



# Winter Newsletter

Edition 6

December 2022

## Welcome from the CEO

Dear Parents, Carers, and Colleagues,



As we approach the end of the term, and indeed the end of the year, it is always a great opportunity to reflect. During this term, I have continued to feel privileged to witness the most remarkable courage, resilience, and tenacity amongst our pupils and staff. I am immensely proud of what we have achieved in the last term- the learning and progress taking place where pupils and colleagues have been living out "life in all its fullness." This has not only been most obvious in the classroom, but also through conversations I have had with pupils of

all ages. They have been excited by such varied learning opportunities they have been experiencing in their schools. Our December 2022 Newsletter is bursting full of information about what our pupils have been learning, doing and creating and will showcase the highlights of the term for each of our schools. Please do take time to enjoy reading about the wonderful things happening in all our ODBST schools.

The ODBST Shared Services Team continue to work with optimism as we serve all our schools. The team are in an out of schools to support leaders as we strive to ensure all children and our dedicated and talented staff get the very best opportunities to learn and grow, and that they feel supported and challenged at every stage of their development.

The spirit of giving is as usual, alive and well within our ODBST schools. Many well supported charity events have taken place this term, raising considerable amounts of money for various good causes. We collected money for the Poppy Appeal in November. We have also had many opportunities to raise money for various charities, Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children and World Mental Health Day. Charity means so much more when people put themselves out to actually do something positive for other people, and our pupils and staff are experts at this. I would like to sincerely thank all of you who have participated and engaged with our work, supported us, and inspired us.

We are pleased to announce that the ODBST has ambitions to grow the family of schools we currently have so that we can continue to help make a positive impact on more children and families in our communities. The addition of new schools to the ODBST in 2023 will also help us continue to add value to the current schools we serve. This is a very exciting stage in our growth as a Multi Academy Trust.

On behalf of myself and the whole of the ODBST, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents, carers, and colleagues in our schools for their continuous support. It is a blessing to have the wonderful children we serve as part of our family of schools.

I wish you all the joy and peace of Christmas as we reflect on God's love for each one of us. Let us rejoice in the peace we have available to all of us through Christ our Lord, Prince of Peace.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

With very best wishes and blessing,

Sulina Piesse  
Chief Executive officer, The ODBST

### Inside this issue:

Welcome from the CEO	1
A message from the Chair of Trustees	2
Elmtree Infant and Nursery School	3
St John's Lacey Green	4
Curzon School	5
Padbury School	6
St Mary's School	7
Christ The Sower Ecumenical School	8
Chesham Bois School	9
Longwick School School	10
Great Horwood	11
Woodside Junior School	12
Thomas Harding Junior School	13
Christmas Cards	14
ODBST Conference	15
ODBST 2022 Round up	16
Where we are	17

**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:  
[www.odbsht.org.uk](http://www.odbsht.org.uk)**

**Facebook page:  
@ODBST**

**Our twitter feed:  
@bucks.oxford**

**Our LinkedIn page:  
Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust**



**A Message from the Chair of Trustees**



On behalf of the Trustees for ODBST I am writing to wish a very happy festive break to everyone and a great time for those celebrating Christmas.

As Trustees we have an overview of all the schools in the Trust and ensure that the schools get the support they need. I have been the chair of the Trust since July and I have managed to visit nearly all the schools in that time. It has been lovely to see our unique schools thriving in their local communities and seeing the commitment of staff first hand. I was particularly impressed by the purposefulness of lessons and in many cases the fun of learning. It was good to see schools getting 'back to normal' after all the recent upheaval. I know too that it has often taken a special effort from parents to help achieve this with different working patterns and financial pressures.

Like our schools we have a lot of paperwork to look at, but the important message that this gives to us is that we can see how much our schools are doing every day and how much they are achieving in supporting the children and their families.

There are, of course, continuing challenges for schools and families, but we are optimistic for the new year. The Trust is continuing to grow and we are looking to welcome a number of schools. A lot of schools are also looking at our trust as a good place to be as they see the quality of support we provide and the values that underpin everything we do.

