



# City Academy Whitehawk

**School Community Newsletter 7**  
**Friday 13th December 2024**





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Friday 13th December 2024

Dear City Academy Whitehawk families,

Welcome to a bumper edition of our School Community Newsletter, our last one of 2024. The year has flown by, and it's an opportunity to reflect back on how much we have achieved as a school community over the last twelve months. We continue to drive academic improvements at the school, with our Year One Phonics results amongst the best in the city. Our [Ofsted visit in May](#) was a 'green light' to show us that we are doing the right things, and these must continue to give the children of Whitehawk the provision they deserve. As well as prioritising academic success, we strongly value personal development, and you'll see lots of examples of the enriching activities we provide in this newsletter. Please do [keep checking our Facebook page](#) for daily updates sharing lots of the positive events and learning happening here at City Academy Whitehawk.

**Collaboration** is one of our CAW Qualities, and we know that sharing expertise and best practice with other professionals (across the **Aurora Academy Trust** and beyond) helps us deliver better provision for our students. We are so fortunate to have a highly experienced and successful educator as our LAB Chair: please see the next slides from Janis introducing herself and explaining her role. Many, many thanks to our wonderful CAW PTA for all of the hard work that went into making today's Winter Disco such a success: it's lovely to have such positive input from our community of families and made the day very, very special.

It is, as ever, an honour and privilege to serve the Whitehawk community. I hope you all enjoy a wonderful winter break and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on **Tuesday 7th January 2025**.

Russell Wood  
Head of School

PS Check Slide 8 for free tickets to watch Whitehawk FC over December and January!

# A letter to the City Academy Whitehawk community from LAB Chair Janis Taylor

Hello,

I am Janis Taylor, the Chair of the Local Academy Board (LAB) at City Academy Whitehawk. We are all volunteers and there are ten of us in total – 2 parent representatives, 1 staff representative, 5 co-opted members, the Executive Head/Head of School and myself as Chair.

For me, City Academy Whitehawk holds a very special place in my heart! When the school was a Junior School (many, many years ago in the 1970's and 1980's!) I started my teaching career there. I worked at the school for about 10 years and absolutely loved it. I look back with such fondness and can honestly say they were some of the happiest times of my career. I'd always kept in touch with what was happening at the school and many years later, when I was Headteacher of Hove Junior School, we were really pleased to be asked to support the school and worked closely with them for a period of time. I was thrilled to be asked if I'd be interested in becoming a LAB member about 7 years ago and so enjoy being involved with the school once again.

We work very closely with the Senior Leadership team and have a strategic rather than operational role. We undertake a very similar role to that of a governing body in a state maintained school and are answerable to the CEO and the Trust Board. Our strategic role includes us having an input into the School Improvement Plan and monitoring its progress/ effectiveness, monitoring the children's performance, outcomes and progress, check that statutory requirements, particularly in relation to safeguarding are met, oversee the allocation of additional funding and the impact this has, and agreeing/monitoring the school's equalities objectives.

[Continued on the next slide]



## A letter to the City Academy Whitehawk community from LAB Chair Janis Taylor



We meet formally every half term and visit as often as we can. We observe some lessons, talk to children, look at the children's work, attend special events (assemblies, Christmas shows, special days, open days/evenings etc.) and meet with teachers/subject leaders. We are all linked to a year group – I am linked to Year 6 and am always amazed by the superb quality of work the children produce and what a wonderful environment they work in. Some of us also undertake link roles in order to ensure a more in-depth look at some areas of the school's work (eg. we have a Safeguarding link, SEND link, Equalities link, Maths link etc.)

I know that I am speaking for all of our LAB members when I say how incredibly proud we are of the school. It has been wonderful to see the school go from strength to strength over the last few years and this year's outcome following the Ofsted Inspection was "the icing on the cake". The judgement of "outstanding" in 4 of the 5 categories was so well deserved. The staff work so effectively together and are such a strong team. Their dedication to ensuring the best possible education and educational opportunities for your children is commendable and at the forefront of all that they do. It really is a great school and one we love to be associated with. If you have any suggestions as to how we can better communicate with you and/or be more involved with you please don't hesitate to let us know.

