



# Newsletter

VOL. 11 ISSUE 5 | DECEMBER 2025

## Greek School of Ayia Triada Birmingham

Strive, Learn, Grow in our Community



### Message from our Headteacher



Dear Parents, Students, and Friends of our School,

Dear Parents, Students, and Friends of our School,  
As the festive season approaches, it is a wonderful moment to reflect on the many achievements and milestones we have shared this year at the Greek School Ayia Triada. From the hard work and dedication of our students, to the unwavering support of our parents, staff, and wider community, we have much to celebrate and even more to be grateful for. Christmas reminds us of the joy, generosity, and togetherness that lie at the heart of our school and our Hellenic culture.

It is a time to pause and appreciate the values of love, kindness, and hope, as well as an opportunity to honour the traditions that bind us to our roots while inspiring the next generation to carry them forward with pride. As we prepare to gather with loved ones and embrace the warmth of the season, I extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your commitment to our school's mission and values. Together, we have fostered a vibrant and supportive environment where our children can flourish—academically, personally, and as proud members of the Greek diaspora. On behalf of the entire team at Ayia Triada, I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with health, happiness, and success. May the light of this season bring peace and joy to your hearts and homes.

# Contents

p2 Poem of the month-Upcoming events

## SPOTLIGHT SECTION

p4 Students of the month

p5 Christmas All Around

p6 Vasilopitta- A New Year's Tradition

p7 Christmas Traditions in Greece and Europe

## EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS

p9 Christmas Jumper Week

p10 Staff and MB Christmas Party

p11-12 Christmas Show GSAT 2024

p13 How Greeks & Cypriots Celebrate Xmas

## AROUND THE SCHOOL

p15-20 Class pictures & more

## CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL CORNER

p22 Dance Groups

p23 Greek Youth Ambassador

p24 We love Europe

p25 Rights Respecting School

## ΤΟ ΠΟΙΗΜΑ ΤΟΥ ΜΗΝΑ

### Χριστούγεννα Τέλλος Άγρος

Όχι πέφτει αδιάμοια και ριχνό το χιόνι,  
 υγρά και κατασπόμετα κι αγριωρή η νυχτιά.  
 Είναι η στέγη ορθόγειμη, γέρουσι άσπρα κήρυκα,  
 μες το τζάκι απόμερα ξεμυχά η φωτιά.  
 Τρέμει στα εμποσίματα το ναυτήρι κήρυκι  
 και φωτάει στη συνθρομή, στη θαμνή εφόρα.  
 Να η φάτμη, οι άγγελοι κι ο Χριστός κι οι Μάγοι  
 και το αστέρι ορθόγειμο μες στη σπηλιά!  
 Κι οι νομμένες, που έρχονται γύρω από τη στάμη  
 κι η μητέρα του Χριστού στο Χριστό μπροστά.  
 Το μωρό το εμποσίμα όσι αυτά τα φάτνει,  
 μαζεμένα όσα μαζί και σιωπά-σιωπά.  
 Πέφτει αμόμη αδιάμοια κι άρδονο το χιόνι,  
 όσα ξεμυζωνονται με άσπρα φορέσια  
 στον αγέρα αντιπαθών του σπηλιανού οι στόνοι,  
 μάτασση, γιορτάσιμη θάμνη κι εμψυσιά.

## Upcoming Events

Christmas Jumper Week 6-13<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas movie night 6<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Community Christmas Party Ellinokypriaki ESTIA

Christmas Play 14-12-2025

Christmas Carol Singing Community 15-12-25

Christmas Holidays Break 21/12/25-07/01/26





# Spotlight Section

DECEMBER 2025



pages 4-7



# STUDENTS OF THE

# Month

## DECEMBER

### NURS. & REC.

Nektarios Weetman  
Apollo Georgiou  
Finan Jeff  
Doulla Small  
Haris Kapogiannis

### YEAR 1

Panagiotis Ktori  
Petros Tore  
Athena Waterland  
Eirini Sofia Mytikiotis

### YEAR 1 ADV./ 2

Stavros Kati  
Christos Gavriel  
Ioakeim Barton  
Vasilis Nanis  
Andreas Dimitriou  
Aggelos Charalambous  
Aristotelis Nanis  
Maria Charalmpous

### YEAR 4/5

Athanasios Socr  
Anastasia Soult Archontis  
Stella Fotaki  
Panagiotis Deriziotis  
Esther Maria Theodorou