Thank you and have a wonderful Christmas,

Michael Mill

Chair of Trustees ODBST



**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:  
Www.odbsht.org.uk**

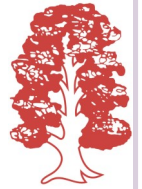
**Facebook page:  
@ODBST**

**Our twitter feed:  
@bucks.oxford**

**Our LinkedIn page:  
Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust**



## What has been happening at Elmtree this term?



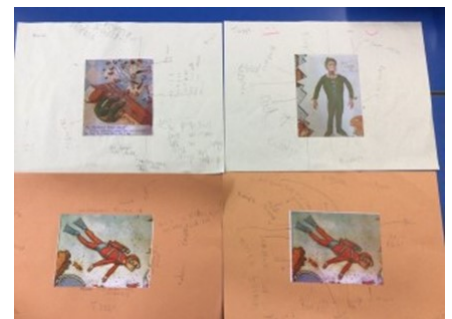
There has been a lot going on in the run up to Christmas this term. As part of Elmtree's Wild Woods provision, Year one have been learning how to light a fire safely using flint and steel-they even managed to toast some marshmallows! Wild Woods is an exciting educational experience that the children at Elmtree are able to participate in. It makes use of the natural environment, offering an innovative approach to outdoor play and learning.

Reception were able to go on their first school trip to Dr Challoner's school. There they were able to participate in lots of great activities including balancing on a beam and jumping off a trampet, throwing balls at a target, racing on body boards and stacking cups.



In Nursery, Friendship has been the focus for this term. Elmtree have been learning what it means to be a good friend. The children were able to suggest ways in which they could be kind, sharing toys, playing with each other, helping each other and taking turns. They also learnt the Makaton sign for Friend!

Year two have had a fantastic time in their English lessons, writing about Traction Man. The children learnt to use expanded noun phrases, commas in a list and different types of punctuation. They used this to write their own extensions of the Traction Man story. They have also enjoyed learning about the Great Fire of London this half term. The class was lucky enough to receive a visit from a real-life Fireman! They learnt about how the fire service has changed over the years and how London was rebuilt after the fire in 1666. In Design and Technology, the topic was extended and the class studied the houses from the Great Fire of London. They made houses from different materials using a variety of joins to ensure a strong and sturdy structure.



Elmtree also took part in the UNISON stars in our school day on the 25th of November. Stars in our school is a day in which schools celebrate their support staff and the wonderful work that they do everyday. Support staff can be found throughout the fabric of our schools, from crossing patrol officers to teaching and classroom assistants, from school business managers to catering staff. It is a way to make sure the world knows just how vital they are to the education of our children. The school said a special thanks to Mrs Palmer-Griffin for all her help. It is wonderful that her efforts were recognised.

Elmtree made sure that all staff were given goodie bags and treats to say thank you for their hard work.



**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:  
Www.odbsht.org.uk**

**Facebook page:  
@ODBST**

**Our twitter feed:  
@bucks.oxford**

**Our LinkedIn page:  
Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust**



**What has been happening at St John's Lacey Green this term?**



Year three at St John's, were delighted to be able to spend some time enjoying a Ranger Day at Winchester Wood, Loosely Row. The day was run by Chiltern rangers, who work with communities to provide practical habitat management in Bucks and the wider Chilterns. They manage 13 nature reserves for Buckinghamshire Council in the Wycombe area and help a range of conservation and local authority partners with habitat management in their woodlands, chalk grassland, commons, ponds and chalk streams. The children were able to take part in a conservation project to create a habitat for butterflies and insects.

St John's Sports teams continue to be successful and competitive, winning their mixed football and netball competitions respectively. Their Year 5/6 Tag Rugby team won all of their matches and brought the trophy back to school!



The school also created a community memorial with pupils, parents, staff and local businesses painting pebbles. These were then installed by Year 6 pupils at the memorial in Church Lane in the village and blessed by Reverend Canon Tony Bundock. The instalment was part of a project being run by Forces Employment Charity, who provide life-long and life-changing support for service leavers and veterans to find and remain in employment. The memorial has now been permanently installed by the Elizabeth Garden in school.



St John's also took on a whole school theme week to celebrate First People's Day. Each class learned about an indigenous population. Y6 Learned about slavery in the United States. At the end of the week, they shared all the work with their parents by hosting an exhibition in the hall. There was some spectacular work on show.



**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:**  
[www.odbsht.org.uk](http://www.odbsht.org.uk)

**Facebook page:**  
[@ODBST](https://www.facebook.com/ODBST)

**Our twitter feed:**  
[@bucks.oxford](https://twitter.com/bucks.oxford)

**Our LinkedIn page:**  
[Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust](https://www.linkedin.com/company/oxford-diocesan-bucks-schools-trust)



**What has been happening at Curzon this term?**

Curzon were delighted to welcome Bishop Alan (Bishop of Buckingham), Sulina Piesse (CEO of the ODBST), members of the



ODBST shared services team and some of their governors to their welcome assembly. Bishop Alan led an assembly welcoming Curzon into the Oxford Diocesan Bucks Schools Trust and Sulina Piesse presented the Headteacher with an official plaque. The school's House Captains shared what they value about Curzon and the whole school sang a hymn to the Bishop. This celebration assembly would

normally have happened two years ago when we joined the trust but was delayed due to Covid.

