



## Dear Families, friends and volunteers,

As we come to the end of the Autumn Term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership. This half term has been a busy, purposeful, and highly rewarding period across the school, with pupils demonstrating excellent attitudes to learning and strong engagement both in and beyond the classroom. Thank you to our pupils for their hard work, to our staff for their dedication and professionalism, and to you, our parents and carers, for your ongoing support. We are extremely proud of what has been achieved this half term and look forward to building on this success in the months ahead.

I personally wish you all a safe, restful, and enjoyable break.

Mr Tayo Fagbemiro  
**Headteacher**



## Winter Wonderland: A Magical Community Celebration

Our recent Winter Wonderland event was a truly magical occasion, bringing together pupils, families and staff to celebrate the joy of the season. The school was transformed into a festive wonderland, filled with lights, colour and excitement, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere despite the winter chill. Families enjoyed exploring a range of stalls offering festive crafts, gifts and treats, many of which were supported by staff and volunteers.

Children delighted in creative activities, face painting and seasonal crafts, while the popular indoor activities and inflatable play area provided plenty of laughter and energy throughout the event.

Outside, the festive displays and decorations created a wonderful backdrop for families to gather, chat and make special memories together. The event truly reflected the strong sense of community within our school, with pupils proudly sharing the space with their families and friends.



## Celebrating Creativity Through the Nativity Story

This term, pupils produced a range of thoughtful and imaginative responses inspired by the Nativity story. Through art, drawing and painting, children explored key Christian themes such as **hope, light, love and peace**.



The work demonstrated not only creativity but also a deepening understanding of the story's symbolism. The careful use of colour, detail and composition showed pupils reflecting on the significance of Jesus' birth and how light represents hope in the Christian faith. These pieces were a wonderful example of how religious education can inspire meaningful and expressive learning.



## Sharing Learning in Collective Worship

A group of pupils showcased their learning during collective worship, enhancing their public speaking skills, building confidence, and celebrating their achievements in front of the school community.

The children spoke clearly and respectfully, demonstrating pride in their work and supporting one another throughout the presentation.

Staff and pupils alike were impressed by the maturity and confidence shown, making this a memorable and meaningful moment for everyone involved.

## Early Years Autumn Walk: Exploring the World Around Us

Early Years children enjoyed an Autumn walk, exploring nature and observing seasonal changes. Wearing high-visibility jackets, they collected leaves, seed cases, and twigs while noting colors, shapes, and textures. This activity supported their Understanding the World curriculum, fostering curiosity, observation skills, and vocabulary development related to the seasons, creating a joyful outdoor learning experience.



## Reading Cafés: Building a Love of Reading

This term, pupils across the school have been enjoying our Reading Cafés—a calm, welcoming space designed to celebrate reading for pleasure and deepen pupils' engagement with books. Classrooms are transformed into relaxed café-style environments where children can read comfortably, share recommendations, and talk enthusiastically about texts with their peers and adults.



Reading Cafés play a vital role in developing confident, motivated readers. By removing the pressure of formal tasks, pupils are encouraged to see reading as enjoyable and meaningful, not just something they do in lessons. These sessions help to strengthen reading stamina, broaden vocabulary, and improve comprehension, while also nurturing important social skills through discussion and collaboration. Most importantly, Reading Cafés help to foster a lifelong love of reading.

When children associate books with enjoyment, choice, and positive experiences, they are far more likely to read regularly both in school and at home. We are proud to see such enthusiasm for reading across the school and look forward to continuing this initiative as part of our commitment to developing strong, confident readers.



## Moving to Arbor – Our New School Management System

We are pleased to inform parents and carers that the school will be moving to Arbor, our new Management Information System (MIS). Arbor will replace our current system and will help us to communicate more effectively with families while streamlining key school processes.

### What is Arbor?

Arbor is a secure, user-friendly platform used by many schools across the UK.

It allows parents and carers to access important information about their child in one place, including attendance, key messages, and school communications.

### What does this mean for parents and carers?

Once the transition is complete, parents and carers will be able to:

- Receive school messages and notifications directly through Arbor
- View attendance information
- Update contact details quickly and securely
- Access key school information in one central place

Over time, Arbor will also support additional features such as bookings and payments, which will be introduced gradually.

## Developing Touch Typing Skills

Across the school, pupils are being taught the essential skill of touch typing as part of their computing and wider learning curriculum. Touch typing is more than simply learning to type quickly; it supports accuracy, confidence, and independence when using digital tools for learning.



Through structured, age-appropriate lessons, children are learning correct finger placement, posture, and keyboard awareness. This enables them to focus more on the content of their work, such as ideas, spelling, and sentence structure rather than the mechanics of typing. As pupils become more fluent, we are already seeing improvements in the quality and length of written work, particularly in longer pieces of writing and research tasks.

Developing touch typing skills also prepares children for the increasing digital demands of secondary education and the wider world. By embedding this skill early, we are equipping pupils with a lifelong tool that will support their learning across the curriculum and beyond.

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## Introducing Our New PTFA

We are excited to announce the launch of our new Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)! The PTFA aims to strengthen our school community by bringing together parents, staff, and friends to enrich school life. Through events and fundraising initiatives, all proceeds will go directly toward enhancing resources and opportunities for our pupils.

### Get Involved

We warmly welcome all parents and carers to join us. Whether you can attend meetings, volunteer at events, or simply share new ideas, your support makes a difference.

### Next PTFA Meeting

Tuesday 13th January 2026

9am to 10am

The Ark at Emmanuel Community School

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## A Big Thank You: Leavers

All of us at Emmanuel Community School would like to wish Elizabeth Aradeon well for the future. Elizabeth leaves Emmanuel Community at the end of the term after many years of service.

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## Follow us on social media

Remember all of our latest updates can be found on our social media channels.

Follow us today by scanning the QR codes.