Kindest regards,

Janis Taylor

# Invitation to families...



Hello Everyone

From January, the Puffin classroom will be open from 3.30, fortnightly, for anyone who has any questions about Phonics or Reading in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. No need to book. Just Drop in!



Drop in dates for next term will be:

- Monday 13th January
- Monday 27th January
- Monday 10th February



Thanks

Miss Delaney  
Early Reading Leader



# TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

- Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 will be using a new maths programme to support their times table learning in school.
- **Times Table Rock Stars** is a fun way of helping your child consolidate their knowledge of important times table facts.
- Please support your child at home, by using the log in stuck into your child's reading record.
- Follow the link below to find out more about **TTRS!**
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ZxZbRVvbYM>
- If you have any questions, please talk to your child's teacher.





# FOOD SOS

## Food Donation Plea

Get involved now  
**BHFOOD.ORG.UK/FOODSOS**

**#FOODSOSBTN**



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Brighton & Hove  
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Partnership

If you are  
experiencing  
food insecurity,  
please visit

[https://bhfood.  
org.uk](https://bhfood.org.uk)

and go to the  
'[Emergency  
Food](#)' page for  
a list of helpful  
links and  
contacts to  
support you  
through this  
challenging  
time.



## **CITY ACADEMY KIDS GO FREE\***

**WHITEHAWK FC, EAST BRIGHTON PARK, 3PM KO SATURDAYS  
WALK THROUGH THE PARK TO THE GROUND**

**21 DEC v HASHTAG UNITED**

**28 DEC v DULWICH HAMLET**

**01 JAN v LEWES**

**11 JAN v HENDON**

**25 JAN v CRAY WANDERERS**

**ADULT £8 WITH THIS VOUCHER \*WITH AN ADULT**



Did you know that our website (<https://www.caw.brighton-hove.sch.uk/>) can be automatically translated?



Choose a language...

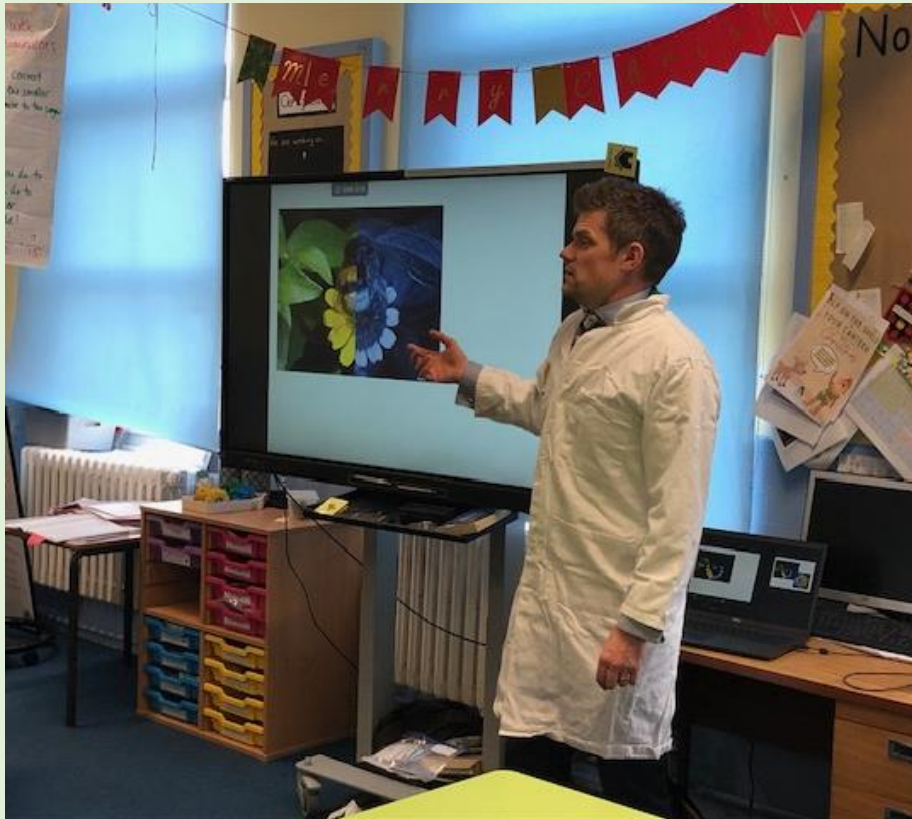
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			Chamorro	Czech	Estonian	Fulani	Hawaiian	Kanuri	Konkani	Limburi	
			Chechen	Danish	Ewe	Ga	Hebrew	Kapampangan	Korean	Lingala	
Alur	Bambara	Bhojpuri	Chichewa	Dari	Faroese	Galician	Hiligaynon	Kazakh	Krio	Lithuanian	
Amharic	Baoulé	Bikol	Chinese (Simplified)	Dhivehi	Fijian	Georgian	Hindi	Khasi	Kurdish (Kurmanji)	Lombard	
Arabic	Bashkir	Bosnian	Chinese (Traditional)	Dinka	Filipino	German	Hmong	Khmer	Kurdish (Sorani)	Luganda	
Armenian	Basque	Breton	Chuukese	Dogri	Finnish	Greek	Hungarian	Jamaican Patois	Kyrgyz	Luo	