The children were also treated to a visit from Science Oxford, which they thoroughly enjoyed. They had the opportunity to broaden their knowledge on a range of topics. Years 5 and 6 were able to enter the planetarium – an inflatable dome set up in the hall which enabled the children to watch an interactive film whilst feeling like they were on the moon. One child said, 'This is the best thing we've ever done at school.'

Pupils were transported back in time to experience what life was like in the past with a visit to the Chiltern Open Air Museum. They entered the Stone Age camp and enjoyed building shelters, foraging for food, learning how to use a bow and arrow as well as striking flints to make fire. Afternoon activities, such as shaping clay pots, churning butter, grinding wheat and making flatbread gave an insight into life in the Iron Age. The pupils entered fully into the spirit of the historical adventure. 'Going to COAM was so much fun. We got to do many different activities. We loved doing all of



them but most of all I loved trying to make fire.'

Year 6 pupils participated in a Great Exhibition where they displayed and shared their wonderful Victorian projects about the first steam trains, schools, punishment and important figures. All of the projects showed creativity and a lot of hard work. Year 6 also enjoyed being Victorian School children (and teachers!) for the day. They had a class inspection and used dip pens and chalk boards to do Victorian style lessons of Reading Writing and Arithmetic. In the afternoon, the children had yard time and a needlework lesson.





**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:  
Www.odbsht.org.uk**

**Facebook page:  
@ODBST**

**Our twitter feed:  
@bucks.oxford**

**Our LinkedIn page:  
Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust**



**What has been happening at Padbury this term?**

The children in Beech class had the opportunity to learn all about the events that unfolded during the Gun Powder Plot. This whole day workshop was led by an outside company, and they immersed the children in drama activities, hot seating, and many more exciting activities. The children were bubbling with excitement throughout the day and full over all the details that happened.

Once again, the time came to celebrate Children in Need. The School Council children had a wealth of ideas about how to maximise the fundraising opportunity. These included:

- The children wearing their own clothes or if they wished, clothes with the Pudsey Colours.
- Cake sale at break time and after school if any were left!
- Bring a teddy for the Great Teddy Parade. The event was a huge success, and the children were very excited!



For the Padbury Christmas Festival, each class at school made and decorated sections of the nativity story which formed part of a banner. This banner is hanging in the Church and can be viewed over the Christmas Festival weekend. In preparing the banner, the children used different techniques ranging from finger painting to sewing. Visitors will be able admire the hard work that has gone into it from all the children and Mrs Pepler. It is remarkable how much has been achieved in such a short time.

From all at Padbury Church of England School, Merry Christmas.



**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:**  
[www.odbsht.org.uk](http://www.odbsht.org.uk)

**Facebook page:**  
[@ODBST](https://www.facebook.com/ODBST)

**Our twitter feed:**  
[@bucks.oxford](https://twitter.com/bucks.oxford)

**Our LinkedIn page:**  
[Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust](https://www.linkedin.com/company/oxford-diocesan-bucks-schools-trust)



**What has been happening at St Mary's Aylesbury this term?**

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of the Autumn Term, fast approaching Christmas and the end of the year. Time certainly flies when you are having fun!

The Autumn Term is always an extremely busy one for St Mary's, as it is in most schools. The children quickly settled back into school life, and have welcomed the new Reception cohort into the St Mary's family. The school have also welcomed new staff into the amazing team; they have worked hard to not only provide great learning experiences but learn the St Mary's way of working.

St Mary's joined the ODBST in July 2020, during the pandemic, so we were unable to celebrate properly. However, at the end of September we held a very special Collective Worship to mark the event. To help celebrate they welcomed members of the ODBST's shared services team as well as The Bishop of Buckingham, Alan Wilson to join the assembly.



Bishop Alan, who is also a trustee of the ODBST and Chair of the Oxford Diocese Board of Education, gave a very informative talk to the children on what life was like as a bishop as well as formally welcoming them to the ODBST family. To celebrate, the children performed some beautiful songs and the newly elected house captains reminded everyone of their six Christian values that we endeavour to follow in our day to day lives: Respect, Hope, Compassion, Truth, Love and Forgiveness. The Bishop also had a tour of the school and was very impressed with the provision they offer and how focused the children were on their learning. They definitely shone as lights in the world.

All the St Mary's pupils and staff would like to wish their extended family in the ODBST and beyond a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!



