility • Relationships • Resilience

Working together to be the best that we can be

# Hollydale News

**Hollydale Newsletter 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful term, full of exciting and enriching learning opportunities for the children. A real highlight was the Christmas performance at the church last Thursday, which showcased the children's hard work and confidence so beautifully. Thank you to all parents and carers for your support with costumes. It was very much appreciated. Well done to all the children and staff for their dedication and effort throughout the term. A special well done also goes to the choir for their brilliant performances at Tooley Street and Waterloo Station. You represented the school wonderfully.

### **Winter Fair – Thanks to our PTA Friends of Hollydale**

Thank you to the Friends of Hollydale for your fantastic organisation of the Winter Fair. It was a wonderful event that brought our community together and created a festive atmosphere for everyone to enjoy. Thanks to your hard work and dedication an amazing £1,300 was raised which will make a real difference to the school and our children. We are incredibly grateful for the time, effort and care you put into making these events such a success.

### **Breakfast Club Visit Feedback**

We were delighted to receive very positive feedback following a recent visit to our Breakfast Club from Fariyah Choudhury, Public Health Policy and Programme Officer and School Meals Transformation Programme Lead. During her visit, Fariyah praised the club for being well organised, welcoming and clearly enjoyed by our pupils. She was particularly impressed with the range of healthy food options available, noting that the menu meets School Food Standards and includes items such as fresh fruit, beans, eggs, wholemeal bread and low sugar cereals.

We are proud that our Breakfast Club continues to develop and make healthy improvements over time, ensuring pupils start the day nourished and ready to learn. We have also been invited to support future guidance sessions as part of the government's free breakfast club rollout, sharing our good practice with other schools. Thank you to the Breakfast Club team for their continued commitment and hard work.

### **Christmas Events**

On Thursday 18th December, it will be Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas lunch. Children should wear a Christmas jumper with the rest of their school uniform.

Friday 19th December will be an own clothes day. School will close promptly at 1.00 pm on this day. Please ensure you arrive on time to collect your child, as there will be no after school club available. Any family with a child remaining at school after this time will be charged a late collection fee for each child.

### **End of Term**

School will close promptly at 1.00 pm on Friday 19 December 2025. Please ensure you arrive on time to collect your child, as there will be no after school club available on that day. Any family with a child remaining at school after this time will be charged a late collection fee for each child.

I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. **School resumes on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 8.55am sharp.**

Best wishes,  
Ms Reid - Headteacher

### **Thought of the Week**

Happiness is the  
foundation of learning.  
Anonymous



## Important dates for your diary

<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>	Breakfast and after school club resume
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>	Enrichment clubs resume

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – INSET DAY. School is closed for pupils.**

Spring term - Tuesday 6th January 2026 –  
Friday 13th February 2026

## Attendance and Punctuality



How quickly another week has flown by!  
This year we are aiming for an attendance **target of 97%**.

Please note the following:

- 100% Attendance - 0 Days Missed - **Excellent**
- 95% Attendance - 9 Days of Absence, 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed - **Satisfactory**
- 90% Attendance - 19 Days of Absence, 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed - **Poor**
- 85% Attendance - 28 Days of Absence, 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed - **Very Poor**
- 80% Attendance - 38 Days of Absence, 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed – **Unacceptable**

Class	Attendance	Punctuality - Number of Lates
Cherry	97%	2
Elm	95%	3
Cedar	94%	1
Oak	95%	1
Birch	96%	2
Hazel	97%	2
Willow	97%	1

## Class Catch Up!

This past week, YR Cherry Class have been consolidating their maths learning about shapes by using lots of different shapes to create festive artwork.





In Oak Class (Year 3), we have been exploring rainforests as part of our topic lessons. We enjoyed learning about the different layers within rainforests and why they are so important.

Leamen, Peter & Kynng

able to write about rainforests

Tuesday 18th November 2025

LQ: Can I describe features of the layers of the rainforest?

Steps to Success	Mo	CT	Key Vocabulary: emergent layer, canopy layer, understorey, forest floor
I can describe the different features of the different layers of the rainforest.	✓	✓	
I can explore the animals living in the different layers and why they live there.	✓	✓	

Work completed: Independently, TA support, T support, Groups or Pairs  
Resources used: dual-coded word bank, sentence starters

# Rainforests

1) What is a rainforest

There are so many rainforests in countries. Rainforests are large forests that have tall trees. In the rainforest, rainforests has four layers. Rainforests are one of the hot places on the world.

