



## Collective Worship Theme this half term = Honesty & Trust

Attendance this week is, Wrens 91%, Robins 93.3%, Owls 94.4% (Overall: 92.9% target is 96%)

1 Dec 2023

*First the blade, then the ear,  
then the full grain.*

@SchoolGillamoor

Gillamoor C of E Primary School



### School News and Message from the Headteacher

What an exciting week! Snow, Christmas nativity preparations and carol practices have given a real winter-buzz to the school. The Robins, whose writing text this half-term is 'Snow' were especially lucky with the timing. This book links really well to their learning about states of matter, and the Robins were also very excited to develop their scientific learning with a chocolate melting investigation with Mrs Smith on Thursday. The Owls have been busy planning a cultural event, set around the theme of 'New Year'. Watch this space for more on this event in the coming weeks. In the Wrens' classroom, the arrival of a new Santa's grotto has been an exciting development and there has been much excitement preparing letters and notes to post into the special post-box!

Mrs Elsey

**This week's winning House is ELM**

**Last week's winning House was ELM**

### Busking in Malton

This Sunday, our Juniors have been invited to join the Richard Shephard Music Foundation for a session of busking in Malton. They will be singing in the Market Place between **1pm and 2:30pm on Sunday 3rd December**. You should have received an email from the Foundation, to confirm if your child can attend. If you haven't replied but would like your KS2 child to join, Miss Burke will be happy to include any extras. They will be meeting at St Michael's church, in the market place, at 1pm.

### Christmas Jumper Day

On Thursday 7 December, everyone is welcome to wear a Christmas Jumper in exchange for a donation towards the Christmas Hampers.

*Christmas*  
**JUMPER DAY**



### Market stall—6th December

Our Friends of the School group are selling handmade wreathes at the Kirkbymoorside market to fundraise. This year, our Year 5 children will be on the stall helping out. Do pop over and say hi if you are in Kirkby on the day,

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Dec 3rd—KS2 Busking in Malton

5 Dec—Stay and Play 1.15pm-2.45pm

6 Dec—Stall on Kirkbymoorside market

7 Dec—Christmas Jumper Day (Hamper donations)

8 Dec—KS2 Gymnastics

12 Dec-FGB meeting

12 Dec-Wren Nativity 2.00 pm

13 Dec-Wren Nativity, 5.30 pm

**15 Dec-After School Clubs finish**

15 Dec—Panto!

20 Dec—Juniors Carol Singing 5pm (Date TBC)

19 Dec—Return Xmas Hamper number sheets

20 Dec—Xmas Hamper Draw

21 Dec—Christmas lunch and party

10 Jan-Pupils return to school

26 Jan—Film Night

**PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT WE ARE A NUT AWARE SCHOOL. WE KINDLY REQUEST NO NUTS OR NUT DERIVATIVES ARE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL IN PACKED LUNCHES OR AS SNACKS. .**



**Hamper squares.** All sheets need to be back in school by **19th December** for the Hamper draw to take place on the **20th December**. If you need anymore sheets please let **Rachel Patterson** or school know.

We would like to thank everyone that turned up and helped with our wreath making on Sunday and to all those that sent in decorations, greenery for the wreaths.

Christmas Jumper day is on **Thursday 7th December** - we are asking that instead of monetary contribution the children could bring in prizes to go in our hampers for the Christmas Draw. Suggestions are: bottles (including wine, fizz, beer, pop, bubble bath, juice etc), chocolate, biscuits, sweets, candles, home decor, games. Please could you make sure everything is in date and unopened, we had a few sneaky out of date ones last year.

Our market stall is on **Wednesday 6th December 8.30 - 12.30**. If you have a spare hour or 30 mins to come and help out on our stall we would be most grateful for the help. Any contributions of bakes, jams, biscuits for the stall would be appreciated as well. Remember the money we raise from these events goes towards things like the bus for swimming, the bus for the pantomime and new equipment for school.

**Music and Dance Exams:** A number of parents have made us aware that their child will need time off school for dance or music exams which have been scheduled during the school day. Please can I remind parents to notify the school with plenty of notice. If your child is going to be missing a registration time (morning or afternoon) you will need to complete a form to request a leave of absence.

**School Clubs.** Please make sure you have paid for club sessions for this term. We will be issuing new letters for club sign-ups shortly. We will unfortunately, not be offering the opportunity for clubs in cases where an outstanding balance remains on Parent Pay for clubs in this term. Please contact school if you are experiencing difficulty in paying, so we can look at what we can do to allow your child to join us for clubs.

