



Two Rivers Primary School News

December 2025 Issue 05



Diary Dates:

**Friday 19th
December**

Last day of term

Monday 5th January

Inset Day – School
closed for children

Tuesday 6th January

First Day of Spring
Term – Children
return to school.

**You will receive
more information
about these events
nearer to the time.**

Headteacher's Message

As we approach the holiday, I want to take this opportunity to extend my warmest wishes to all our families, staff, and children. Christmas is a time for reflection, gratitude, and celebration, and it brings me great joy to look back on the incredible progress, achievements, and memories we've created together at Two Rivers Primary School already this year.

Our children continue to amaze us with their enthusiasm, kindness, and dedication to learning and developing. They remind us daily of the importance of curiosity, resilience, and the joy of discovery. To our parents and carers, thank you for your continued support and partnership - it is through our shared commitment that we create such a nurturing and inspiring environment for our children to thrive.

This December has been filled with festive cheer and wonderful events. From the sparkle of Christmas performances to the hum of creativity in our classrooms, it has truly been a time of memory-making. We are excited to share with you highlights of these moments through photographs that capture the heart and spirit of our school community. As you gather with your loved ones this Christmas, I hope you find time to relax, reflect, and cherish the precious moments that this season brings.

Should you need to contact us during the holiday period, please don't hesitate to ring the school phone number, which will be redirected to my work mobile. If I am unavailable, do leave a message, and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Tuesday, 6th January 2025**. Please remember that **Monday, 5th January**, is an INSET day, and the school will be closed to children while our staff engage in essential training.

Thank you for being such an integral part of the Two Rivers family. Wishing you all a magical Christmas and a New Year filled with happiness, health, and new opportunities.

Warmest wishes, **Laura Slinn** Headteacher, Two Rivers Primary School



EARLY YEARS



Christmas at EYFS We have been exploring lots of sensory resources and activities to get into the festive spirit. We enjoyed trying on different Christmas dressing up items and decorating the classroom by adding different resources to our sticky Christmas trees. All of the children have written and posted a letter to Santa and created a beautiful Christmas card for their family.







Christmas Community Visits

During December lots of Classes have taken part in trips in the local community. Here are just a few special memories











Christmas Production

This year children from across the whole school performed in our Christmas production of Flicker, The Spirit of Christmas. The children were all super stars, we are so proud of them and we are sure you all agree it was a fantastic show!







Enterprise Week

During December we all took part in Enterprise week. Each class was given £10 to spend on resources to make Christmas craft for the Elf Day Fair. We looked at using coins, exchanging coins and some classes looked at profit and loss.







Elf Day

On December the 15th we had our Elf Day Fair. We sold wonderful handmade Christmas craft and KS2 were stall keepers and took the money and gave change. Thank you to our families who visited and all of our Elf helpers. We made an amazing **£298.54** for our school.





Grinchmas

Children in Blue Phase, the tall and the small, celebrated **Grinchmas**. Our hearts grew three sizes as we took part in lots of **Grinch** themed activities.





Festive Fun

Christmas has arrived at Two Rivers. All classes have been creating wonderful Christmas crafts! The children enjoyed a Christmas dinner celebration, a nativity assembly and games.









Merry Christmas





School Council



We would like to introduce our student council for 2025-2026.

The school council would like to wish all of their friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The next meeting of the school council will take place in the Spring Term.





Sign of the Week



ELF

Index fingers and thumbs move up and close to show pointed ear tips.

You can see how to do the sign here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@makatoncharity>

Whole Class Attendance

Group	% Attend
PURPLE	85.6%
RED 1	91.07%
RED 2	92.93%
RED 3	99.38%
YELLOW 1	91.62%
YELLOW 2	93.21%
YELLOW 3	91.05%
YELLOW 4	87.86%
BLUE 1	94.42%
BLUE 2	91.79%
BLUE 3	89.94%
BLUE 4	89.95%

Congratulations to:

Red 3



You have the best



Attendance for the Month

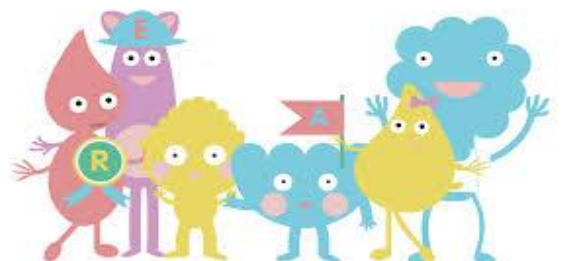
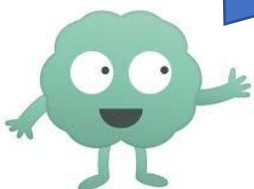
**EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS**




myHappy mind



We would like to introduce our My Happy Mind Ambassadors for 2025-2026. Our Happiness Hero's will help to promote positive mental wellbeing in our school.