2) The Emergent Layer

The Emergent layer is the top of the rainforests like Beltses. Emergent layer is the top layers of the another there.

3) The Canopy

The canopy is below the emergent layer the canopy layer has some animals like monkeys and sloths, howler. This is a home to most of the animals and plants of the rainforest.





4) The Understorey

The understorey is below the canopy layer the understorey layer has some animals like gorillas, snakes, ~~snakes~~.

5) The Forest Floor

The Forest Floor is a floor there are so many animals in the floor like slugs, scorpions and worms.

What animals might you find in the emergent layer?  
toucans and sloths







LQ: Can I describe features of the layers of the rainforest?

Steps to Success	Mo	CT	Key Vocabulary: emergent layer, canopy layer, understorey, forest floor
I can describe the different features of the different layers of the rainforest.	✓	✓	
I can explore the animals living in the different layers and why they live there.	✓	✓	

Work completed: Independently, TA support, T support, Groups or Pairs  
Resources used: dual-coded word bank, sentence starters

Where Are Rainforests Found?






1) The rainforest has lots of tall trees and it rains.


# Rainforests

There are 4 layers

2) This is a frog

Excellent! You were able to write about rainforests



Q: Can I describe features of the layers of the rainforest?

Steps to Success		Me	CT	Key Vocabulary: emergent layer, canopy layer, understorey, forest floor
I can describe the different features of the different layers of the rainforest.		✓	✓	
I can explore the animals living in the different layers and why they live there.		✓	✓	
Work completed:	Independently, TA support, T support, Groups or Pairs			
Resources used:	dual-coded word bank sentence starters			

# Rainforests

Where Are Rainforests Found?



①

The rain forest has lots of tall trees and it rains a lot.



Excellent! You were able to write about rainforests.