### A LEVELS & ELLINOMATHEIA

Christina Gallen  
Alexandra Dimakopoulou  
Konstantinos Dimakopoulos

### YEAR 6

Theo Witter  
Costas Gavriel

### PRE GCSE/GCSE

Giorgos Kar.  
Jason Zampas  
Fotios Matopoulos  
Vincent K-H  
Sofia Bailey

### LEVEL 1

Vasilis Jeff  
Angelina Batham

### HEADTEACHER'S AWARD



1. Pavlos Zachariou
2. Andreas Ioannou
3. Evdokia Antonia



# Xmas Around the world

## Christmas ALL AROUND!

With Greeks Living Abroad

2025

The Greek School of Ayia Triada Birmingham is delighted to once again participate in the annual "Christmas All Around 2025" drawing competition—an inspiring international initiative that brings together Greek and Cypriot children from every corner of the world to share their festive creativity.

This year, we are especially proud to present 46 beautiful drawings, each one a unique expression of our students' imagination, talent, and Christmas spirit.

On this page, we are excited to showcase a selection of these wonderful creations. Through the eyes of our children, Christmas comes alive with colour, joy, and magic. It is a true honour for our school to be part of this global celebration of art and culture and to see our students' work shining alongside that of children from around the world.

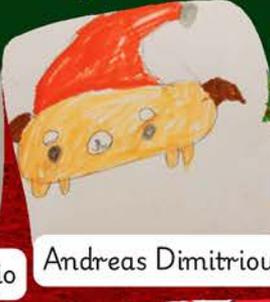
*We have had so many drawings we could not present each one of them! Many many lovely drawings. Well done everyone!*



Mariam Dervitsiotis



Georgiana Georgio



Andreas Dimitriou



Serapheim Kyriakou



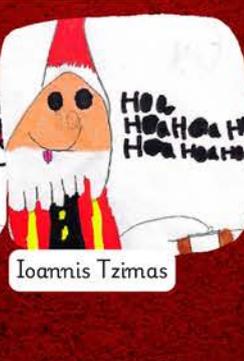
Anastasia Ktori



Melina Kerasidis



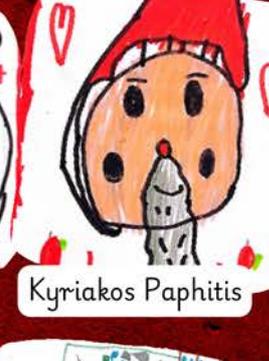
Eleni Ontetsi



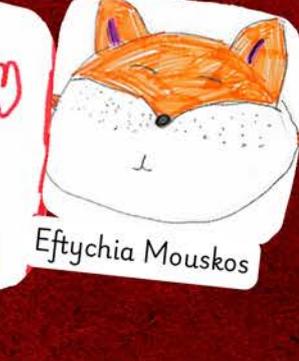
Ioannis Tzimas



Ioanna Paphiti



Kyriakos Paphitis



Eftychia Mouskos



Anamaria ioannou



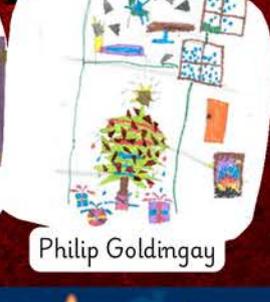
Adrian Parthenios Kurdali



Evdokia Antoniou



Anastasia Soultana



Philip Goldingay



Thea Georgiou



JANUARY  
1

# ΒΑΣΙΛΟΠΙΤΑ

# 2026

HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

Vasilopita is more than a dessert; it is a reminder of generosity, unity, and the joy of sharing moments with loved ones.



## Vasilopita: A Slice of Luck for the New Year

As the New Year dawns across Cyprus, families gather around a beloved tradition that blends faith, folklore, and the hope of fresh beginnings: the cutting of the Vasilopita, or Lucky Cake. This cherished ritual, passed down through generations, is at the heart of Cypriot New Year's celebrations.

### A Midnight Ritual of Togetherness

After the New Year's dinner, anticipation grows as the clock ticks toward midnight. At the first stroke of the New Year, the Vasilopita is carefully sliced—one piece for each family member and one special slice reserved for St. Basil (Ayios Vasilios), the patron saint celebrated on January 1st. The moment is symbolic, festive, and filled with excitement.

