

15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Longridge  
Towers School  
Celebrating **40** Years



LongridgeTowers



Longridge Towers School



@LongridgeTowers

*Photo courtesy of Mrs C Bell*

## MICHAELMAS TERM 2023

WHAT HAS BEEN  
HAPPENING AT  
LONGRIDGE THIS  
WEEK?

### Cinderella, at The Maltings

This week, EYFS, J1, J2, J3 and J4 enjoyed their annual tradition of attending the pantomime at The Maltings - oh yes they did, oh no they didn't. They had a fantastic time, with lots of traditional hissing and booing!



*We wish you all a  
very merry  
Christmas  
and best wishes for  
2024*





## LTSDA Christmas Fair

We want to thank everyone that came along and supported our Christmas Fair. We hope you found that Christmas gift amongst the lovely stalls.

We raised £1022 at the annual quiz night and £2357 and the Christmas Fair. An amazing amount, and all of this will be used to benefit our pupils.

Thank you for your continued support and thank you to the LTSDA for all their hard work putting these events together. Thank you also to everyone who contributed to the hampers and on the day with their time.



## Boarding

This weekend the boarding team stayed local and attended two Christmas markets. On Saturday we visited Alnwick, and then on Sunday we visited Berwick's Christmas Street Market.

On Wednesday night we had our end of term event which began with a most beautiful buffet tea for the boarders prepared by the catering department. We had our end of term raffle where tickets are awarded for acts of kindness, offering to help others and academic and sporting achievements. Ruby won first prize followed by Nathan. We also had our much-anticipated secret Santa event. Finally, we had a blindfolded pin the nose on Rudolf which was won by Linda.

We had three boarders awarded pupil of the week; Gabbi, for continues to produce fabulous work and is very enthusiastic. Verity for stayed behind after Christmas fair and did a fabulous job assisting the clear up. Nathan who stayed behind after the Christmas fair and did a fabulous job assisting the clear up- well done to all three. We also wished Aida a very happy 10th birthday- happy birthday Aida.



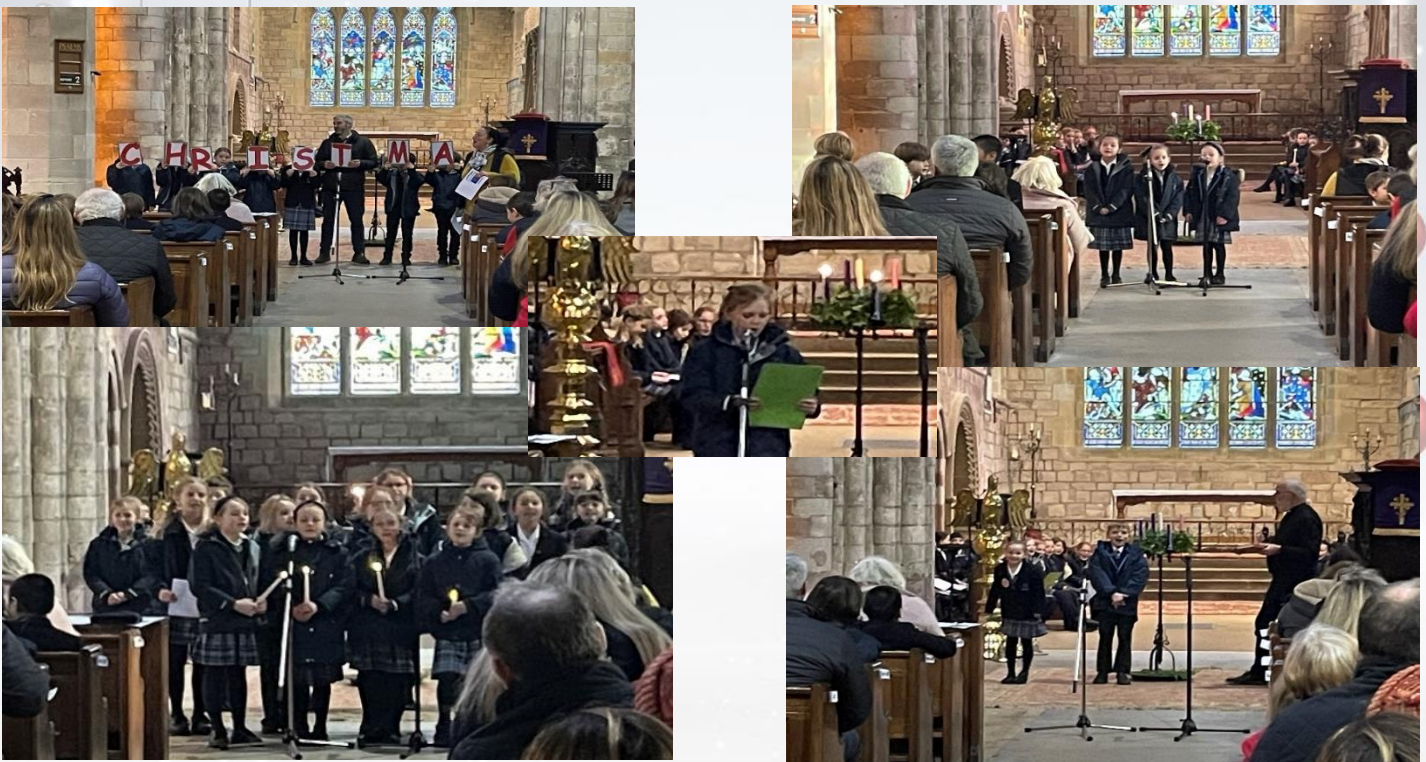


## LTSDA Christmas Wreath Making

Thank to The Ginger House Gardens for a wonderful evening, and for guiding guests on how to make their own beautiful Christmas door wreaths.