Bingo!



# Year 5 Science Workshop From Dr Davies!

Year 5 had a wonderful visit from Brighton College Science teacher, Dr Davies, to help them out with their light topic. Year 5 got to see how different types of prisms focus laser beams, those who were brave enough (not Miss Scozzafava!) got to have a look at a sheep's eye up close and he ended the session explaining how several optical illusions work. We're so grateful for Dr Davies' enthusiasm and we're already making plans for him to return to school in 2025 to work with other year groups!





# Junior Roedean Academy

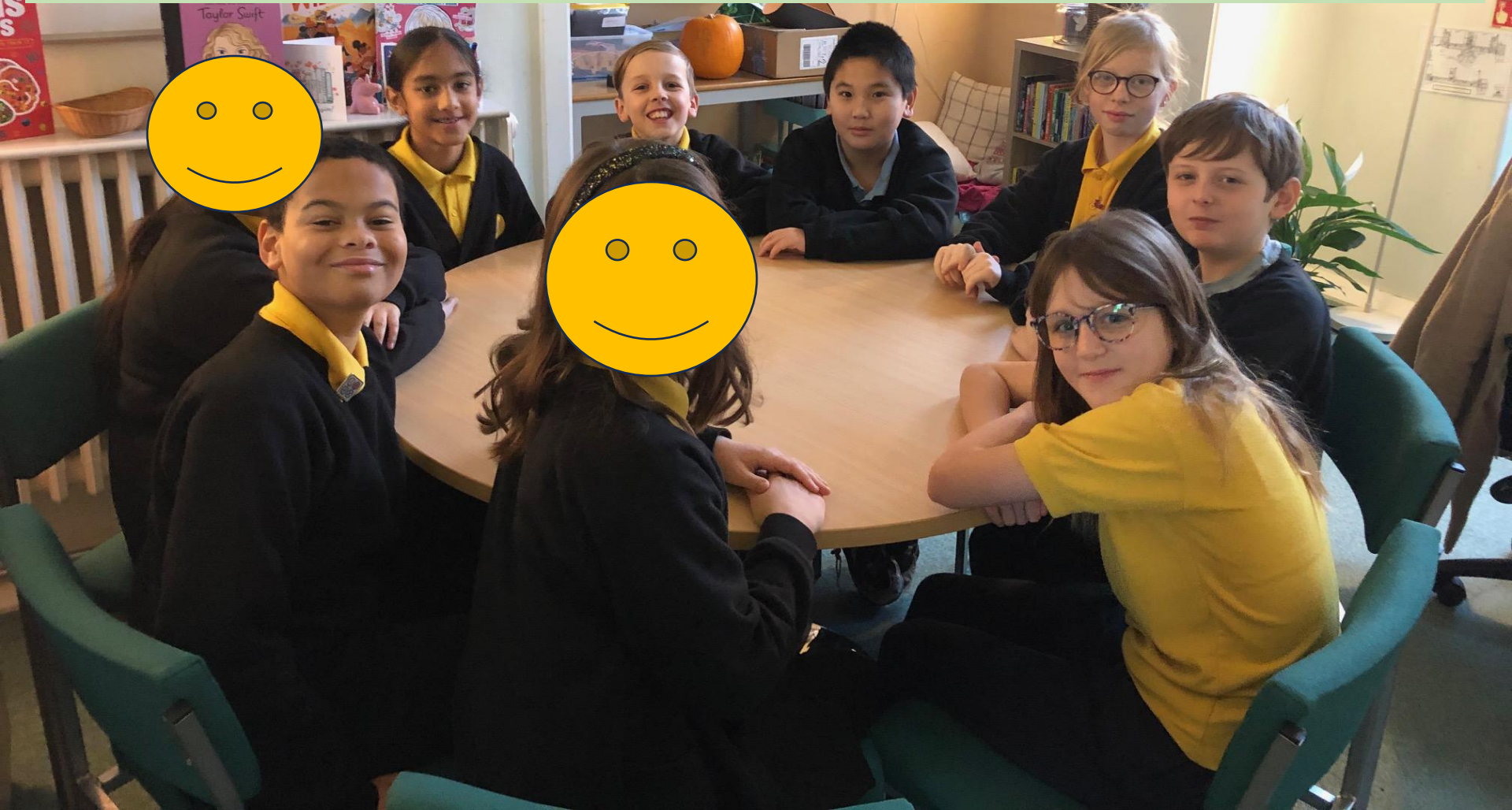
Year 5 have completed a wonderful 7 weeks of the Junior Roedean Academy. This comes about from a close partnership between the CAP (Community Action Project) that the Year 12 students at Roedean take part in and Year 5 CAW pupils. Each week, for 7 weeks across the autumn term, Barn Owls and Herons have visited Roedean to use their facilities and learn all sorts of new things! The Roedean students work on their planning and teaching skills by supporting the groups and then running sessions. We've been archeologists, poets, paper airplane engineers, athletes, biologists and, most memorable of all, farmers!