### The Hidden Coin of Good Fortune

What makes the Vasilopita truly magical is the hidden coin baked into the cake. Often a silver coin, this small treasure carries a big promise: whoever finds it in their slice is believed to be blessed with good luck and prosperity for the entire year. Laughter, suspense, and joyful cheers fill the room as each person checks their piece—this is the heartwarming thrill of the tradition.

### A Tribute to St. Basil

In Cyprus, St. Basil plays a role similar to Santa Claus—but he arrives on New Year's Day, not Christmas. Families prepare for his visit on New Year's Eve by leaving offerings such as a slice of Vasilopita, a jar of wine, and sometimes a simple glass of water. These humble gifts honor the saint's generosity and invite blessings into the home for the year ahead.

### Symbolism Rooted in Hope

Beyond its sweetness, the Vasilopita carries deep meaning. It marks the feast day of St. Basil and symbolizes prosperity, protection, and new beginnings. Each slice represents not just a piece of cake, but a hopeful step into the year to come.

ΚΑΛΗ ΧΡΟΝΙΑ ΣΕ ΟΛΟΥΣ!!!!



HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR!



# CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS IN GREECE AND EUROPE

by Dimitrios Valsamakis



There are many differences and similarities in the way Christmas is celebrated in Greece compared to Europe:

**Κάλαντα (Carolling):** Children walk around their local area, holding triangles (τρίγωνα) which they play while singing the traditional carols (κάλαντα). These vary from region to region, but they have one thing in common; spreading the joy of the nativity story. These are sung for the three major occasions of the festive season: Christmas, New Year and Epiphany (φώτα).

**Christmas Decorations:** Globally, the most recognised Christmas decoration has been the Christmas tree. This is very common in Greece, with many families adopting this tradition. However some people chose to also decorate a model ship to honour the Greek tradition.

**Epiphany (Θεοφάνια):** A celebration to mark the Baptism of Christ, celebrated on the 6th of January. Children sing the Kalanta and Priests bless the waters. A cross is thrown into the bodies of water (sea, lakes or rivers) and swimmers race in the cold waters to see who can reach it first.

**New Year's Eve (Παραμονή Πρωτοχρονιάς):** New Year's Eve marks Saint Basil's day in Greece. Overnight, Saint Basil comes to the houses of the well behaved children and delivers presents. A 'Vasilopita' (Βασιλόπιτα) with a hidden coin (φλουρί) is cut and whoever receives the piece with the coin, is believed to have good luck for the year.





# Events & Celebrations

DECEMBER 2025



pages 9-13

# CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT

SAT 6<sup>TH</sup> DEC

AGIA TRIADA & COVENTRY  
SCHOOL

Magical start into the  
festive season

On Saturday, 6th December, our school GSAT hosted a delightful Christmas Movie Night, welcoming special guests from the Greek School of Coventry, including both children and teachers. It was an evening filled with festive cheer, delicious food, and heartwarming moments. The event began at 3 o'clock with a special Christmas dinner, lovingly prepared by Mr Marios Dimitriou. The children enjoyed a delicious spread, including pastitsio, pasta with tomato sauce, and a variety of desserts, creating the perfect start to a cozy evening together.

Following dinner, the children settled in to watch the first Greek Christmas movie, produced by Tsimitselis and released in cinemas last year. The movie was a hit, full of meaningful messages, laughter, and festive spirit, keeping everyone captivated throughout. Adding an extra touch of magic to the night, Santa Claus himself made a surprise appearance, delighting the children with little treat bags. The excitement and joy on their faces were truly unforgettable. It was a wonderful way to kick off the festive season, bringing together the school community and friends from the Greek School of Coventry for an evening of food, fun, and festive cheer.



# CHRISTMAS JUMPER WEEK

SAT 6<sup>TH</sup>-13<sup>TH</sup> DEC

AGIA TRIADA & COVENTRY  
SCHOOL



As the festive season approaches each year, our school community comes together to support a wonderful cause through the GSAT's annual fundraising activities. This year, we were delighted to celebrate the 10th anniversary of our Christmas Jumper Week, which ran from 6th to 13th December. It has been heartwarming to see our students, staff, and families embracing the festive spirit while contributing to something truly meaningful.

Once again, this year's donations have been given to the Birmingham Children's Charity to support one of the children's departments at the hospital. Your generosity will help make a real difference to the lives of children receiving care and to the dedicated staff supporting them.

