



# THE OLD SCHOOL HENSTEAD

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL



Newsletter Issue 42, 2022



FROM THE HEADMASTER

As final preparations for our Nativity celebrations and Carol Service are completed, we have given thought to the true meaning of this wonderful time of the year. A time for nostalgia, certainly, but if it is only the warm and fuzzy that we seek, we are bound to be disappointed sooner or later. Christina Rossetti's hauntingly beautiful *In The Bleak Mid-Winter* points us to the Saviour in the manger:

*What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give Him - give my heart.*

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA

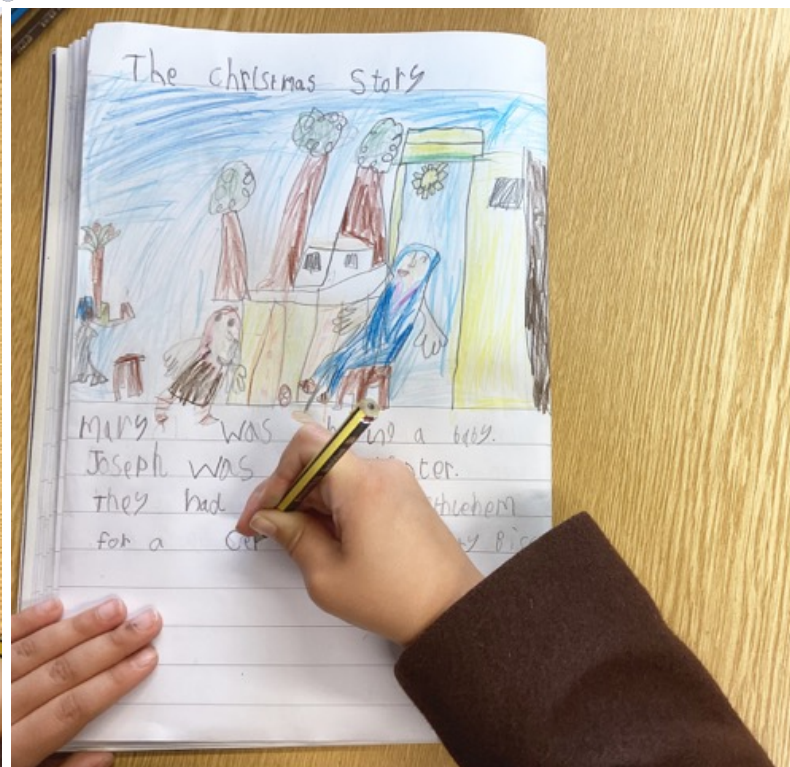
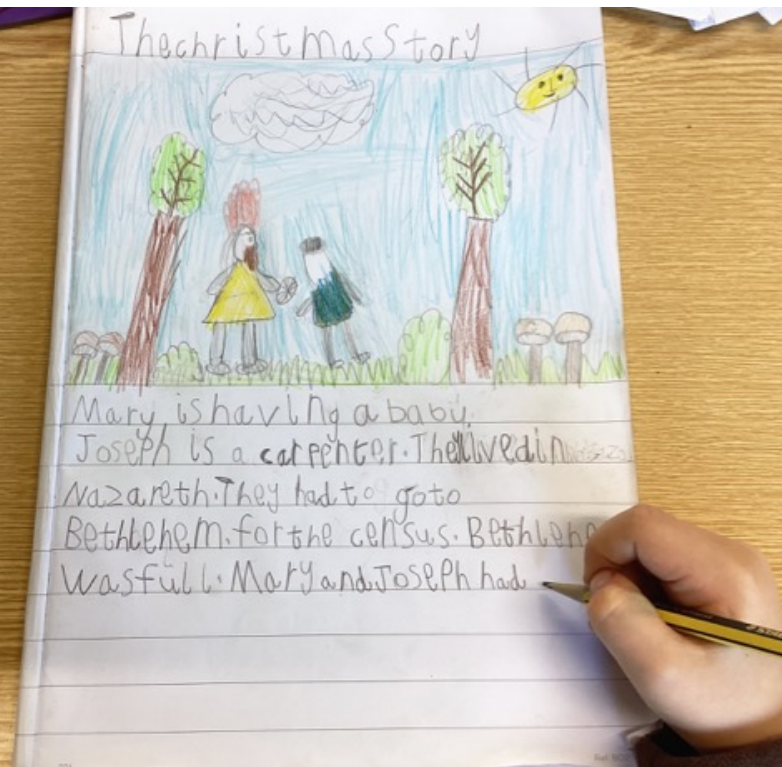




This week Year Three has been exploring persuasive writing. The pupils designed their own gingerbread house, with as many unique features as they could possibly imagine. Ideas ranged from marshmallow beds and gummy bears stairs to candy cane windows.

The pupils then had to try their best to sell me their houses! The pupils showed great determination and used a variety of persuasive language.

- Miss Bennie



*The Very First Christmas* story has been the basis for our Literacy in Year One this week. The children have very much enjoyed re-telling the story in their own words, accompanied with beautiful illustrations. This has given them a greater meaning and understanding of our Nativity and the different roles that they are playing. We look forward to seeing you all in church next Wednesday for the performance.

- Mrs Dakin





Santa's little helpers in Year Two have been applying for an elf job. And they presented themselves smartly for the interviews! Good experience for their future careers.

- Mrs Solomon





This week the Art After School Club pupils finished their beautiful reindeer wreaths.







The countdown is on and we are enjoying all the festivities leading up to Christmas in Nursery. Alongside our rehearsals for the nativity performance we have been doing lots of fun advent activities. One of our favourite activities so far has been role playing as Father Christmas' reindeer. We even created our own reindeer names and practised our reindeer running for pulling the sleigh!

- Mrs Braidwood



Year Six completed the skills required to gain their Gold swimming certificates. Challenges included treading water for two minutes, followed by swimming 50 metres and then treading water again, while wearing shorts and a t-shirt and without touching the bottom of the pool.

- Mrs Sonn





Hockey training.







## Christmas Elf Post

Our Christmas postal service has started, for pupils wishing to send cards to others in the school.

Pupils should make sure they write the **name and form** on envelopes to assist the Year Two elves with their express delivery service!

Our earnest elves provide a free same day delivery around the school.





A wonderful time at the Christmas Fair.







Lots of smiling faces at the Christmas Fair.







Crafts and artistic creations at the Christmas Fair.





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