**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:**  
[www.odbsht.org.uk](http://www.odbsht.org.uk)

**Facebook page:**  
[@ODBST](https://www.facebook.com/ODBST)

**Our twitter feed:**  
[@bucks.oxford](https://twitter.com/bucks.oxford)

**Our LinkedIn page:**  
[Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust](https://www.linkedin.com/company/oxford-diocesan-bucks-schools-trust)



**Empowering our unique Schools to Excel**

**What has been happening at Christ the Sower this term?**



This term has seen a huge amount of sporting success for Christ the



Sower (CTS). Their football team was a huge success in the local league, the basketball team narrowly missed out on a place at the national finals, and in cross country – their head boy qualified for the County team.

Christ the Sower have also been focusing on reading this term, particularly reading for pleasure and the sharing and enjoyment of books. They have reorganized all of their reading books internally and set up an exchange scheme so that there are always books available for children to take home and keep. They have set up an area in the playground for reading, with books available at every break and lunchtime for children to borrow and their House captains have also set up a reading club at lunchtime in the library where they share books with our younger children. Further to this, during advent, the staff have been reading a story each day and sharing it with the community via the school's social channels and website. This will continue right up to Christmas Eve.

A young leaders' group, working towards the Archbishop of York's Young Leaders award, was conceived this term. The group will be a committed social action leadership group that will work hard to make a change in the local community. They plan to do this by bringing their CARE ethos and Christian values out into the wider community through community action projects.

CTS were very excited to be able to team up with the Brilliant Club to send 14 of their Year 6 pupils to university for a special Art History Undergraduate programme. All year 6 pupils were able to apply for a place on the programme, the only stipulation being that 60% of the candidates must be inline to be the first generation to attend university or be in receipt of Free school meals. All of the applications were considered and then narrowed down to the final 14 scholars who will be attending university for an opening ceremony in January and starting the term-long programme in the Spring term.



Christ the Sower is in Milton Keynes which means Starship Delivery Robots operate in their area to deliver shopping and takeaways. The company ran a local competition, asking primary pupils to design a new robot that would serve Grange Farm and a year 6 pupils won the prize! They were visited at school by their local MP, who held an assembly to congratulate her and present her with her prize. Andy Curtis of Starship Robots also attended, and he was accompanied by the prize-winning robot design! This robot will now be out and about on the Grange Farm estate, serving local members of our community. What an amazing achievement!



**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:  
Www.odbsht.org.uk**

**Facebook page:  
@ODBST**

**Our twitter feed:  
@bucks.oxford**

**Our LinkedIn page:  
Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust**



**What has been happening at Chesham Bois this term?**



Miss Mitt and Miss Tilbey had the pleasure of accompanying Chesham



Bois (CBS) choir during their visits to local care homes on Thursday 8th December. The children performed an array of Christmas Carols and songs to the residents and shared some Christmas joy. They all sang beautifully and did CBS proud. Later that evening, the choir also sang at St Mary's Church as part of their Christmas service. The children impressed Sarah Green, MP and Amersham's Mayor!

For the first time in a long time, CBS have joined a netball league. Their Year 6 children have played in a number of matches so far and have had some great wins! On Thursday 17th November, they played their first match at home against Ley Hill School. The game started well with CBS scoring the first few goals, by the end of the first quarter they were 4-0 up! Ley Hill scored two goals during the rest of the match, but due to excellent team work, great defending from Keia, Michael and Nicholas and secret weapon Tommy, who played GA, the final score was 12-2 to CBS. What a fantastic start to the league! They also took part in a very memorable netball match on Thursday 24th November, away at Chartridge School. To say the rain was heavy would be somewhat of an understatement. It was more monsoon like! The Year 6 team battled bravely against the opposition (plus the weather) and were very unfortunate to lose the game (3-2). On Thursday 1st December, the netball team played their third match against Hawridge and Cholesbury. It started well and by the first half the score was 4-0 to CBS. After a few quick changes to the team, another 3 goals were scored, taking the final score to 7-0 to CBS!

On Wednesday 30th November, Year 5 visited Slough Mosque. On arriving, the children very quickly noticed the minaret and dome. The children were also very aware of how neat and well looked after the Mosque was and the symmetrical carpets faced the direction of Mecca. During their visit, the children enjoyed writing their names in Arabic, smelling fragrant perfumes, trying on different outfits, tasting new food and learning more about The Qur'an. CBS would like to thank Slough Mosque for allowing the children to visit and for taking the time to set up all the engaging and informative activities.