**All after school clubs finish on Friday 15 December.**

### Christmas Lunch

**Thursday 21 December**—we will be holding a ‘family dining’ style meal for our Christmas Dinner this year—children will be sitting in groups from all years of the school. Mrs Thackerey has already begun preparations and the menu looks amazing!



### Staff Training/meetings

Learning Means the World—Curriculum Mapping Meeting

National Professional Qualification for Headteachers session: Culture

Poverty Awareness Training

Health and Safety Visit

### School Lunches

Week beginning 4 December is Week 1 of our menu.





Online Safety is a serious subject and as teachers, we are keen to help parents understand ways they can act to keep their children safe online. Each week, I will share a link to materials from the National Online Safety organisation. This week's topic is a general overview of Online Safety for Under 5s

# ONLINE SAFETY FOR UNDER 5s

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Carers

According to Ofcom's most recent research, a significant proportion of children are already online by the time they start school, with 17% of 5-year-olds owning their own mobile phone and 50% using messaging platforms. As becoming familiar with technology is generally encouraged in younger children – and has been essential for education during the pandemic – it is crucial that trusted adults recognise both the benefits and the risks of infants and toddlers using digital devices. We've compiled our top tips to help the under-5s start their online safety journey.

### 1 USE DEVICES TOGETHER

This lets you monitor and control what your child is using the device for. It also provides the interaction that supports children's understanding of what they're seeing – allowing them to ask you questions, and so on.

PARENT CODE:  
\*\*\*\*\*

### 6 BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

If your child uses a device that's linked to a payment method (such as a bank card), use the parental controls to block buys from app stores, as well as in-app purchases. That will prevent your child from accidentally spending money while on your device.

### 2 ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most digital devices have built-in parental controls that can limit the type of content children have access to. If your little one uses any device (even borrowing yours), it's a good idea to explore what controls the device has and enable them whenever they have access to it.

### 7 CHOOSE SAFE APPS AND SITES

There are some fantastic apps and platforms that are specifically designed to be safer for children. Always check the PEGI age rating before downloading an app, and test it yourself before allowing your child to use it.

### 3 MANAGE SCREEN TIME

This can be tricky, especially if your child is interested in a certain video, app or game. Try to agree on some ground rules and get your child into a routine which includes certain times of the day when they go without devices.

### 8 INVOLVE THE FAMILY

If your toddler has older siblings, it's likely that their rules for device use will be different – and that they'll access content that isn't appropriate for younger ones (a particular worry if they share devices). Encourage the whole family to be good role models and help little ones stay safe online.

### 4 TALK ABOUT BEING SAFE ONLINE

Just like we teach children about being safe in the real world, we need to educate them about how to stay safe online. Use age-appropriate language to help them understand, and plenty of hand gestures can reinforce what you're telling them.

### 9 IF IN DOUBT, ASK

The easiest way to find out what your child is doing online is usually just to talk about it with them. Developing an open dialogue at an early age helps them grow up feeling able to talk to you about their digital life – providing opportunities to intervene if you're concerned.

### 5 SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

Children often learn by watching and copying those around them, and using digital devices is no exception. When you're around your child, try to follow the same rules that you've set for them. Let them see you balancing your time online with interacting with people in real life, too.

### 10 SUPPORT CREATIVE & ACTIVE PLAY

Physical and creative activities are important for a child's wellbeing, and there are plenty of ways to incorporate technology into that. For example, you could encourage games that require physical movement; dance and sing along to songs your child loves; and follow step-by-step crafting videos.

### Meet Our Expert

Konstantina Moustaka is a professional development and EYFS coordinator at an 'outstanding' nursery school in London. She has been working as a nursery and early years practitioner, both in the UK and internationally, for the past 16 years.



**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday





Friends of Gillamoor CE School

# Christmas Cakes and Wreath Stall

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**  
**8.30am – 12.30pm**

Kirkbymoorside Market

Cakes, biscuits, jams and more

Plus your chance to win a Christmas  
Hamper with our number squares

Please come along and support our school





# Cinderella

A magical fairytale pantomime by Tom Whalley  
Directed by Helena Fox

Matinees - 2.30pm

Sat 2, Sun 3, Sat 9, Sun 10 Dec

Evenings - 7.30pm

Sat 2, Tue 5, Wed 6, Thu 7, Fri 8, Sat 9 Dec

Tickets: £16 | U16 £8 | Family £45 (2 adult & 2 u16)

Box Office 01439 771700 [www.helmsleyarts.co.uk](http://www.helmsleyarts.co.uk)

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