# Year 6 Ambassador Meeting

Miss Scozzafava had a lovely time with the Year 6 ambassadors talking about what they liked about school and areas they'd like to see developed. They raised some good points that will be discussed at the next leadership meeting!





Year 4 loved visiting Ovingdean Grange Farm. We met Farmer Ben and Farmer Abbie who taught us about the life cycle of various farm animals.



A trip to  
Ovingdean  
Grange Farm







**The City Academy Whitehawk Choir put on a beautiful performance at The Brighton Centre last week. The sold-out show was full of Christmas magic, and a fabulous celebration of all their hard work!**





**The choir were also invited to take a guided tour of The Royal Pavilion and had the privilege of performing in The Music Room.**





Please click [here](#) for an update about what your children are up to this term!



**Nursery**  
Hatchlings



**Year Three**  
Kites  
Kestrels



**Reception**  
Robins



**Year Four**  
Jackdawes  
Magpies



**Year One**  
Puffins  
Woodpeckers



**Year Five**  
Barn Owls  
Hérons



**Year Two**  
Goldfinches  
Greenfinches



**Year Six**  
Eagles  
Falcons

# House Points

Congratulations to **AIR HOUSE** who won the Autumn 2 House Competition, and earnt themselves extra Winter Disco time with a hot chocolate.

We'll be restarting the competition in Spring 1 so each house is back with an equal chance to win. Remember: **EVERY TICKET COUNTS!**



**4900 Air  
points**

**4627 Earth  
points**

**4861 Fire  
points**

**4145 Water  
points**

Each week there are two classes who win a Class Celebration. Congratulations to our previous winners:

	Year 1 to 3	Years 4 to 6
Week 4	Puffins	Eagles
Week 5	Kites	Magpies



# EXCELLENCE

## AWARDED TO

Name:

It could be you!

Class:

Years 1-6

- Keep reviewing your work
- Identify your best bits
- Improve one thing at a time
- Listen to feedback
- Take small steps
- Be proud of your achievements

### Teacher's Comments

Next week, our CAW Quality of the week will be  
**EXCELLENCE/BE BETTER BEE.**

How will you use the CAW Qualities to achieve your  
personal best in your learning?



## Autumn 2 Week 7 CAW Quality of the Week: EXCELLENCE

<b>C</b>	<b>Collaboration</b>	
<b>A</b>	<b>Aspiration</b>	
<b>R</b>	<b>Resilience</b>	
<b>E</b>	<b>Effort</b>	
<b>E</b>	<b>Excellence</b>	
<b>R</b>	<b>Respect</b>	



### CAW Significant Figure of the Week



**Bill Murray**

*Living Legend*

Bill Murray is an American actor, comedian, and writer known for his distinctive voice and deadpan delivery. He first gained fame in the 1970s as a cast member on "Saturday Night Live," where he showcased his unique comedic style. Murray has starred in a variety of films, ranging from comedies like "Ghostbusters" and "Groundhog Day" to more dramatic roles in movies like "Lost in Translation," for which he received an Academy Award nomination.