**Remembrance Service**



Thank you to the members of CBS School Council who joined the Remembrance Parade and Service at St Leonard's Church on Sunday 13th November. It was lovely to see lots of CBS involved in other groups like Brownies and Cubs too.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:  
Www.odbsht.org.uk**

**Facebook page:  
@ODBST**

**Our twitter feed:  
@bucks.oxford**

**Our LinkedIn page:  
Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust**



**What has been happening at Longwick this term?**

It has been a wonderful, exciting term at Longwick C of E Combined school. Here are a few highlights from this term.

**Friday 7th October 2022 Harvest Celebration at St Mary's church:** All the children gathered for a wonderful celebration for Harvest at St Mary's church in Princes Risborough. The children sang several songs and shared a variety of poetry, artwork, and readings to celebrate this special time of year, giving thanks for Harvest.

**Wednesday 19th October Year 3 Nature Walk:** Year 3 children walked 6 miles from Whiteleaf Cross to Longwick school on a local school trip. They took in some beautiful views and spoke to several locals in the area. They even met a thatcher who was a grandparent of one of the Year 3 children hard a work. It was a very memorable trip!



**Friday 11th November 2022 War Memorial Remembrance :** The Year 6 children visited the war memorial, sharing poetry and prayers to mark the important day. The rest of the school gathered on the playground for two minutes silence . To all who have been and who are still affected by war today, we stand with you, and you are in our thoughts.

**Thursday 17th November 2022 Forest School :** Several year groups have had Forest School sessions as part of their PE curriculum this term. A photographer came in to school and captured this for our school website .



**Saturday 3rd December 2022 Longwick Christmas Fair:** Longwick school opened it's doors for the first Christmas fair in two years on the school grounds. It was a resounding success; the school was a busy hive of Christmas activities and festivities.

**Monday 12th December 2022 Christmas Carol Village Hall Sing Along :**The Longwick Choir and Year 5 Readers joined the WWI and members of the parish and local community to sing their Christmas songs and share readings to celebrate Advent and the Christmas story.





OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

Visit our social  
media pages

Website:  
[www.odbsht.org.uk](http://www.odbsht.org.uk)

Facebook page:  
@ODBST

Our twitter feed:  
@bucks.oxford

Our LinkedIn page:  
Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust



## What has been happening at Great Horwood this term?



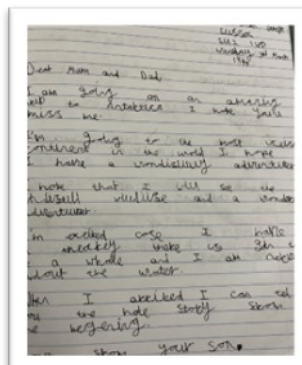
This term, Acorns have been exploring festival of lights that happen during this time of the year. They loved exploring the festival of Diwali. Mrs Kaul very kindly let them dress up in some of her children's clothes; they tasted onion bhajis, pakoras and samosas and created their very own Mendi patterns! To help them with this learning, we explored different books which shared the different experiences of Diwali!



Conkers have been learning all about toys. They have been reading 'Traction Man' by Mini Grey and have written great character descriptions, setting descriptions and instructions. In history, Conkers have been learning all about the history of toys. The children have created some lovely pieces of artwork based on toys and the art of Quentin Blake. Conkers have also been creating their own toy puppets in DT.

Hawthorns had a fantastic day applying their knowledge and understanding of Vikings to a variety of practical and creative tasks. The children were given the challenge of building a longhouse and then photographing and advertising it to make Miss Briginshaw want to purchase it instead of the other teams. After this, they had a go at measuring out, mixing, and kneading their own soda bread dough. In the afternoon, they were able to get creative with clay and create the brooches the children had designed earlier in the term. There were lots of evaluations and tweaks made during the crafting process and all of the children were able to clearly explain their reasons for this. They were also very fortunate to be able to touch and even wear some artefacts. The children (and Miss Briginshaw and Mrs Kaul) had a fantastic day and found it a brilliant way to round off our topic of Vikings and Anglo Saxons.

During this half term in English, Maples have been reading Shackleton's journey. The children have created diaries as one of the crew members describing the expedition to Antarctica! A letter written as one of the crew members telling their family what they have seen on their voyage. Maples have also created a setting description about the ship Endurance crashing in the middle of the Ocean in Antarctica. In Geography, Maples have been using longitude and latitude to find different continents in an Atlas. In Art, we have been creating an Antarctic scene. Using tint, tone and shade with watercolours to show the wintery setting.