We are thrilled to share that Daniel Harris, one of the heads of the Birmingham Children's Charity, will be visiting our school in January. He will be presenting this year's fundraising contributions and speaking to our students about the incredible work of the BCH, the hospital's different departments, and the important impact their support has on the children and families they serve. We are immensely proud of our school community's continued generosity and spirit of giving. Thank you to everyone who participated, donated, and helped make this year's Christmas Jumper Week a success. Your contributions truly embody the warmth and care of our school family.



**This Year we raised £327**

**Thank you!**



# SHOEBOX APPEAL

## WITH NEPOMAK

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December

The Christmas season is a time of giving, compassion, and community—and once again, the Greek School of Ayia Triada Birmingham has embraced this spirit with open hearts. This year, our school proudly supported the NEPOMAK Shoebox Appeal, continuing a cherished tradition of offering kindness and joy to children in need both here in the UK and in Cyprus.

Thanks to the generosity of our parents, the dedication of our teachers, and the unwavering support of the Management Board, our school collected a wonderful selection of Christmas gifts. Each shoebox was filled with love, hope, and the wish to brighten the day of a child who might otherwise go without a present this festive season or most needed essential items. We extend our sincere gratitude to NEPOMAK for inviting us once again to take part in such a meaningful initiative. Their commitment to supporting vulnerable children is truly inspiring, and we are honoured to contribute to their efforts. Christmas is, above all, a time of offering—an opportunity to share what we have and to show that even small acts of kindness can make a profound difference. We hope that through our collective effort, we were able to bring a smile to the faces of children who are less fortunate this year. May these gifts serve as a reminder that they are seen, valued, and cared for. Thank you to everyone who contributed. Your generosity continues to reflect the true spirit of our school community and the essence of Christmas itself.

**This Year we raised 45 boxes**



# Staff and Community Christmas Party

December

7

On Sunday, 7th December 2025, we hosted another unforgettable Christmas Party for the Teaching Staff, Management Board Members, and Friends of our school and community. Building on the success of last year's celebration, this year's event was even more vibrant and heartwarming. The evening featured a wonderful spread of delicious Greek food, lively Greek music, and traditional dancing that filled the room with festive energy.

New this year were our small student-led performances, a beautifully decorated Christmas corner for photos, and a special moment of appreciation dedicated to our long-serving teachers. The joyful atmosphere brought everyone together once again, creating cherished memories of laughter, connection, and holiday spirit.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the teachers, board members, and guests who joined us in marking this special time of year. It was truly a night to remember—flowing with warmth, festive cheer, and the strong sense of community that defines our school!



# our Christmas Celebration



Festive Cheer at the Greek School of Ayia Triada  
On Sunday, 14th December, the Greek School of Ayia Triada Birmingham held its annual Christmas celebration, continuing a cherished tradition. The event was a heartwarming and exciting occasion, filled with traditional Christmas singing from across England.

Once again, the children impressed everyone with their beautifully prepared outfits, adding to the festive spirit of the day. The celebration concluded with a joyful visit from Santa, who delighted the children by sharing presents with each of them. It was a truly memorable day, celebrating community, tradition, and the magic of Christmas.



# our Christmas Celebration



So it all went magically well and we all enjoyed a lovely Sunday afternoon celebrating Christmas in a nice Christmassy touch for the ending of term. Children enjoyed their participation and parents felt touched by their children performance

At the end all children welcomed Agios Vasilis and received a small present for christmas

What an amazing Day!

It's beginning to look a lot like christmas..

# How Greeks & Cypriots Celebrate Christmas



Christmas in Greece is a time of joy, family, and deep-rooted traditions that reflect the country's rich cultural and religious heritage. From the bustling streets adorned with lights to the comforting aromas of festive dishes, the holiday season in Greece is a magical experience that combines faith, community, and celebration.

## A Time for Faith and Reflection

For many Greeks, Christmas begins with a spiritual focus, as the birth of Christ holds deep religious significance. The season is marked by a 40-day fasting period leading up to Christmas Day, a time for reflection and preparation. On Christmas Eve, churches across Greece hold special services where families gather to celebrate the nativity of Christ with heartfelt hymns and prayers. While Christmas trees have become popular in modern Greek homes, the traditional symbol of the season is the *karavaki*, or Christmas boat. Illuminated boats are displayed in homes and town squares, honoring Greece's maritime heritage and the role of the sea in Greek life. Streets, homes, and churches sparkle with lights and ornaments, creating a festive atmosphere that fills the air with anticipation.

