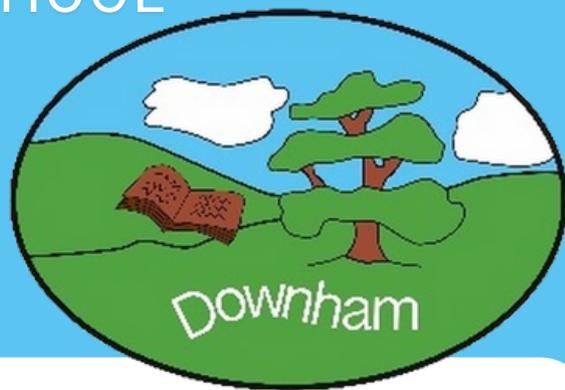


NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING ALL TO SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS

CHALLENGE - CREATIVITY- CRITICAL THINKING-
COLLABORATION - COURAGE



Edition 15: 19th December 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a very busy final week of the term! On Monday, Year 6 were incredible in their Christingle carol service. It really was an amazing performance; the singing sounded wonderful and watching the children perform by candlelight in such a beautiful building was truly magical. The pupils in 3, 4 and 5 wowed the audience with their musical extravaganza. The atmosphere was brilliant and the children's enthusiastic medley of Nativity songs had people up on their feet dancing! Our Christmas lunch was so full of joy and excitement. Thanks to our Catering Team for the cooking for all the children and staff - and to Father Christmas for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit us!

As this term draws to a close, we are now looking ahead to 2026. We have already signed the pupils up for the Infant and Junior Music Festivals and the Mighty Oak Public Speaking competition. We have listened to your comments and will also be entering the children into the cross country event at Mayflower School, in addition to two more events with the Chelmsford AC Primary School XC League. It is a privilege to be part of such a vibrant and positive school community.

On behalf of all the staff, we would like to thank you for all the cards, gifts and good wishes we have received. We wish you ALL a wonderful Christmas and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 5th January 2026. With warmest wishes, from Ms Walker, Executive Headteacher, NPQEL & Miss Bailey, Executive Deputy Headteacher, NPQH



Thank you to the Ray family for the welcome gift of a new football for every class!



ATTENDANCE:

Here is the attendance for each class
for the whole of Autumn Term:

Ducklings - 94.0%

Robins - 92.3%

Nightingales - 94.7%

Woodpeckers - 94.1%

Kingfishers - 93.5%

Owls - 94.4%

Eagles - 90.5%



WELL DONE NIGHTINGALES!

IMPORTANT DATES:

5 Jan: First day of Spring 1

12 Jan: Year 1 Parent Information Session in hall, 2.30pm

13 Jan: Year 4 Parent Information Session in hall, 2.45pm

19 Jan: Year 6 Parent Information Session in hall, 2.45pm

21 Jan: Bowling event (invitation only)

22 Jan: Cross country race 3

30 Jan Dental check for EYFS & Year 3

4 Feb: Year 3 trip to Chelmsford Museum

6 Feb: NSPCC Number Day

10 Feb: Safer Internet Day

10 & 11 Feb: Parents' Evening



OUR DOWNHAM 5C AWARD WINNERS FOR THIS WEEK:

Year 1 - All of Robins for collaboration, creativity and challenge

Year 2 - Grace for collaboration

Year 3 - Johnny for collaboration

Year 4 - Teddy for challenge and critical thinking

Year 5 - Lloyd for collaboration

Year 6 - Brandon, Betsy, Kayden & Jorja for courage



HEADTEACHER'S AWARD

This week the Headteacher's Award goes to Teddy Y in Ducklings, for being exceptionally kind and helpful to his friends.

Well done, Teddy!



A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of all the Governors, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you all very much for the support you have given our wonderful teaching staff this term, led by our new Head, Miss Bailey. It has been an exciting term for us, not just because of our successful SIAMS inspection result, but also because of the many Christmas activities which were organised, especially those shared with the local community, highlighting our very gifted and talented pupils.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and are looking forward to an equally exciting and fulfilling 2026 at Downham.

Linda Wright, Chair of Governors