

William Alvey Newsletter

Issue Number 2

December 2025

Christmas Service

Last Tuesday, the children and staff all came together for our traditional Christmas Service at St Denys Church. As always, the children behaved beautifully and made it such a magical occasion for all.

We are incredibly proud of our musicians, readers and singers - every child and adult certainly made it a memorable experience. Each Key Stage 2 year group shared heartfelt readings retelling the Christmas story and concluding with a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. They were so confident and clear with their reading, a skill that will certainly serve them well!

A special highlight of the service was the Reception children singing 'Away in a Manger', supported by their Year 5 buddies. The KS1 and KS2 choirs also sang beautifully, filling the church with their uplifting carols as did the whole school for all of our hymns.

Thank you to all the children, staff, and parents who helped make this event so special. We hope everyone enjoyed this magical celebration. Wishing you all a very merry and joyful Christmas season!

To see a video of our Christmas Service please visit our website:
<https://www.williamalvey.net/ChurchServices>



Christmas Wishes

Written by Mr Farrington

I am sure that you will all agree with me that Christmas is a wonderful, magical time of year. It is a time to celebrate and spend time with family and friends. It is a time to think about the birth of Jesus and the light he brought. Christmas is also a time to think back and reflect on what has happened during the year and look forward to the promise of a New Year. I looked back on what has happened this year when I started to think about what I wanted to say at our church service on. Last year, I talked about how things had become more familiar for me in my role as Headteacher of the Alvey. I also said how some things remained the same. I said the enduring feeling that stood out the most for me, and still does, is the sense of pride I feel being the Headteacher of the William Alvey School. If anything, this sense of pride has grown and deepened. That has happened for many reasons, many of which I saw in the church on Tuesday. For example, how could I not feel enormous pride at being the Headteacher of a school with such talented children and staff? How could I not feel immense pride listening to the children play the piano as I walked into church? How could I not feel immense pride listening to the children delivering their readings?



Who would not feel pride listening to our children sing?

My experience of being Headteacher of the Alvey has helped deepen my understanding, and love of Christmas. Before being Headteacher of the Alvey, my thoughts about Christmas were quite shallow. They centred around giving and receiving presents and spending time with family and friends. Whilst these are important elements of Christmas, I have begun to appreciate there is much more to consider at this time of year.

I feel privileged and proud to be the Headteacher of the Alvey. I feel privileged to have family and friends who love me. I feel privileged to have a job I enjoy and that fulfils me. I feel privileged to have a home that is warm, both with love and heating. I now better understand that the pride and privilege I feel is a gift that should be shared with all members of our community, especially those that are less fortunate than me. I know there are people worrying about Christmas because of the expense it brings. I know there will be people who will be lonely or poorly this Christmas.

I now know that there is something we can all do to help. I have learnt that through the work we have done as a school on Courageous Advocacy. I have seen the difference we have made to the local homeless community over the past two years. I have also seen the difference your kindness, in donating Christmas jumpers, winter jackets and unwanted presents, has made to members of the Alvey community. I have also seen the difference children, and adults, have made daily by offering a kind word, or an offer of support, to someone in school who needs it.

Please remember that Christmas is a wonderful time of year that comes just once a year. At the same time, please remember that people need your help and support all year round. Please remember you have the power to brighten people's lives every day with a kind gesture or a smile. Use your power and light, to make a positive difference in the world. If you do, you will live out the meaning of Christmas all year round.

I do hope every single one of you has a fantastic Christmas and you get everything you are hoping for. Thank you and may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

Good citizens

Every term, children in the school are nominated for the Rotary Club's Good Citizen Award. This term, the following children were recognised for some incredible qualities. Well done to them all!

Year 1 – Evelyn
Evelyn is an excellent example of an enthusiastic learner. She approaches every task with a Growth Mindset. In the last week she has said 'mistakes are brilliant, they help you learn'. Evelyn is kind and encouraging with her peers. One of Evelyn's many positive traits is she goes out of her way to point out the positive behaviour, and achievements of her friends and classmates.