**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:**  
[www.odbsht.org.uk](http://www.odbsht.org.uk)

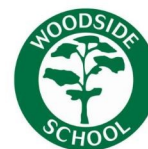
**Facebook page:**  
[@ODBST](https://www.facebook.com/ODBST)

**Our twitter feed:**  
[@bucks.oxford](https://twitter.com/bucks.oxford)

**Our LinkedIn page:**  
[Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Oxford-Diocese-Bucks-Schools-Trust)



**What has been happening at Woodside this term?**



New to Woodside's curriculum this year is an in-depth study of a region in Europe. In recent weeks, the children have been learning about the countries, capitals, landmarks, culture, seas, rivers, mountains and human and physical features of Europe. This culminated in a day of learning all about Italy which included the children speaking in Italian as they walked around the school. They enjoyed some tasty Italian treats and produced some beautiful work, and discovered that the Leaning Tower of Pisa was never intended to lean! Throughout their time at Woodside, pupils learn about the UK, Europe and North and South America. The knowledge and skills they learn in one year provide the building blocks for the next. This unit of work also provides a useful context to the children in Year 4 as they move on to learn about Ancient Greece and Rome as well as the Alps. Thank you to all of the staff in year 4 who made this learning come to life!

Woodside are always amazed at not only their children's talents but also at 'hidden' talents of adults who work there. They are so lucky to draw on Mr Bruce's talent to produce beautiful murals around the school, as well as scenery for all our school productions. During last summer, Mr Bruce worked extremely hard to produce a nature themed mosaic made from reusable materials to be displayed at the school. This initiative was undertaken with Mrs Webber, science lead, who is so passionate about the environment. She inspires pupils through her work with the schools Eco-Council. Children were collecting milk bottle tops and Mrs Bruce, as if by magic, turned them into a mosaic of a frog.



Black History Month takes place every October and has been celebrated nationwide for more than 30 years. It is a time for us to reflect on the achievements of Black people and to celebrate the part that Black British people have played and continue to play in shaping British culture. At Woodside, we recognise the significance of this month, and are proud to have a curriculum where minority groups are represented and celebrated as an important part of our history. This is achieved through texts in English; teaching in PSHE; the artists studied in art and music; sporting achievements; learning in RE; and through the geography and history curriculum- which culminates in a unit of work on Black British History in Year 6 which spans the long arc of 2000 years from Roman to 21st Century Britain.



The school's Well-being Ambassadors ran two highly successful photo booths during their lunch breaks. We have been planning this for a while now so it was really lovely to finally make it happen. The photo booth was a chance for pupils to celebrate their friendships as well as take a stand against bullying and promote kindness. It was a real success and the children in all year groups had such a lot of fun! Thank you to the wonderful team of pupils who led this for us with such incredible enthusiasm!

**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:  
Www.odbsht.org.uk**

**Facebook page:  
@ODBST**

**Our twitter feed:  
@bucks.oxford**

**Our LinkedIn page:  
Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust**



**What has been happening at Thomas Harding Junior School this term?**



Thomas Harding's year launched with a focus on field work in geography. Every year group went on a local study trip as well as geo-catching in the local area. They finished the unit with parents walking around the school to see all of the fantastic work the children had undertaken.



Year 5 worked together with Ben Fogle to learn about saving water and why it is important to protect our precious chalk rivers. You can see them take part in the project on Affinity Waters' YouTube channel, where we can all learn about how we can save our chalk streams by doing something as simple as turning off the tap when we brush our teeth.

Every child in school has been entered for and is working towards their Junior Duke award! It is a really exciting opportunity for all of the children to learn key life skills, increasing their independence, confidence and resilience as well as working closely with the local community. The challenges range from First Aid, eco, exercise, domestic challenges, budgeting for packed lunches, fixing a puncture, building a fire, baking, cooking, washing sheets, making PowerPoints and public speaking, knitting, litter-picking.

Thomas Harding have had a wonderful time being able to go on more school trips again this term. Year 6 had an amazing time at Milestone Museum where they were able to build on all their knowledge of WWII. Year 5 visited Hazard Alley to reinforce all the lessons they have learnt in PSHE about being safe. Year 4 went into London and got to go on the London Eye. Year 3 have been on several local study trips and to their local church to support their work in RE.

The count down to Christmas has been magical. Whole school Christmas shows, winter fayres, panto trips, festive jumper days and Christmas dinners.

The children and staff have done it all and have loved every second!





**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:  
[www.odbsht.org.uk](http://www.odbsht.org.uk)**

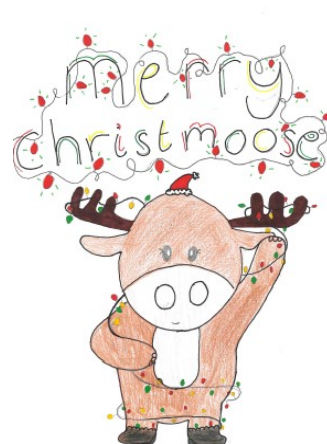
**Facebook page:  
[@ODBST](https://www.facebook.com/ODBST)**

**Our twitter feed:  
[@bucks.oxford](https://twitter.com/bucks.oxford)**

**Our LinkedIn page:  
Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust**

**It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...**

Here is a selection of our school's wonderful Christmas cards for you to enjoy.





