

Happy Christmas from all of us at Hatherley!

The Sleepy Shepherd

We were very proud of the Rec and Y1 children for putting on such an amazing performance at this year's Nativity, The Sleepy Shepherd. They worked really hard, and enjoyed sharing it with their families, Year 2 and Year 3 children from St James Junior School.





This term, we enjoyed learning phrases in Igbo. Next term, we will be celebrating Malayalam, which is a language spoken by lots of families at Hatherley and St James'. Why not ask your child what they have learnt?

Staffing News

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Miss Foylan who ably stepped in to cover Miss Davies during her maternity leave. We would like to thank Miss Foylan for her dedication and commitment to Hatherley and wish her well in her next role as Teacher at another local school. We all know she will do an amazing job and hope she keeps in touch. In her place Miss Davies will be coming back and will be working alongside Mrs Stabbins.

In Owls class, we are delighted to welcome Mrs Thorp. She will be replacing Mrs Piper and teaching from Monday to Wednesday.

Dates for the Diary

*****Please check each week. New and amended dates will be highlighted in red*****

| Date | Event | Class | Time |
|----------------|---------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| 20/12/24 | Last day (early pick up) | All | 1:15 |
| 23/12/24 | Christmas Break | All | - |
| 6/01/25 | INSET DAY (No children) | All | - |
| 7/01/25 | Back to School | All | 8:45 |
| 8/01/25 | Chinese Dragon Workshop | All | All day |
| 5/02/2025 | Class Photos | All | am |
| 14/02/25 | Last Day of Term 1 | All | - |
| 17/02/25 | Half Term | All | - |
| 24/02/25 | Back to School | All | |
| 18/03/25 | We the Curious Trip | Y2 | All day |
| 11/04/25 | Last Day of Term – early finish | All | 1:15 pick up |

In **Squirrels** we have had a fun and busy few weeks! We loved attending the Cinderella pantomime at the Roses theatre. We watched on as they made us laugh and giggle. Some highlights included the popcorn snacks and being sprayed with water as they came round with water guns!

The next day, we travelled to Oxstalls Sports Centre for the annual Christmas multi-skills festival. We made hats in school to take with us and thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a wide range of activities.

In our learning in school, we finished our unit on materials by exploring which materials squashed, stretched, bent and twisted. Sometimes it was tricky to know! In PE we have been learning a mixture of skills. Take a look at Rayan's balancing!



IMPORTANT: Transfer to Junior – Deadline 15th January

All applications must be made by 15th January 2025. Any applications made after this date will not be considered until April, and you may not get your first choice. Please follow this link to apply online: <https://emsonline.gloucestershire.gov.uk/CitizenPortal/en>

If you would prefer a hard copy of the form, please let me know and I will arrange for one to be sent home with your child. Please return completed forms to the office, and I will happily submit them to the Admissions team on your behalf.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Thelwell if you have any concerns or queries. Thank you!

Congratulations to our Nursery Parents!

In the Nursery the children follow a scheme called My Happy Mind. We encourage our parents to sign up to the My Happy Mind app so that they can watch the video stories and songs with their children and follow their learning. The team are thrilled to say that we were the Gloucestershire winner of the Parent App Competition for having the most parents sign up to use it. Many thanks to our nursery parents for getting involved in their children's learning. Keep going. We won a prize of books for the nursery staff and books for the children to read in nursery.

This fills me with such positivity that our parents have engaged so much in their children's learning and is a great sign that this will continue when their children start school.



Share a Story

We invited parents into school to share some story time with their child. It's a special time where reading is central to our thinking. Thank you so much for the positive engagement.