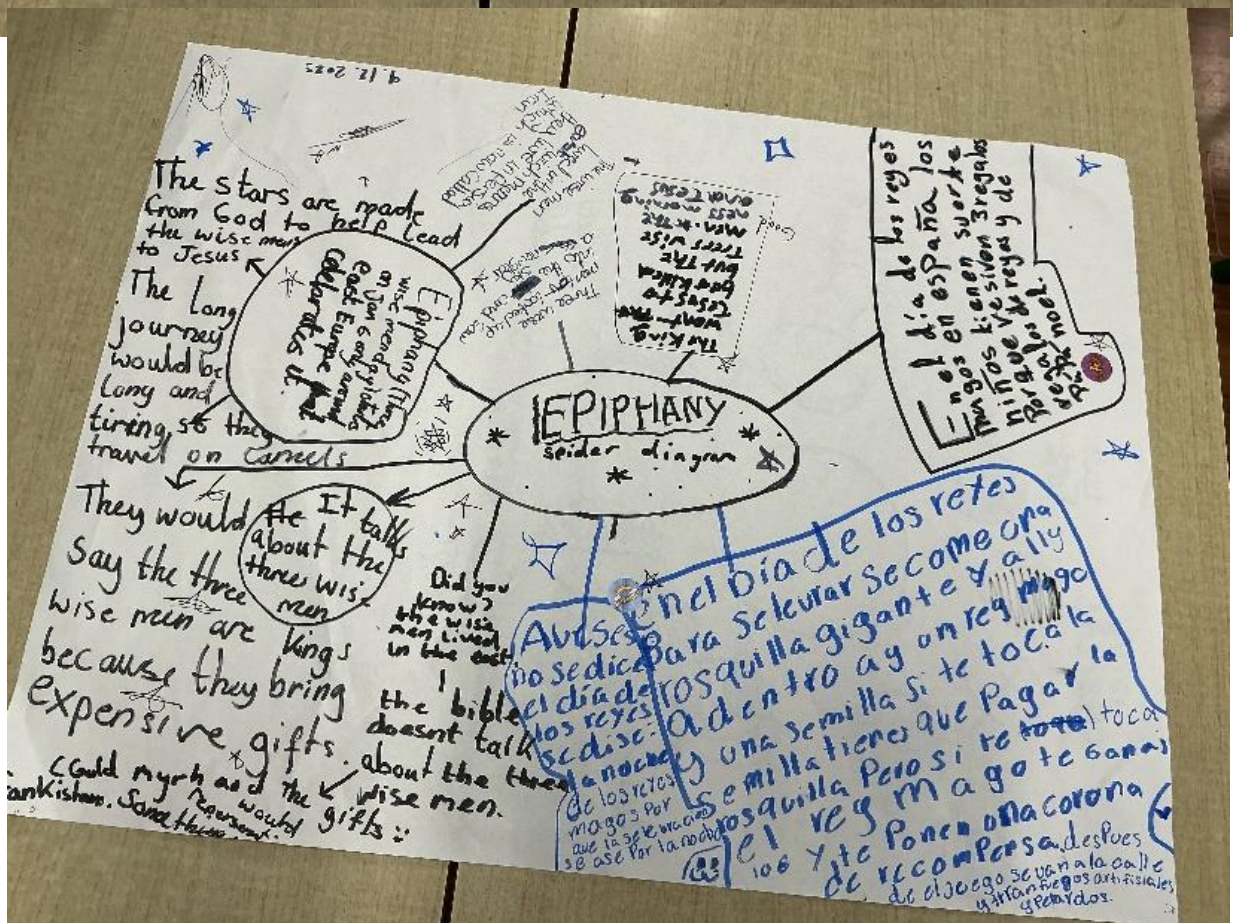
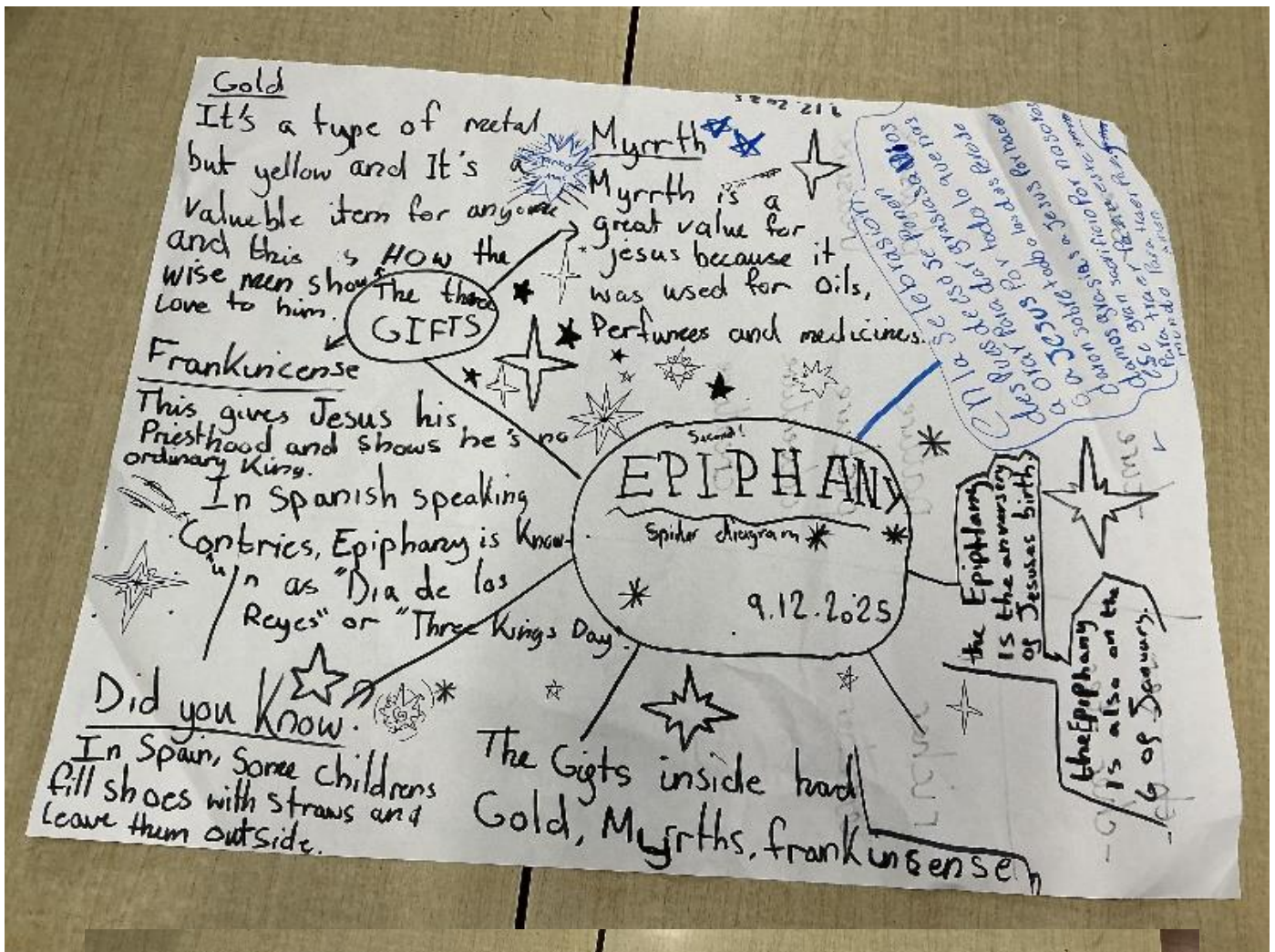
②