**OXFORD DIOCESAN  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Office  
Moat Farm  
Marsh Lane  
Stoke Mandeville  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP22 5UZ

Phone : 07741 328312  
Admin@odbst.org

**Visit our social  
media pages**

**Website:**  
**[www.odbsht.org.uk](http://www.odbsht.org.uk)**

**Facebook page:**  
**@ODBST**

**Our twitter feed:**  
**@bucks.oxford**

**Our LinkedIn page:**  
**Oxford Diocesan Bucks  
Schools Trust**



**Empowering our unique Schools to Excel**

**ODBST celebrates five years of serving Schools in Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes at its annual Conference**

Trustees, The Shared Services Team, Headteachers and Governors of the Oxford Diocesan Bucks Schools Trust (ODBST) joined together for the Trust's annual conference and to celebrate its fifth birthday at the beginning of November. It was an opportunity to share our work and the best practice that exists across our schools, with schools both already part of the ODBST family as well as those schools who are looking to join us.



This year's conference focused on Thriving through inspiring Teaching with guest speaker Claire Gadsby. Claire offered the schools inspiring ways to lift the teaching in their schools, renew energy and reignite the love of learning for all without adding to workloads. Little steps and practical advice to realise effective change in school. Claire commented that "It was a joy to be part of the ODBST family for the day".

The Trust's value of community was evident throughout the days proceedings with collaborative sessions and networking opportunities. The ODBST believes that quality relationships and partnerships are a central element of interdependence: all are needed and valued, every person is important.

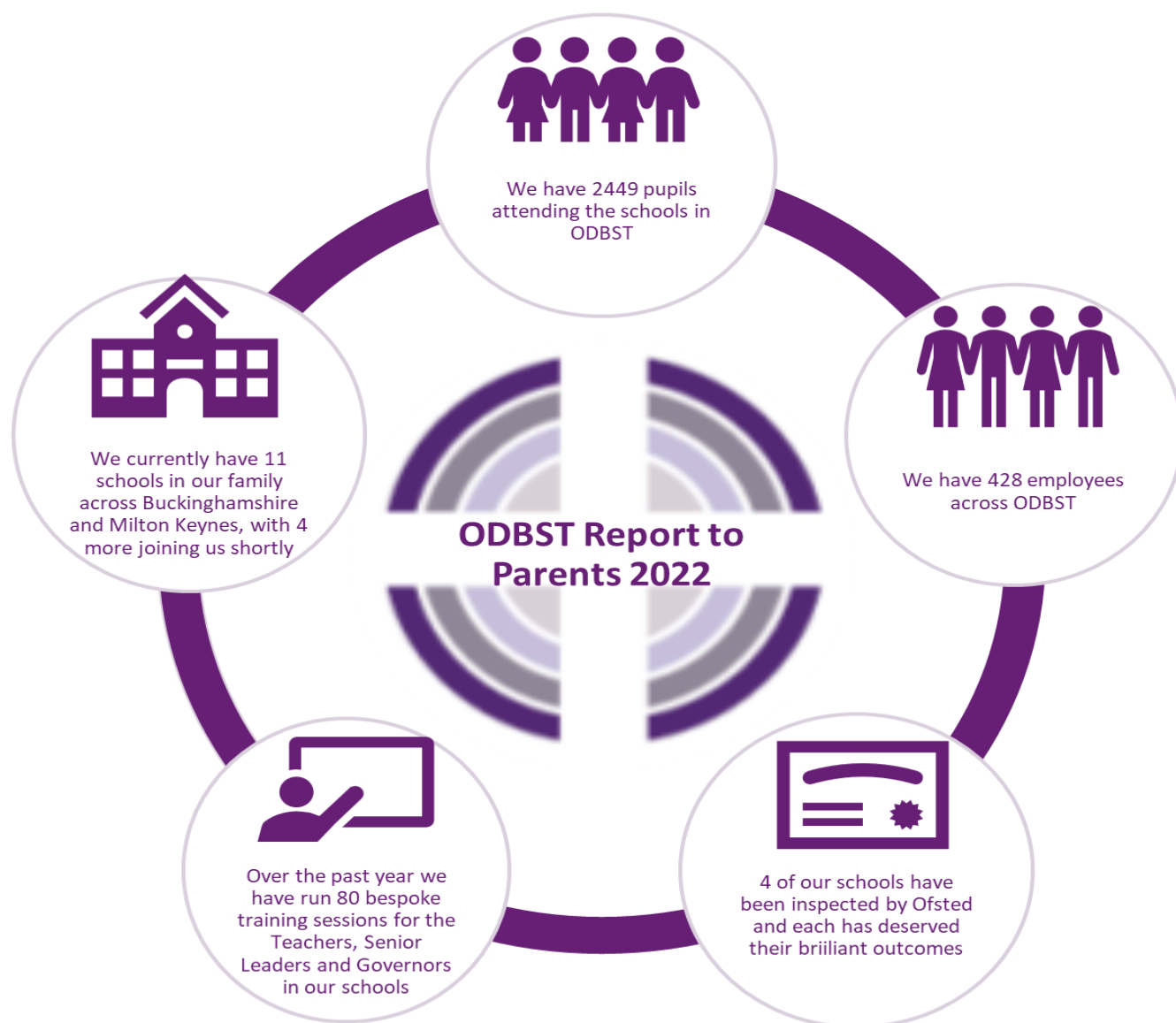
When the final sessions closed, all attendees gathered together to share in the Trust's Birthday cake. Sulina Piesse, CEO of ODBST commented that the Trust was celebrating "five years of collectively making a difference to the lives of the young people in our schools, through our values of empowerment, inclusivity, community, and service. I am both proud and privileged to be part of such a wonderful organisation and to be working with talented individuals who seek to ensure that all their children and communities are well-served through our stewardship. I look forward to the next milestone in our journey together!".