## Greek Christmas Carols: Kalanda

One of the most beloved traditions is the singing of *kalanda*, or Christmas carols, on Christmas Eve. Groups of children go door-to-door, singing traditional carols accompanied by triangles, while receiving small treats or coins as tokens of gratitude. This heartwarming custom brings neighborhoods to life and spreads the holiday spirit.

## A Feast to Remember

Greek Christmas celebrations are incomplete without a sumptuous feast. Tables are laden with traditional dishes like roasted lamb or pork, *melomakarona* (honey-soaked cookies), and *kourabiedes* (buttery almond biscuits dusted with powdered sugar). Families gather to enjoy these delicacies, sharing stories and laughter around the table.





# Around the School

DECEMBER 2025



pages 17-20

# Year 4's Rising Stars



Our Christmas story this year is about a pine tree by a railroad track who loves watching trains zoom by, but gets taken home by a boy who also loves trains; after feeling sad and missing the real trains, the tree finds joy when the boy gets a toy train that runs around its base, and after Christmas, the boy replants the tree, giving it a happy ending with new trains and a new life, teaching lessons about change, friendship, and finding joy in new experiences.





# END OF TERM XMAS NIGHT CHURCH SERVICE ATTENDANCE & CAROL SINGING



Last Monday before Christmas, children enjoyed sometime at the night service of our church and received the blessing from father christos and then, the whole school sang the Christmas Carols to the community. Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Carol Singing and the fundraising of our School. We have raised £130 for school supplies



## Class of Mrs Foteinou

In Year 2 class on Saturdays, we have been so excited about the preparations for the Christmas Celebrations. The children learned the Greek traditions of door-to-door singing carols, the making of Christmas cookies; melomakarano and kourabiedes, and Greek words related to the Nativity Manger. The letters to Santa with the desired toys have been written in Greek too. I wish that Santa brings health, love, and joy to all of you.



Shining Stars!

Miss Karatzia

The Year 2 Monday class prepared for Christmas by making Christmas tree decorations. The children learned about the Birth of Jesus and how His birth brings us joy, love, and hope. With every decoration they created, the children added their own Christmas joy, filling the classroom with warmth and celebration.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!





DECEMBER  
25

Year 3 Monday class prepared for Christmas by writing letters to Santa Claus. The children thought carefully about their wishes and what they would like to give to others. After writing their letters, the class watched a Christmas movie together with Year 1. They enjoyed the story about Christmas, the lights, and the spirit of giving. Through these activities, the children learned that Christmas is a time for joy, sharing, and caring for others. They had fun, laughed together, and filled the classroom with Christmas spirit. Merry Christmas to everyone! 🎄🌟

Year 3  
Mrs Koufomeriti  
Class

Nursery-Reception

Mrs Takirdiki



As we come to the end of this special term, we take a moment to reflect on the many beautiful moments we have shared together. From learning new skills and exploring new ideas, to showing kindness, supporting one another, and celebrating both big and small achievements, every day has been filled with growth and joy. It has been truly wonderful to watch the children blossom in confidence and independence, and to see our classroom grow into such a caring, happy community. I am incredibly proud of how far they have come and grateful for the enthusiasm, curiosity, and warmth they bring each day. Thank you to our families for your continued support and partnership — it means so much. I am excited to see how we will continue to learn, grow, and shine together in the months ahead. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

With warmest wishes, Mrs Despoina





We have shared so many lovely moments together—learning new things, showing kindness, supporting one another, and celebrating our achievements, big and small. It has been a joy to watch the children grow in confidence and independence, and to see our classroom become a warm, happy community. I am so proud of how far we have already come, and I am excited to see how we will continue to grow, learn, and shine together as a class in the terms ahead. Merry Christmas and happy new year to you all!!

MRS.MARIA\_xoxo



Every Monday and Saturday in Year 5 with Mrs Tsikouri and Mrs Kaparalioti is a wonderful start to learning. Our classrooms provide a nurturing environment where students feel safe, happy, and excited to learn. We explore engaging topics such as Christmas, and this year the students received special gifts to celebrate the festive season. The lessons are always fun and full of joy, making both Mondays and Saturdays something our students truly look forward to.



This Christmas season has been a joyful and creative time for our GCSE 1/2 class.

The students proudly wore their Christmas jumpers and helped organise charitable donations, showing kindness and generosity.