There are 4 layers.



③ This is a spadey





In Willow Class Year 5/6 we've been learning about rivers in topic. We created our own double page spreads on rivers around the world.

Naeema and Nell

Monday 8th December 2020

What are rivers?

Rivers are like the passages that bring water from mountains to the sea. They flow and often contain wonderful plants and animals that live in the water. They provide fresh water and if there is a dam, obviously, you can swim, but not fish in rivers. Only 3.5% of water on Earth is fresh and 200% of fresh water is found in rivers, ponds, lakes, glaciers, springs, and streams. Fresh water flows into rivers, where they are captured into the sea. Only about 0.0001% to 0.0002% of water on Earth is rivers.

Water Cycle

The water cycle is called the water cycle because it goes on and on. It never ends. It starts with the sun heating the water in the sea. Evaporation makes water turn to gas. It rises until it cools and forms droplets, which is called condensation. The water cools and falls, which is called precipitation. This is called rain, sleet, hail or snow. This is called precipitation. Finally, water collects in lakes, ponds or the sea or the cycle can restart and it can all happen again.

Parts of a river

The most important parts of a river is the source where the water comes from, and the mouth where it enters the large body of water.

Rivers Around the World

The Yangtze (yellow) River in China is the longest river and ends in the largest Dam. The longest Dam is Three Gorges and 100 meters high which makes it the largest Dam in the world. It is 6500 km long. The Mississippi River in North America is 5240 miles long so it is the longest river in North America. The Volga River is Europe is the longest in Europe at 3688km.

World Rivers

The most famous river in the world is the Nile. It is the longest river in the world and flows through Egypt, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Tanzania. The Amazon river, which is the 2nd longest river, it is the widest and contains the most water. It can be found in South America.

Naeema a fantastic double page spread on rivers

What is a River?

Well, a river is a body of moving water that starts at the source and goes into the mouth. The mouth is the ocean or the sea. The source is where the river starts. At the end of the river, the river meets up with the sea or ocean.

World Rivers All them

With and about

What has a mouth but never speaks?  
- a river.  
What is always running but never walks?  
- a river.

Rivers can be used for leisure, also tourism

The course that a river takes

Source: The starting point of a river, where the water is first collected and starts to run.

Upper course: This is the top of a mountain that the water starts to flow from.

Lower course: This is the second to last section of the river where it starts to become larger.

Mouth: where a river meets the sea.

Dams: Dams are built to stop flooding and for hydro electricity and many more. It can also act like a border between countries or cities. A major dam is the Aswan dam located in Egypt to stop the flooding of the Nile.

Did you know that the river Nile is the same?

Rivers across the world

The river Nile is the longest river in the world. It runs at 4130mi long. It runs through 11 countries (Egypt, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Tanzania). The Amazon River is the widest river, that is 30 miles during spring which floods the forest around it with a massive secondary mouth. It is 150 miles wide where it meets the Atlantic. It varies so much during the wet and dry season.