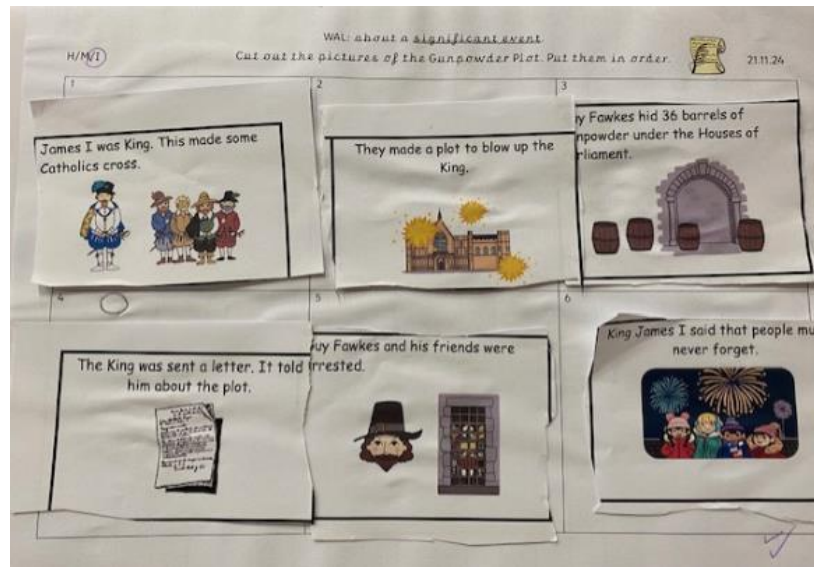


In **Foxcubs** we have been reading 'The Jolly Postman' in our Drawing Club lessons. We wrote a wish list and put them in envelopes to give to the Jolly Postman!



As historians in **Owls**, we have been learning about a significant event which happened over 400 years ago. This event was carried out by a group of men, including Guy Fawkes. They made a plot to kill the King and his men. Did you know that Guy Fawkes hid 36 barrels of gunpowder in the cellars of the Houses of Parliament? We remember this event on

5th November, when we light fireworks on Bonfire Night. As historians, we have sequenced the events of the plot including Guy Fawkes arrest.



Some information and messages from Mrs Jones, Engagement Coordinator...

Reading Café

Thank you to all the parents who were able to join your child at their Reading Cafe. Dates for next term are on the invitations. Please try to arrange for a member of your family who supports your child's reading/learning at home to join your child. Your child is very proud of their learning and we love to see them sharing it with you 😊

The information this term included ideas for how to ask your child questions about what they are reading. This helps children to be more interested in their reading. For example, you can ask them (in any language) –

- What does this word mean?
- The person in the picture looks happy - Why do you think they are happy?
- Before turning the page - What do you think is going to happen next?
- Can you explain why this is happening in the story?
- At the end of the story - Can you tell me what the story was about?

Library Membership

Please join a local library with your child. Local libraries are a great place to go over the Christmas break. It is also a brilliant way to help your child find something that they enjoy reading, rather than buying lots of books until they find their favourite! Membership is **FREE** and you can borrow books from any library in Gloucestershire. Just go in to a library, with ID to show your name and address. All the family can join and access IT resources, books in different languages and audio books too.

Gloucestershire Libraries

Parents and Friends of Hatherley Infants and St James' C of E Juniors

New Date for your Diary – Tuesday 21st January 2025 – Coffee & Chat at Gloucestershire Resource Centre, City Works, Alfred Street, GL1 4DF. All parents and family members welcome. Refreshments provided. Stay for a few minutes or the whole hour! All parents and family members welcome. Refreshments provided. Stay for a few minutes or the whole hour! We would like to hear your ideas for activities we can do to raise extra funds for school, for example - sponsored events, school fairs, sporting events.

<http://www.grcltd.org/>

9am-10am (after school drop off).

All parents and family members welcome. Refreshments provided. Stay for a few minutes or the whole hour!

We would like to hear your ideas for activities we can do to raise extra funds for school, for example - sponsored events, school fairs, sporting events.

We also have some volunteering opportunities in school, for example – to hear children read and to support other parents to learn English in our classes for parents on Thursday afternoons.

Please see Mrs Jones on the Hatherley or St James' playgrounds if you have any ideas or are interested in meeting but cannot come to the meeting on Tuesday 21st January. Or email her hjones@his.dgat.org.uk or hjones@sjs.dgat.org.uk

Glofamilies Directory Please follow this link for support and guidance over the busy Christmas period.

Thank you for continuing to support your child and school with their learning.

Best wishes from Heather Jones, Engagement Coordinator, Hatherley Infants & St James' C of E Juniors

Attendance

Please ensure that you contact school **every day** your child is absent. If we do not hear from you, the absence will be marked as unauthorised. If your child has 10 unauthorised absences (5 days) within 10 weeks, you may receive a fine from Gloucestershire County Council.

You can contact us on 01452 522027 and leave a message on the absence line, or email admin@his.dgat.org.uk.

Reception Phonics Reading Workshop

Many thanks to those of you who attended our Reception Phonics Workshop on Tuesday 12th November. It was lovely to see so many of you. Your support will be invaluable to your child. The more they read, the more progress they will make. If you were unable to attend but would like a copy of the resources provided, please let your child's class teacher know. They will be able to get a copy to you.

In the meantime, happy reading!

