

Glasshouses Primary School NEWSLETTER

Christmas 2025 Edition



Believe Achieve Inspire

Message from the Headteacher

As we approach the final few days before Christmas, I want to take a moment to reflect on everything our school community has achieved this half term. With just **14 days to go until Christmas**, the excitement around school is tangible, and the festive spirit is in full swing!

This half term has been a busy and memorable one, filled with experiences that truly reflect our school vision: **Believe, Achieve, Inspire**. We gathered together for our **Remembrance Service**, showing respect and reflection for those who have served. Our KS2 pupils welcomed a **Muslim visitor**, enriching their understanding of world views and religions. Year 2 and 3 embraced teamwork and adventure on their **Nell Bank residential**, while KS1 and Early Years delighted us all with their heart-warming **Nativity performance practices**. Festivities are planned with cheerful **Christmas parties**, and, of course, the term wouldn't be complete without a very special visit from **Santa**, spreading joy and smiles across the school. Don't forget to join us for singing carols together on Friday.

This half term, our CHAMPS value has been **HOPE**. Pupils have been thinking about what can be achieved when everyone contributes, whether through **HARVEST, Remembrance**, or simply by showing kindness to others every day. Looking ahead to the new year, we will focus on **ASPIRATION**, encouraging all our pupils to dream big, set goals, and strive to be and achieve the very best they can.

On behalf of the staff, I wish our pupils, families and wider community a peaceful, joyful and very **Merry Christmas**. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in January for another exciting term of learning and growth.

With best wishes,

Miss Nicola Thornber



Next Term Dates

January 5th & 6th—Staff Training Days

January 7th — school reopens

16th-20th February—half term

30th March-10th April — Easter holidays



Jade Class

This half term we had the privilege of spending some time learning about our school war memorial and about the lives of those named on it, who had attended our school. We also created our own poppy art as our way of thinking about them.

In science, we have been learning about animals, including humans. We dissected 'poo' to investigate if each animal was an omnivore, carnivore or herbivore, and what each of these classifications meant. We also explored our senses through conducting taste, sight and hearing experiments.

Our story focus 'Coming Home' has inspired us to write some wonderful stories of our own, and to think about what 'home' means to us.

Our Reception children have been inspired to create some fabulous robin paintings in our provisions area.





Amethyst Class has had a very busy half term.

Year 3 and 4 had an amazing time at the Nell Bank residential. They talked about it so excitedly, the Year 2s can't wait to go!

In Maths, we have been developing our multiplication and division knowledge. We love applying our knowledge of multiplication on Times Tables Rock Stars. Mrs Wilkinson will be handing out certificates for participation on TTRS, so get busy over the Christmas holidays!

In English, we have been learning about how to write instructions. We are going to finish this off by following the instructions in a baking lesson.



Obsidian Class...

...have been very busy over the last few weeks, we're not slowing down for Christmas yet!

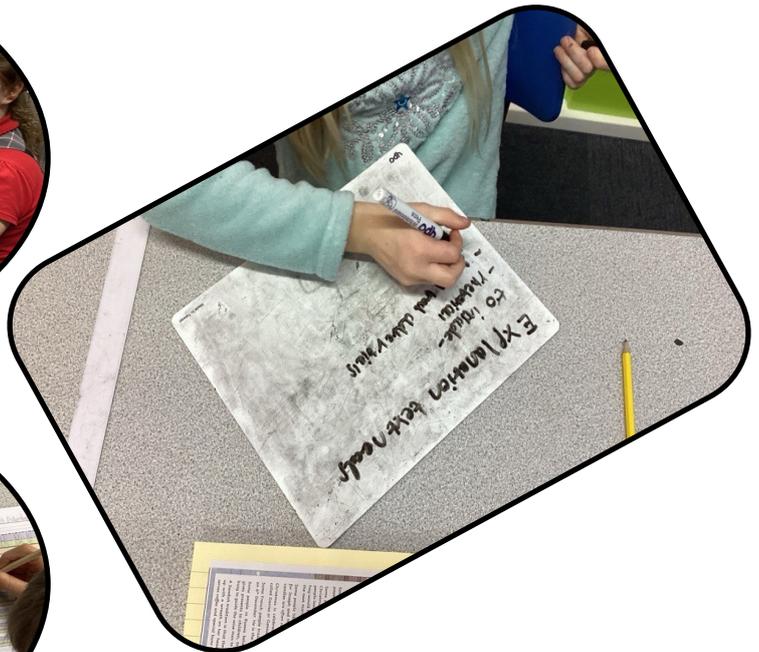
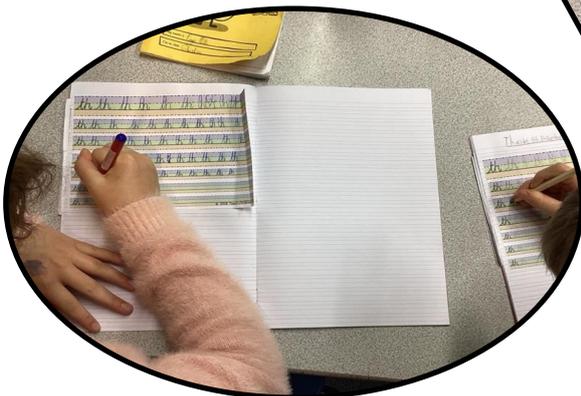
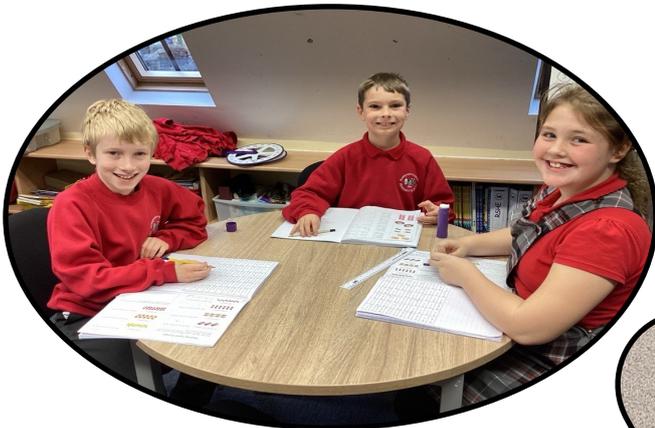
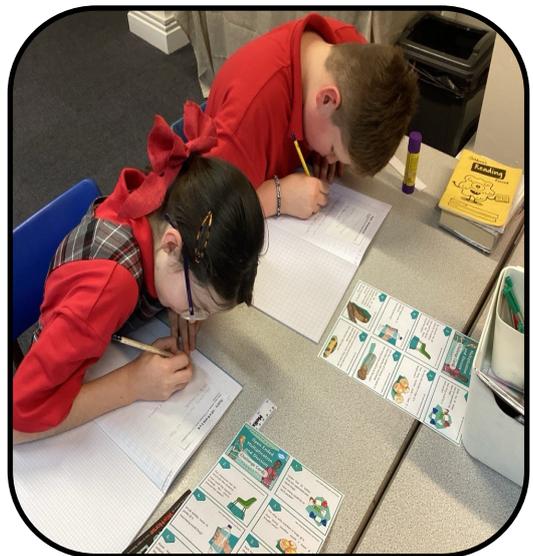
We have started to look at explanation texts in English, and the features of these. We have been working on our non-negotiable spellings, as well as our handwriting and applying this across different subjects.