Together, we decorated our classroom and transformed it into a festive space full of colour and cheer.

The class took part in a variety of Christmas activities, including making cards and sharing festive messages.

A very special highlight was recording Christmas wishes and songs in Greek.

These recordings were sent to a Cypriot radio station and television channel.

The students were thrilled to know their voices will be aired during the Christmas period in Cyprus.

This experience helped them practise language skills while connecting with Greek culture.

It has been a memorable and meaningful way to celebrate Christmas together.

## Mrs Eva's Souza Thompson GCSE 1-2 Class





This December, our class welcomed the Christmas season with creativity, joy, and togetherness. The children made festive crafts, decorated our space, and shared stories about the traditions that bring families closer at this time of year. Their excitement filled the classroom with sparkle and laughter. As we finish this term, I am proud of how much the children have grown — not only in their learning, but also in kindness, confidence, and teamwork. Every activity has been a chance to shine, and it has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm carry us through the season.

Thank you to our families for your support and encouragement. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with health, happiness, and new adventures!  
Best wishes, Kleio Th.



Year 1 Adv  
Ms Kleio Theodosiou  
Class



# Cultural & Educational Corner



pages 26-30

# Dance Groups

This year our school has been running dance classes led by our Dance Teachers Mrs Sotiria Karafillides and Mr Dimitris Themistokleous.

Dance classes are on Monday 19:30-20:30 for our students, Tuesdays from 18:30-19:00 for the children and then 19:00-20:00 for adults, and on Saturday we also run two groups: one for the school children from 14:00-15:00 (which is for two different age groups) and then from 15:00-16:00 for adults dance group.

It's amazing to see that this year our dance classes are flourishing and both children and adults are enjoying them.

Anyone interested in dance classes can contact our school directly or the class teachers. We are always happy to welcome new students



# WE LOVE EUROPE

## Fun Facts about Christmas in Europe

### EUROPEAN CORNER

That there are many fun facts about Christmas celebrations all over the European countries?

In Norway, people hide their brooms on Christmas Eve. This old tradition comes from the belief that mischievous witches and spirits roam the night looking for brooms to ride!



In Spain, Christmas officially starts with... a lottery! "El Gordo" (The Fat One) is one of the biggest lotteries in the world and is drawn every December 22nd. Many families consider it part of their festive tradition.



Germany invented the Christmas tree as we know it. The tradition of decorating trees began in Germany in the 16th century before it spread across Europe and the world.



In Iceland, 13 Santa Clauses visit the children! Called the "Yule Lads," each one has a different personality—some leave gifts in children's shoes, and others are known for their... naughty behavior.



In Italy, a kind witch brings gifts on Epiphany. La Befana, an old woman who flies on a broomstick, delivers sweets to children on January 6th—long after Santa has finished his rounds!



In Greece, people used to decorate boats instead of trees. The traditional "karavaki" (small ship) symbolizes Greece's strong connection to the sea and sailors returning home for Christmas.



## DECEMBER

### Important Days of December

- 3<sup>rd</sup> International Days for people with disabilities
- 10<sup>th</sup> International Human Rights Day
- 18<sup>th</sup> International Refugees Day

### Article 23

Article 23 says that children with a disability have the right to live a "full and decent life with dignity". Do you know what dignity is? Work in a group to look up and understand the word. Which rights from the CRC relate to dignity? Write a poem or prepare a short presentation to help others to understand dignity.



On 3 December we celebrate International Day of People with Disabilities.

This global event promotes equality for people with disability and celebrates their achievements. It has been celebrated every year since 1981.

It is also a day to promote awareness of the challenges faced by over 1 billion people living with disabilities, and the role communities and societies play in breaking down barriers to inclusion.

**Article 2 states:** The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

**Article 23 states:** A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and, as far as possible, independence and to play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families.

## A Message from our Headteacher

On the 10th of December, we join the global community in marking Human Rights Day, a date that commemorates the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. This historic moment reminds us that every person—regardless of age, background, or circumstance—holds the same fundamental rights.

At our school, we place special emphasis on the rights of children. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child outlines the additional protections and opportunities that all young people are entitled to until the age of 18. These rights ensure that every child can learn, grow, feel safe, and be heard.

Children's rights are human rights, and today provides us with an important opportunity to celebrate and reflect on the values of dignity, equality, and respect. May this day inspire us all to continue nurturing a school community where every child feels valued and empowered.