Year 2 – Sevinch
Sevinch is such a calm and patient girl who offers such wonderful support to those in her class. Sevinch is exceptionally organised and tidy and Mrs Clifford really appreciates her thoughtful gestures as she puts things back in their place and gently encourages others to do the same. She does this naturally and without the need for any recognition which is why I feel that she deserves this award! Sevinch is a role model as her work ethic is astounding for a child of such a young age. She shows such determination and growth mindset and I'm certain she will succeed in anything she chooses to turn her hand to in the future. Well done, Sevinch. A true Alvian!

Year 3 Martin
Martin helped his mum to make 12 purple poppy wreaths that were used in a variety of different remembrance services in nine different locations including six in Lincolnshire. Martin was the wreath bearer for RAF Waddington and he planted a few poppy tokens at three locations for different dogs. One of the wreaths that Martin made was included in the London parade. The wreath was carried by the RAF police association and was placed in Westminster Abbey. This wreath was so amazing that it caught Queen Camilla's eye who made a positive comment about it!

Year 4 – Mila
Mila has shone since joining Y4 and goes out of her way to be kind and considerate to both her peers and adults. She thrives in her learning and puts her heart and soul into everything, often going the extra mile e.g. planning her Chico Mendes assembly or extra research from her homework. Mila is very humble and modest. A perfect example of this was when Mrs Swain shared that Mila went to buy a cake at the cake



sale. Unfortunately, all the cakes had been sold by the time she got there. Rather than getting upset, Mila simply handed her money over to Corina and said please put this in the charity jar, as the little boy needs our help. This act of kindness, selflessness and respect sums up Mila as a brilliant role model and a great example of everything we want a William Alvey pupil to be.

Year 5 – Mia
In the run up to Remembrance Day this year, Mia spent some of her time during the half term holiday leading a crafting session for some children in the local community. Mia taught these children how to make poppy wreaths. They then made purple poppy wreaths together to commemorate the animals who have died helping soldiers during war time. The wreaths were then distributed to several locations throughout the country, including some local to Sleaford. We feel that Mia has demonstrated kindness in working with others and promoting respect for Remembrance Day.

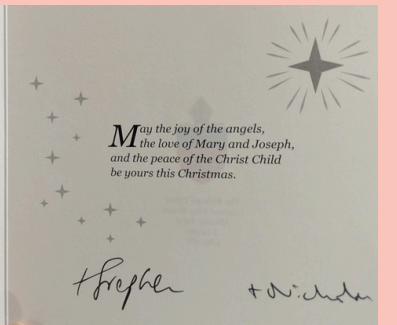
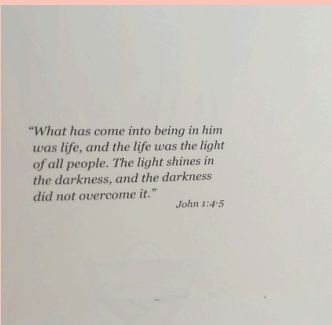
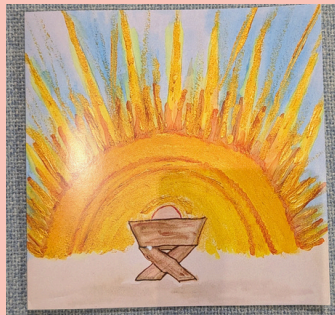
Year 6 – Corina
Corina is our very own courageous advocate. At the start of Year 6, she went above and beyond, delivering a collective worship to raise money for a little boy with a bowel condition and then followed this up with a bake sale, raising hundreds of pounds. I have never met a child with such drive and determination to make a change for good. Every single day in school, Corina is kind, polite and respectful. She is always the first to volunteer to help others, whether or not they are her close friends. She is friendly, grateful and always has a smile on her face.



Magical Moments

Written by Mrs Risdell

My visits to school these last few weeks have been "magical"! I have shared with you all about Advent and Christingle, seen the beautiful decorations and Christmas tree go up in the Hall, and attended the Nativity play performed by the younger members of the school with the help of their Y5 buddies. What a pleasure it has been. Then this week you all walked to St Denys Church in the rain for the Carol service! I love hearing your wonderful singing and joining in and then I shared the Bishop's Letter and card with you all. I hope you can all shine a little light in the darkness of the world this Christmas and make a difference to someone you know. Thinking of you all as the term ends and Christmas Day comes nearer. Happy Christmas and Feliz Navidad!