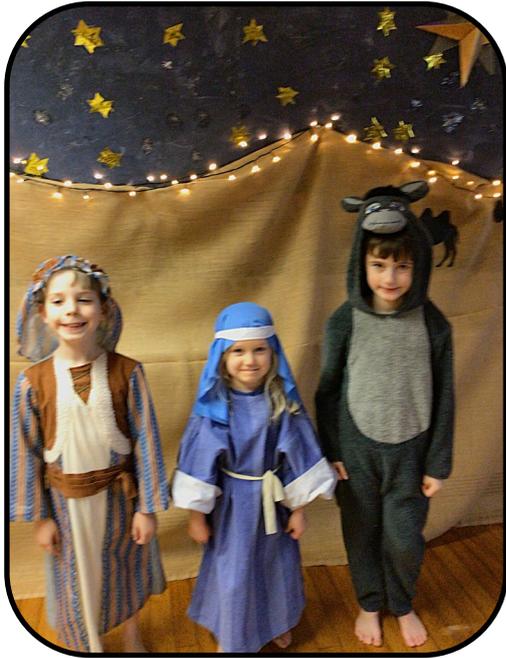
In Maths, we have started to look at division, and how to use the inverse operation to check our answers. We have also looked at open-ended problem solving questions, which require us to think deeper and use our mathematical language.

We have enjoyed meeting up in our Pupil Leadership Groups and putting our action plans into place.

Lots more to come over the next few days, including Christmas Jumper Day, the Christmas Fayre and watching the KS1 nativity.

What a fantastic autumn term for Obsidian Class!





Nativity



**Christmas Party
And
Vist from Santa**



Attendance Policy

Please see the school website for the full version of the policy

Improving attendance is everyone's business. This policy aims to show our commitment to meeting our obligations with regards to school attendance, including those laid out in the Department for Education's statutory guidance [Working together to improve school attendance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/714222/Working_together_to_improve_school_attendance_-_GOV.UK_(www.gov.uk).pdf) through our whole school ethos that values good attendance, including;

- Setting high expectations for the attendance and punctuality of all pupils.
- Promoting good attendance and the benefits of good attendance.
- Reducing absence, including persistent and severe absence
- Ensuring that every pupil has access to the full-time education to which they are entitled.
- Acting early to address patterns of absence.
- Building strong relationships with families to make sure that pupils have the support in place to attend school.

We understand that barriers to attendance are complex, and that some pupils find it harder than others to attend school; therefore, we will continue to prioritise cultivating a safe and supportive environment at school, as well as strong and trusting relationships with pupils and parents.

We take a whole-school approach to securing good attendance, and recognise the impact that our efforts in other areas – such as the curriculum, behaviour standards, bullying, SEND support, pastoral support, and the effective use of resources such as pupil premium – can have on improving pupil attendance.

The Federation's attendance officer is Mrs Nicola Wilkinson, and she can be contacted at each school via the following email address:

absence@uppernidderdalefed.school

Staff, parents and pupils will be expected to contact the attendance officer for queries or concerns about attendance.

As a federation, we refer to the DfE document. "Working Together to Improve School Attendance." August 2024.

Parents are responsible for:

- Making sure their child attends every day and on time
- Calling the school to report their child's absence before 8:55 am on the day of the absence and each subsequent day of absence, and advising when they are expected to return
- Providing the school with more than 1 emergency contact number for their child.
- Ensuring that, where possible, appointments for their child are made outside of the school day
- Keeping to any attendance contracts that they make with the school and/or local authority
- Seeking support, where necessary, for maintaining good attendance, by contacting Mrs Wilkinson or Mrs Fearnley.