Lucy, an ODBST Headteacher said; "Working with the Trust is excellent and I would not now want to work in a school that is not part of the Trust family. I feel fully supported in every aspect of school life. The CPD for staff is effective and the rigorous support in evaluating teaching and learning means we continually grow to be the best that we can be."

Claire, Chair of Governors at Longwick School commented; "Governors have a great sense of security knowing that

the Trust can steer our school in the right direction in many different areas, including school improvement, HR and policies".



**“Empowering our unique schools to excel”**

**ODBST vision, values, and summary of our priorities**

Each of our schools has a unique character of its own and we will work to ensure that this vision embraces all our pupils and adults, regardless of background and belief. We empower our schools to deliver a broad, enriched, and exciting curriculum, coupled with a shared zest for life and learning.

We have identified 4 core values that resonate with what we believe the ODBST Learner, and Leader should follow and live by. They reflect the values that are central to our schools and the diocese. Through our values, we aim for excellence for everyone in our Trust. Building on the uniqueness of our pupils, families, and school communities, we strive to enable everyone to develop and thrive intellectually, socially, culturally, and spiritually.



**We aspire for every pupil and adult to ‘experience life in all its fullness’ (John 10:10)**

### St Mary's CE Combined School



Ofsted:	Good
email:	office@st-marysayersbury.bucks.sch.uk
website:	https://www.st-marysayersbury.bucks.sch.uk/

### Chesham Bois CE School



Ofsted:	Outstanding
email:	Office@cbschool.co.uk
website:	www.cheshamboisschool.co.uk

### Curzon CE Combined School



Ofsted:	Good
email:	office@curzonschool.com
website:	www.curzonschool.co.uk

### Thomas Harding Junior School



Ofsted:	Good
email:	office@thomasharding.bucks.sch.uk
website:	www.thomasharding.org.uk

### Christ the Sower Ecumenical School



Ofsted:	Inadequate
email:	school@ctsmk.org.uk
website:	www.cts.milton-keynes.sch.uk

### St John's CE Combined School



Ofsted:	Good
email:	office@stjohn.bucks.sch.uk
website:	www.stjohn.bucks.sch.uk

### Woodside Junior School



Ofsted:	Good
email:	office@woodside.bucks.sch.uk
website:	www.woodsidejunior.co.uk

### Longwick CE Combined School



Ofsted:	Good
email:	office@longwick.bucks.sch.uk
website:	www.longwick.bucks.sch.uk

### Great Horwood CE Combined School



Ofsted:	Good
email:	office@greathorwoodschool.org
website:	www.greathorwood.bucks.sch.uk

### Elmtree Infant and Nursery School



Ofsted:	Good
email:	office@elmtree.bucks.sch.uk
website:	www.elmtreeschoolandnursery.co.uk/

### Padbury CE School



Ofsted:	Good
email:	office@padbury.bucks.sch.uk
website:	WWW.PADBURY SCHOOL.CO.UK