## Christmas Performance Highlights 2025



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holly  
jolly



# CHRISTMAS

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# A Christmas Carol Performance by Teach it Through Drama



Charles Dickens

A Christmas Carol



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Charles Dickens

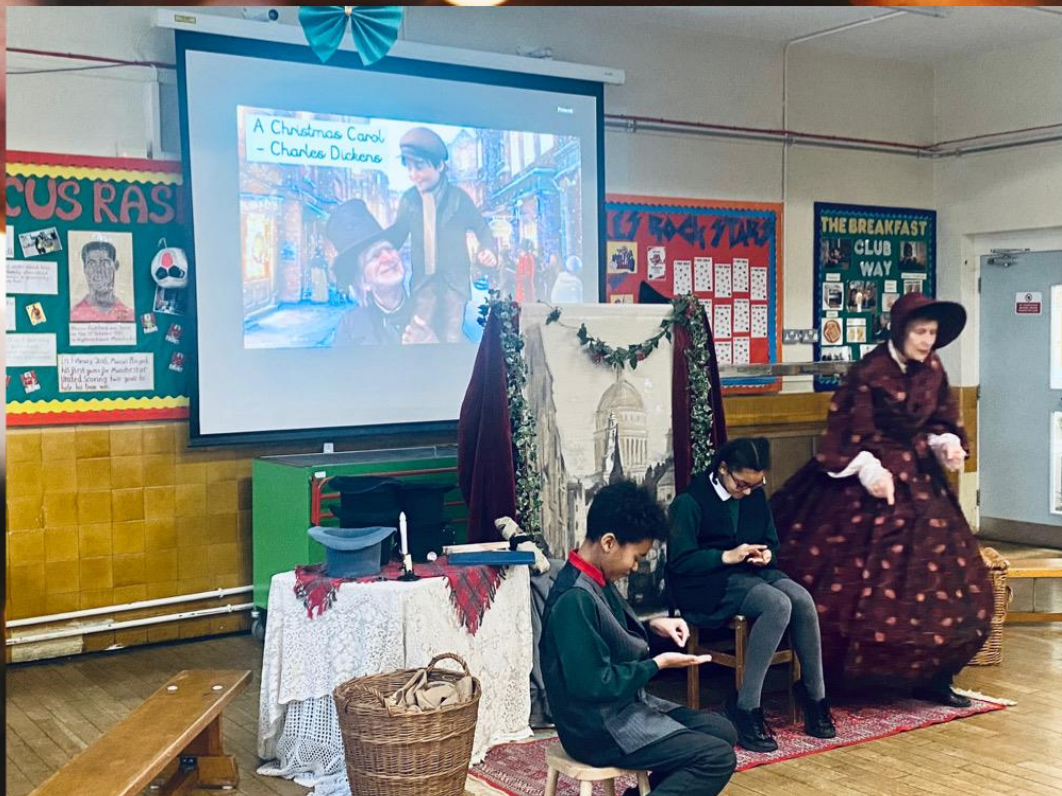
A Christmas Carol





Charles Dickens

A Christmas Carol



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# Thursday Reward Assembly Chart

W/C: 08.12.25

**Excellence Reward week for: PE**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Name of Child</b>	<b>Reason for reward</b>	<b>Name of child</b>	<b>Reason for reward</b>
<b>Cherry YR</b>	Ellena	For always joining in with energy and enthusiasm. Ellena has been growing in confidence with her throwing and catching.	Winston	For showing great improvement in throwing and catching, Winston has worked hard on his coordination.
<b>Elm Y1-2</b>	Jahmari	For showing great effort and enthusiasm in learning how to throw and catch.	Neveah	For showing great teamwork skills while working with a partner to practise her throwing and receiving skills.
<b>Cedar Y2</b>	Ambrose	For displaying great sportsmanship during PE lessons.	Thierry	For understanding the importance of teamwork when playing sports
<b>Oak Y3</b>	Ricarri	For being beginning to learn different techniques to attack and defend during team games.	Kynng	For beginning to understand the importance of working within a team when playing group sports.
<b>Birch Y4</b>	Vinnie	Excellent teamwork skills when playing cricket!	Nana	Excellent resilience when playing cricket!
<b>Hazel Y5</b>	Kymani	For participating in a new sport with enthusiasm and confidence. Well done Kymani!	Kenzo	For developing confidence with swimming and becoming much more independent.
<b>Willow Y5-6</b>	Hayder	Fantastic progress in swimming this term! You're becoming much more confident in the water and starting to swim independently—well done!	Aisha	Brilliant effort in PE! Your independent swimming skills have really improved, and your determination is shining through. Keep it up!

