



'Sowing Seeds – Bearing Fruit – Harvesting Potential'
Husthwaite CE Primary School and Apple Tree Nursery Monthly Newsletter

DECEMBER 2025...

What a busy, festive month we have had celebrating with numerous school community events. At the very end of last month once again we had a school stall at Husthwaite Village Sunday market. A huge thank you to those of you that manned our stall, our shopkeepers were amazing!



On Friday 5th December we all enjoyed Christmas Jumper Day and our much loved Christmas Fair – as always the children's games and stalls were fantastic and Father Christmas was the celebrity guest! Our Christmas fundraising has raised over £1000! Well done everyone and a massive thanks to FOHS and all for your ongoing support. All our Christmas festivity fun – Christmas show, parties, crackers and gifts is all possible because of this and extras are going towards planned outdoor equipment for all to enjoy. We really are so blessed and grateful to the generosity of our whole school community.



Once again, thank you to Newburgh Trees supplying us with our lovely Christmas Tree. The children in HOOSC enjoyed the opportunity to decorate the tree and it certainly looks beautiful lit up in our school hall.





Design a Robe! To mark inter-faith week, all the children this week were invited to create an image in response to the question, 'Where do you see God in our school?'

The winner was chosen by Rev'd. Katie and will be sewn onto the Archbishop of York's Stole and Cope along with another 120 school's entries. Well done to Eliza B in Year 4 for her amazing design.

EYFS and KS1 Nativity Twinkly Nativity



What an unforgettable performance from our Nursery, Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 children! The hall sparkled with excitement as the pupils brought the Twinkly Nativity to life with their bright smiles, confident voices, and festive energy. From the tiniest in Nursery to the golden oldies in Year 2, every child played their part beautifully: singing with joy, acting with heart, and filling the room with Christmas cheer.



Last Sunday Mrs Throup arrived at school to find a special delivery for all... Our classes had a wonderful time at their Christmas parties! The children enjoyed games, dancing, singing along to their favourite Christmas tunes and sharing tasty snacks and drinks – a perfect way to celebrate before the holidays. Thank you to FOHS for providing the snacks and to Father Christmas for his very special delivery...



On Wednesday there was lots of laughs at our Christmas show - *Astro-Norma and the Cosmic Piano*! A fun, intergalactic musical adventure. The story followed Norma, a talented pianist whose skills are truly “out of this world” as she dreams of exploring space. Packed with robots, aliens, and plenty of cosmic puns, it was an imaginative and entertaining show for all and our children thoroughly enjoyed it. Thank you again to FOHS for providing another fabulous event for the children.

Finally, yesterday the children spent a lovely morning making Christmas cards, learning about and making their Christingles and enjoying lots of festive craft activities, all to the sound of Christmas music with plenty of fun and laughter!



This was then followed by a yummy Christmas Lunch with thanks to Mrs Murray!



Friday 12th December Awards

Class 1, Mrs Chappell.

Apple Award- George B for his amazing part in our nativity, his compassion and understanding of helping the younger children was a pleasure to watch.

Headteachers sticker - All of nursery for their first ever nativity: Essie, Atticus, Peaches, Alana, Florrie, George W and Iris. You were all superstars!

Writer of the week - Effie for her super Santa list writing, using her sound mat to work out her spellings.

Class 2, Miss Goodchild.

Apple Award – This week Jack has been making more contributions during whole-class discussions, showing a real improvement in sharing his ideas. His participation in our Knowledge Quiz sessions has been particularly noticeable, where he's offered thoughtful answers and engaged well with the group. Great progress, Jack!

Headteacher's sticker – A big well done to Isla and Alice for their amazing singing, acting, and dancing during our 'Twinkly Nativity' performance—they truly lit up the stage!

A special mention also goes out to all of the Year 2 pupils, who worked so hard in leading a wonderful performance for all.

Writer of the week – Leonard has shown fantastic determination in using his writing strategies across the curriculum—counting sounds and using talking postcards to plan his ideas. He worked especially hard in Geography, creating brilliant sentences explaining why people choose to live near volcanoes. Well done, Leonard!

Class 3, Mr Chapman and Miss Wilkie.

Apple Award – Phoebe R is a joy to have in class. She is enthusiastic about all her learning, always gives 100%, helps others and is consistently polite and respectful. To everyone. We are so lucky to have you Phoebe!

Headteacher's sticker – Noah, for persevering with fractions and their equivalents, becoming such an expert, he has been able to help his peers. You've cracked it!

Writer of the week – William A wrote an organised, chronological report with exciting details linked to our text 'Shackleton's Journey'.

Harry the HOOSC Hippo: Oscar, for his wonderful Harry Potter colouring.



It was lovely to see so many of you at our **Christmas Service this morning at St Nicholas' Church**. This year we are supporting The Children's Society.

We wish all our children and families a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year. Enjoy the festivities and have a fabulous Christmas holiday!

NOTICES:

- Please can we remind all parents and carers that holidays during term time will be unauthorised unless they meet the updated Elevate MAT exceptional circumstances criteria. Please be aware unauthorised absences can result in penalty fines from NYCC. Please see the updated criteria and proforma attached that will be in place from January 2026, available on our website and hard copies from the school office.
- **December online safety newsletter for parents.** Please see the December online safety newsletter to support you in providing your child with a safe online environment. As always we want to promote having a safe online environment for children both at school and at home.
- North Yorkshire Council Winter Healthy Living advice for Families leaflet is attached for your information. This has been sent from NYCC to remind us about eating a healthy diet. Mrs Fielding who is our Federation subject leader for PSHE, was shocked to see how much sugar is in her much loved mince pie!

SPRING TERM DIARY DATES:

19 December	Christmas Church Service at St Nicholas' Church 9.30am. <i>2.30pm School breaks up for Christmas holiday.</i>
5 January 2026	Training Day – School Closed.
6 January 2026	Start of the Spring Term.
21 January	2-3pm Stay & Play
22 January	KS2 cluster cross country at Husthwaite
28 January	Y5/6 Ampleforth College Production of Beauty & the Beast
2 February	5pm Y5/6 Parents meeting for Newby Wiske (Teams meeting)
4 February	FOHS film night
6 February	Curriculum Enrichment Day - Maths & NSPCC Number Day
11 February	2-3pm Stay & Play
13 February	School closes for half term