Santa landed

Our children were very excited to see that Santa had landed on our playground last week. Some of us even got to go in his sleigh! He then made a brief pit-stop in the Early Years playground. He reassured us that Christmas is all on track this year and the elves are doing a great job at all of their present making. Thank you to the Elf from the Rotary Club for helping.



Choir Spreads Christmas Joy

Christmas is always a busy time for our choir and this year was no exception. They have visited Oakdene and Ashdene care homes, the Sleaford Dementia Group, Sleaford Hall, Tesco and performed in many Christmas Services at St. Denys lifting the spirits of everyone with their wonderful Alvey renditions.

The children as always, have been magnificent! Our dedicated KS2 choirmaster Mrs Ringrose commented, "It is important for our choir to attend lots of community events because we get to share our music and make people happy. When we sing for others, we help bring the community together and show kindness. It also helps us feel proud of our choir, learn to be confident, and work as a team. By being part of community events, we show that music is for everyone and that our choir cares about the people around us."

Thank you to our amazing choir and all of the staff who have volunteered their time.



Spreading Kindness

Written by Mrs Risdell

The Reception children shone brightly in their Nativity performance earlier this term. They delivered their lines brilliantly, sang their hearts out and showed off their dance moves. Year 5 were an incredible support to their buddies, filling the hall with their singing voices. Well done to all of them - we are so proud!

A big thank you to all of our staff for helping to make these performances so memorable.



Music Mark

We love music at the Alvey and we are thrilled that our school has been awarded the Music Mark Recognition Award! This honour celebrates our unwavering commitment to music education and the remarkable progress our students have made. The award acknowledges the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our pupils, and the supportive environment that fosters musical growth. From classroom lessons to performances, music continues to thrive in our school community. We're so proud to be recognised nationally for our efforts and look forward to building on this success. Bravo to everyone who made this achievement possible! A big thank you to Mrs Ringrose, Mrs Huesken and Mrs Barclay who work tirelessly to ensure our children have the very best access to everything musical.

Football flourishes

The football team have managed progress to the next stage of a county tournament at Boston. They have won six games and drawn two. Mr Grayling said he was really pleased with how they worked as a team, which meant they kept a clean sheet! Well done all. You have done us proud!



What an Alvey team we are (children and adults) to make sure we marked Remembrance Day properly. Every child made a unique poppy in their class. Then lots of our staff stayed after school to put them up on display. What a wow moment we all had! Thank you to Mrs McMillan for her wonderful idea and to all the children and staff who made it happen!

Friendly reminders



Uniform

By ensuring your child always attends school wearing the correct uniform, you are helping them to understand the importance of being part of the Alvey and their community in general. Our school office do have a uniform thrift shop if you need anymore items.

Parking

We understand that the beginning and end of the school day can be particularly busy. However, we kindly ask all parents and carers to park considerately—please avoid blocking driveways or causing obstructions to other road users and pedestrians.

Whenever possible, we encourage families to walk, cycle, or scooter to school. Not only does this help reduce traffic congestion, but it's also a much healthier way for children to start and end their day! If your child is cycling or scooting, please ensure they wear a helmet and are aware of road safety rules. We have plenty of bike and scooter racks available on-site for secure storage. Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our school community safe.

Allergies

Please note, due to serious allergies in school, please do not bring in anything which contains nuts.



Clubs

Our staff kindly offer their time for free to run clubs during their lunchtime and after school. Could all parents and carers please make sure they pick their children up on time after a club in the evening. Thank you for your support.



Music at the Alvey

We keep saying that music is so important to us at the Alvey. To find out more about what we do, please scan the QR code or [Click here](#). It is regularly updated so you can see what we have been up to.

Church Inspection

We have always been extremely proud of the Alvey, and it is a pleasure to share some wonderful comments from our recent SIAMS (Church School) Inspection, comments that truly recognise how special our school is. There are too many highlights to include them all, but the inspector described our school as “warm and welcoming” and a place where “pupils grow together, encouraging them to be aspirational.” Other highlights include:

- Pupils and staff feel highly valued and proud to be part of this community.
- Pupils know they are supported and inspired to be their best.
- Creative expression is nurtured through a commitment to the arts.
- Strong relationships lie at the core of school life, with pupils, parents and staff comparing their experience to that of a family.