Wellbeing

We all know Christmas can be stressful and this can be intensified when your child has special educational needs or a disability. Here are few tips that may help during the festive period



Top Tips for a Calm and Happy Christmas

1. Create a Christmas routine board

This could be written or visual, using photos and drawings – whatever works best for your child's needs. You can find free Christmas countdowns via Pinterest or buy Christmas routine boards from **ASD Bright Ideas** by following the link below. Even better, make your own.



https://asdbrightideas.co.uk/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=560

2. Tell or remind family and friends about your child's needs in advance

If they are prepared for things being a bit different everyone will be less stressed. Plan their visits well ahead of time (no surprise visits thank you!) and make sure you enlist their help during the visit.

3. Give people advice about what to buy as presents

Age-appropriate gifts may not suit your child's developmental age and it's okay to tell friends and families what age gifts will suit – as long as your child doesn't mind.

4. Get toys play-ready before you wrap them

Make sure batteries are installed and excessive packaging removed so they're all ready to go once the paper has been torn off. For those kids who are really affected by surprises, you could write labels or pictures on gifts to reduce the anxiety of not knowing what's inside.

5. Leave one room or area in your house completely Christmas-free

This gives your child a safe space to go and chill if it's all too overwhelming (their own bedroom may be easiest).





6. Plan your outfits for Christmas day and Boxing Day and have them clean, ironed and ready

You'll feel nice or at least won't be stressed out searching for something passable while the rest of the family are in their best togs.

7. Don't make Xmas lunch a big deal for your child by forcing them to eat turkey and all the trimmings

Let them eat their favourite meal too, even if it's fish fingers or pasta with butter. And don't be embarrassed about putting the ketchup on the table.

8. Get some fresh air

Go for a walk on the beach, in the park or countryside on Christmas Day to give them a breather from everything being Christmas-related.

9. Sit down to enjoy family films together

Get out of the kitchen and try and watch the big Christmas film with the kids. It's a lovely, restful thing for everyone to share – and if you fall asleep, don't worry, they might never notice!




myHappyMind

Need a mindful moment?

Mindfulness can help children feel calm and in control. Here are some **myHappyMinds-inspired activities** you can try at home:

- **Take 5 Breaths:** Sit together and take five slow breaths in and out. Count them aloud to make it fun.
- **Gratitude Jar:** Write down things you're thankful for and pop them in a jar. Read them together on New Year's Eve.
- **Happy Breathing:** Imagine blowing up a balloon as you breathe in, and slowly let it out as you breathe out.
- **Mindful Colouring:** Print a festive picture and colour slowly, noticing the colours and patterns.
- **Positive Self-Talk:** Encourage your child to say, "I am kind," "I am loved," or "I can do this."

Visit the myHappyMind portal by scanning the QR code for more tips.



School code: 146201



THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM IN SCHOOLS ARE **OPEN** OVER THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January 2026

If your child is experiencing low level mental health difficulties, we may be able to help. Call us between 9am - 5pm (Monday to Friday), leave your name and number and one of our practitioners will give you a call back to see what support we can offer.

We can help with:

- Low mood
- Anxiety
- Sleep difficulties
- Worry
- Panic

Burton and Uttoxeter
01283 504487

Cannock & Seisdon
01283 352113

Stafford
01283 504487

Tamworth & Lichfield
01785 301027



*Please note that these contact numbers are not to be used in an emergency.



Safe and Well from Richard and Sue

Christmas is nearly here! For most families, Christmas is a joyful occasion, an opportunity to spend time together and enjoy a bit of overindulgence. However, for some this can be a difficult time of year. We have included contact information for organisations offering support over the festive period.

We would like to wish you all a Happy and Safe Christmas and New Year!