[Mark Twain Speech](#)

[Top 10 moments](#)

[Meeting Bill Murray](#)

[The myth of Bill Murray](#)

**Who is Chris Packham?**



**Our City,  
Our World**



# ASPIRATION

## AWARDED TO

Name:

It could be you!

Class:

Years 1-6

- Aim for the top
- Achieve your best
- Be proud of yourself
- Apply your learning
- Learn from your mistakes
- Know that you will do it!

Teacher's Comments

We'll be awarding certificates for **ASPIRATION/LEARNING**  
**LION** qualities in the next assembly.

**ASPIRATION** means always aiming to do the very best you can do. Aim for the stars and have high expectations of yourself. You can do it!



CITY ACADEMY WHITEHAWK



## Autumn 2 Week 6 CAW Quality of the Week: ASPIRATION

C

Collaboration



A

Aspiration



R

Resilience



E

Effort



E

Excellence

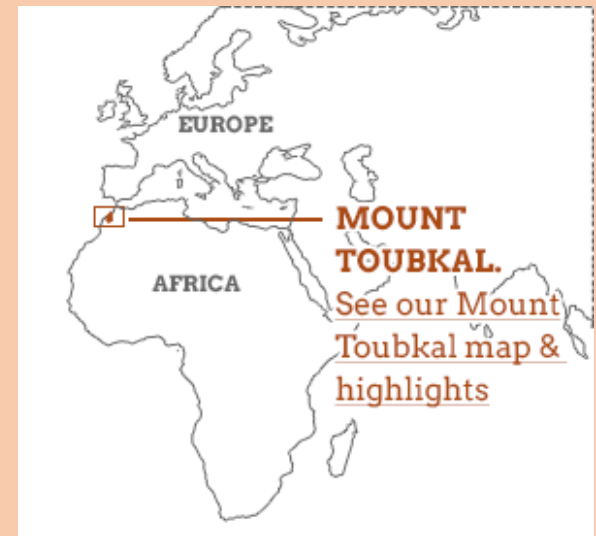


R

Respect



Girl, 6, climbs North Africa's highest mountain



### CAW Significant Figure of the Week

[BBC Article & Video](#)

**Seren Price**

*Mountain Climber and Fundraiser*

**OCOW: Who is John Paul Jose?**



**Our City,  
Our World**



A six-year-old girl has climbed the highest mountain in North Africa, raising money for the hospital that saved her life when she was a baby. Seren, from Carmarthenshire, is the youngest girl to climb Mount Toubkal in the Atlas Mountains in Morocco, her father Glyn said. The pair next plan to climb Mont Blanc, the highest mountain in western Europe, as part of efforts to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital. In 2022, Seren became the **youngest person** to complete the UK's three peaks challenge in under 48 hours, and next year has plans to climb Mont Blanc with her dad. Seren had to spend lots of time training for the climb and trained in all weathers. Despite being so young, her aspiration to achieve incredibly hard things and put others before herself is inspirational!





# Our City, Our World



We are proud to announce that we have launched a **WHOLE SCHOOL INITIATIVE** to join other schools across Brighton and Hove to help build a just and sustainable city.

Our aims at City Academy Whitehawk are to:

1. Raise awareness of environmental issues through weekly class assemblies
2. 'Green' the curriculum by adding environmental learning to our studies
3. Implement school-wide sustainable operations and systems to reduce waste
4. Create opportunities for children to connect with nature

Please ask your children about their weekly **OUR CITY, OUR WORLD** class assemblies, and check the website for more information:

<https://www.ourcityyourworld.co.uk/>

We welcome any ideas that families may have to support this important work! Please send any suggestions to Mr. Wood at: [cawadmin@auroraacademies.org](mailto:cawadmin@auroraacademies.org)

# Attendance and Punctuality



If you would like to chat about your child's attendance or punctuality please contact Mrs Storey in the school office

## Wheel of Fortune Prize Winners

Our lucky winners are selected from children who were at school and on time every day in the previous week...! 😊

### 2nd December

Louie – Kites

Buster – Jackdaws

Robin – Woodpeckers

Eloise – Goldfinches

Tia – Herons

Marian – Falcons

### 9th December

Sydney-Rose – Greenfinches

Renato - Magpies

Mlachy - Falcons

L-Jai – Woodpeckers

Farah - Herons

Elijah - Kites



### **Push on Punctuality...**

Please remember that all children in Reception to year 6 are welcome to come into school every day from **8.30am**.