The full report can be read here: [Full SIAMS Report](#)

Key Dates Spring Term

Spring Term 3

January

Tuesday 6	ALL	Back to school
Tuesday 6	ALL	Growth Mindset Day
Wednesday 7	Year 5	Planetarium (in school visit)
Thursday 8	Year 2	Indian Experience (in school visit)
Friday 9	Year 2	Indian Experience (in school visit)
Monday 12 - Friday 23	Years 5 & 6	Swimming catch-up (invite only)
Friday	Year 5	Stargazing sleepover

February

Tuesday 3	Football	Away match to Church Lane
Tuesday 3	Reception	Cogglesford Mill
Wednesday 4	Reception	Cogglesford Mill
Thursday 5	Netball	Away match to Winchelsea
Monday 9	Year 1	Banquet
Tuesday 10	Year 5	Leicester Space Centre
Tuesday 10	Netball	Away match to Rauceby
Wednesday 11	Year 3	Magna visit
Thursday 12	Choir	Starlight Express
Thursday 12	ALL	Last day of term
Friday 13	Staff	Training Day (Closed to pupils)

Children return on Monday 23rd February 2026



MARIA'S PRIVATE TUTORING

Secondary - Year 7 up to GCSE Maths

- 🏆 Topic-by-topic revision of the full syllabus
- 🏆 Exam techniques & how to maximise marks
- 🏆 Past papers with full step-by-step walkthrough
- 🏆 Confidence building and time management for mocks and final exams



Primary

- 🏆 English: Expert help with reading, writing and grammar
- 🏆 Maths: Numbers, shapes and problem solving
- 🏆 Support with homework, SATS preparation

11+ - Year 4 Foundation / Year 5 Full Preparation Programme

- 🏆 Weekly practice papers with speed building strategies
- 🏆 Exam-style questions set with feedback
- 🏆 Optional holiday booster sessions

Why choose me?

- 🏆 10 years of tutoring experience
- 🏆 Calm, patient and structured teaching style
- 🏆 Proven improvement in grades and confidence
- 🏆 Tailored programmes for each student
- 🏆 Supportive communication with parents
- 🏆 Free 30 minute assessment



"The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you."
B.B.King

Location: Sleaford **Tel:** 07940999601 **E:** 1to1primarytuitions@gmail.com



Guess what? Baby Sensory classes have rolled into your neighbourhood!

Is your baby age 0-13 months?

Would you like to help give them the best start in life? With over a years worth of different lessons no two are ever the same!

Come and see what all the fuss is about at our award winning baby and parents group.

Now in Cranwell, Ruskington and Silk Willoughby

www.babysensory.co.uk/southlincs

or

Visit our South Lincs Facebook page for more information.





The Bishop of Lincoln

Christmas 2025

Every year, the bishops send a Christmas card to lots of people across our Diocese of Lincoln. We choose a theme and invite people to share pictures, photos and paintings with us. Bishop Nicholas and I have spent hours signing these cards by hand because we want God's people to know we are praying for them at Christmas.

This year our theme was from a Bible verse. When God created the world, he says 'let there be light!' (Genesis 1.3) Light is part of the Creation story, and it's also at the heart of the Christmas story. Christmas is about the birth of God's own Son, Jesus Christ. Just like that verse from Genesis, St John's Gospel describes this wonderful Christmas story like this: 'the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.'

Our Christmas card this year shows the image of the Nativity, the manger in which the baby Jesus was laid, shining with bright light.

This Christmas, I ask you to think about 'the light shining in the darkness.' There is lots of darkness in our world – there is war, fighting, anger, hate and suffering. Christmas reminds us that in the darkness, there is light that shines. There is joy, hope, love, kindness, forgiveness and peace in our world, to name a few.

Ask yourselves: where can I see light shining in the darkness? Where can I see good things happening in the world? Where can I see people loving each other, just as Jesus asked us to?

Of course, it can be difficult to see these good things in our world. Sometimes the darkness feels like too much. If you're struggling to see signs of hope, love and peace, then you might consider *being* those signs instead. Ask yourselves: how can I be the light shining in the darkness? How can I make a difference in the lives of my family, my friends, my school, my home?

This Christmas, God says to us 'Let there be light.'

As we get closer to Christmas, I ask you to be lights for Jesus, shining in the darkness, bringing hope to a world which needs it.

Merry Christmas!

The Rt Revd Stephen Conway
Bishop of Lincoln