From Richard and Sue

Tamworth Area Key Services – Christmas & New Year Opening Times 2025–2026

"Compiled by Community Together CIC on behalf of Tamworth's Community Support Network"



Tamworth Foodbank
Together with Trussell



Wishing everyone in Tamworth a safe, warm, and supported festive season.
If you need help, please reach out – support is always available

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Emergency: 999
NHS Urgent Mental Health: Call 111 (Option 2)
Samaritans (24/7): 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org
Shout (24/7 Text Service): Text SHOUT to 85258
Changes Tamworth 01827 311006:
 Closed 15th December – 6th January 2026

Police

Tamworth Police: 24/7
 Emergency 999
 Non-Emergency: 101 or www.staffordshire.police.uk

Staffordshire Fire & Rescue 24/7

Emergency: 999
 www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk

ADVICE SERVICES:

Citizens Advice Mid Merca
 Closes on Christmas Eve and Re-Opens Friday 2nd January 2026
 Our Adviceline number is - 08082 78 79 72
 Help To Claim number is - 08001 144844
 Numbers available every day apart from Bank holidays and weekends
Community Together CIC - 0808 175 4041
 Christmas Eve Close 1pm Re Open 29th December
 New Years Eve Close 1pm Re Open 5th January 2026

Burton and District Mind 01283 566696

Tamworth Safe Haven Crisis Café:
 Open evenings most days – 17:00–22:00 (22–23 Dec),
 16:30–22:30 (24, 29–31 Dec), 17:00–23:00 (1 Jan)
Christmas Day OPEN: 17:00–22:00.
Future Focus:
 Open: 22–24 Dec & 29–31 Dec (9am–5pm)
 Closed: 25–28 Dec & 1 Jan
 Open: 2 Jan (9am–5pm).

Food & Clothing Support

Tamworth Foodbank 01827 302431:
 Closed 24–26 Dec & 1 Jan
Leyfields Food Bank at St Andrews Church
 Closed Christmas Day and New Years Day
Heart of Tamworth Food Pantry & Clothes Shop:
 Open 22–23 Dec, 10am–3pm (Café open)
 Closed 24 Dec – 4 Jan
 Reopen 5 Jan 2026

LIBRARIES

Glascote Library:
 Closed 25–26 Dec & 1 Jan, normal hours otherwise.
Wilnecote Library:
 Closed 22 Dec – 5 Jan
Tamworth Library
 Closes at 1pm on 24th December
 Closed Christmas Day 25th December
 Closed Boxing Day 26th December
 Closed New Year's Day, 1st January

COUNCIL SERVICES

Staffordshire County Council
 ☎ 0300 111 8000
 Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day
Tamworth Borough Council 01827 709709
 Xmas Eve: closes 2pm
 Xmas Day & Boxing Day: ❌ Closed
 29–30 Dec: 8:45am–5:10pm
 31 Dec: 8:45am–2pm
 1 Jan: ❌ Closed
 From 2 Jan: Normal service
Reception Hours:
 29–31 Dec: 10am–2pm
 Closed Xmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day
 Reopens 2 Jan, 10am
Housing Repairs:
 Emergency lines open during office closures

FAMILIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Home Start Tamworth:
 Closed 22nd Dec – 5th Jan
Family Hubs:
 Glascote: Open 29–31 Dec & 2 Jan, 9am–2pm
 Leyfields & Basin: Closed 25 Dec – 1 Jan

Places of Welcome:

Find local warm spaces by searching "Places of Welcome Tamworth"

Up Creative CIC:

Closed 20 Dec – 6 Jan, reopens 7 Jan 2026

Heart of Tamworth Community Café:

Open 22–23 Dec, 8am–3pm Closed 24 Dec – 4 Jan
 Reopens 5 Jan 2026

Helping Hand Community Café:

Closes 24 Dec (1pm) Reopens 29 Dec Closes 31 Dec (1pm) Reopens 2 Jan



Let's keep this
going for all the people
who are going through
a tough time.

For anyone who needs some
support right now. ❤️

CALM - 0800585858

Mind - 03001233393

Bereavement - 08088081677

PAPYRUS - 08000684141

Samaritans - 116 123

SHOUT - Text SHOUT to 85258

Abuse - 0808 2000 247

Refuge - 020 7395 7700

Stay safe this Christmas.





Two Rivers Governor Update

We would like to introduce our new Governor at Silvia Clarke.

Hello, my name is Silvia Clarke, and I'm a mum of two wonderful children. I work as a litigation paralegal, where communication, teamwork, and understanding different points of view are a big part of what I do every day. Outside of work, I enjoy reading and spending time outdoors with my children — whether that's exploring nature, visiting parks, or simply having fun together. These moments remind me how important it is for children to feel supported, heard, and inspired to learn. I'm keen to play an active role as a Parent Governor and help the school continue to grow and succeed. I care deeply about strengthening communication between parents and the school and ensuring that every child has the best possible experience. I'm a friendly, approachable team player who's always happy to listen and work with others to make a positive difference





You can colour in this page...