Everyone arriving after 8.45am will be marked as late.



[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

[How to improve your child's school attendance and where to get support - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](http://blog.gov.uk)



# A Night of Astronomy

Free  
hot chocolates  
and hot dogs

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January**

**4.30 – 6.30**

Falmer Road, Rottingdean

BN2 7FR

Longhill High School

presents

Stargazing with local astronomers

Astronomy Talks & Make & Take activities



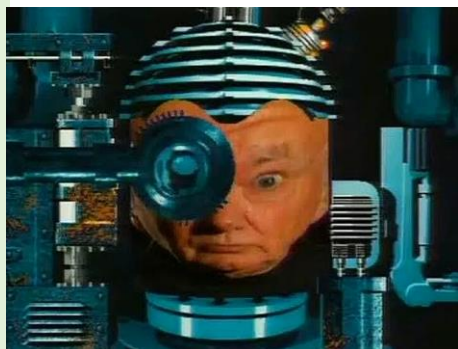
Plenty of activities inside the  
school if the weather is bad.



Book your FREE tickets by  
emailing  
[stargazing@longhill.org.uk](mailto:stargazing@longhill.org.uk)  
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## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS 2024

*What else is on?*



Light Up  
Cards



Magical  
Minecraft



Ingenious  
Inventions



Comet  
Crackers



Festive  
Filming

Different activity theme each day, please check our website for your camp activities.

### What to bring ...



Packed Lunch  
and Snacks



Water  
Bottle



Medication



Weather  
Appropriate  
Clothing

### HOW TO BOOK

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T: 01442 873150





It's [Dyslexia Awareness Week 2024](#)! This year's theme is “**What's Your Story?**” It has three key messages:

- **Every story is different** – showcasing the diversity of the dyslexic community and highlighting that everyone's experience of dyslexia is unique. 10% of the population are dyslexic – that's over 6.7 million stories to tell.
- **A strong opening sets the scene** – raising awareness of the importance of early identification and intervention to ensure that every person with dyslexia can flourish.
- **It's never too late to change your story** – highlighting how the British Dyslexia Association (BDA) can provide support and signposting to help dyslexic people begin a new chapter.

Please follow the link for information on spotting the signs of dyslexia, how to talk to a child about dyslexia and some hints and tips for supporting a dyslexic child at home and school:

[BDA Parent and Carer Information Pack](#)

# Tax-Free Childcare for WASP

We are delighted to be able to confirm that our WASP after school club is now registered to accept payments via the Tax-Free Childcare scheme.

To check if you're eligible and sign up for the scheme please use the link below -

## [Tax-Free Childcare - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare)

If you would like to make payment using this scheme, please advise the office of the payment reference from your account for each child you wish to book into WASP.

**PLEASE NOTE** - you must make payments for each of your children individually and not send one lump sum for multiple children.

When you opt to pay the school through your Tax-Free Childcare Account, it is sent to the school's bank account. We will then need to upload the funds to your Arbor account to enable you to book the place for your child at WASP.

As a minimum, we will upload the payments weekly on a Tuesday. You will then be able to book the days that you require via Arbor as normal. We will be unable to credit your Arbor account until the funds are showing on the school's bank account.

This is a new process for us, so we thank you for your patience whilst we embed this.



# Dates for your Diary

Our term dates for are online: [click here to see them](#)

## **Week of 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Shows

	Tues 17 <sup>th</sup>	Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Thur 19 <sup>th</sup>	Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>
9:15	Y2	Reception & Nursery	Y4	Y6
2:15	Y1	Y3	Y5	

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December:** Last Day of Autumn Term 2

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January:** INSET Day (school closed to children)

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January:** First Day of Spring Term 1