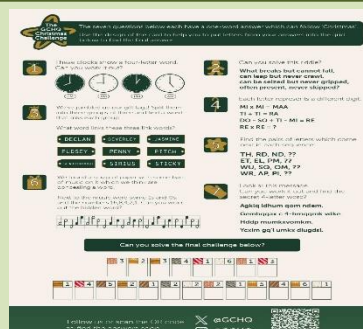


The Junior children hosted the most beautiful Christmas Assembly at Norham St Cuthbert's Church earlier this week. Visiting families were treated to readings, story-telling, poetry and amazing singing leaving Mrs Maddock and the Junior Department staff incredibly proud.



## GCHQ Mathematical Challenge

Can you do the GCHQ Christmas challenge?



GCHQ

<https://www.gchq.gov.uk/files/2023%20GCHQ%20Christmas%20Challenge.pdf>



**Mrs Maddock's Christmas / Winter Holiday Reading Challenge... choose your favourite and get reading!**

### Christmas Reading Challenge

3 in a row

|  |                            |  |
|--|----------------------------|--|
| Read a Christmassy book with someone             | Read a poem                | Read a book that makes you laugh       |
| Read next to your Christmas tree                 | Snuggle up and read in bed | Read your favourite book to someone    |
| Read the lyrics to your favourite Christmas song | Read a non-fiction book    | Draw or write your own Christmas story |

Can you complete 3 challenges in a row over the holidays? Why not try to finish them all?

### Winter Reading Challenge

3 in a row

|                                  |                            |                                      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Read a Wintery book with someone | Read a poem                | Read a book that makes you laugh     |
| Read in a reading den            | Snuggle up and read in bed | Read your favourite book to someone  |
| Read and make a recipe           | Read a non-fiction book    | Draw or write your own Wintery story |

Can you complete 3 challenges in a row over the holidays? Why not try to finish them all?

**Santa Visits Longridge Towers School**





## French

Mrs Westthorp's Form 1 French group were learning about how Christmas is celebrated in France this week. The class finished with a rousing rendition of 'Vive Le Vent', 'Jingle Bells' in French. The class also enjoyed some German Christmas treats, provided by Mr Caddick.



## CHRISTMAS Services and events 2023 at Norham Parish Church (unless otherwise specified)

*Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am, Carol Service  
11.30am Zoom Service*

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 3.00pm, The Norham Living Nativity** *We gather at the war memorial, then follow Mary and Joseph and the wee donkey on their journey round the village to 'Bethlehem'.*

**Christmas Eve, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am, Holy Communion**

**11.30am Zoom Service 4.00pm, Crib Service**

**11.30pm, First Holy Communion of Christmas**

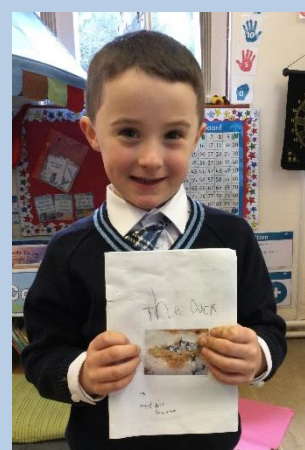
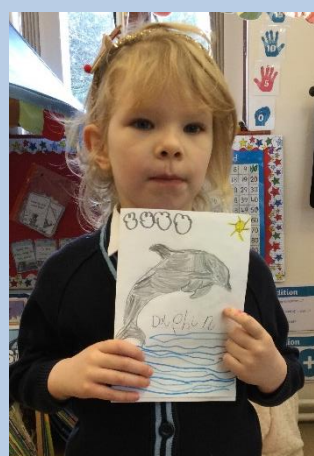
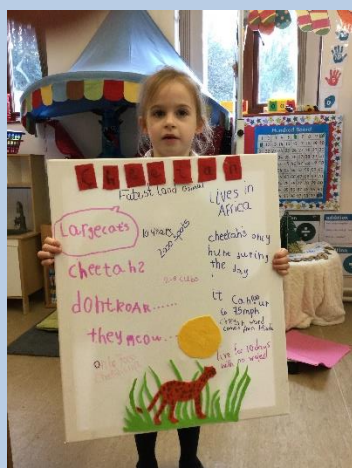
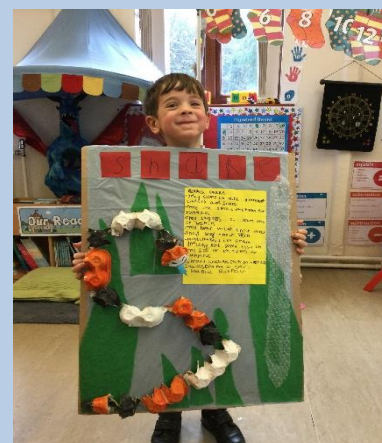
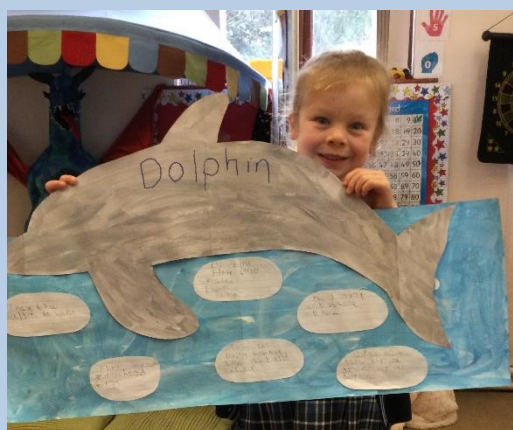
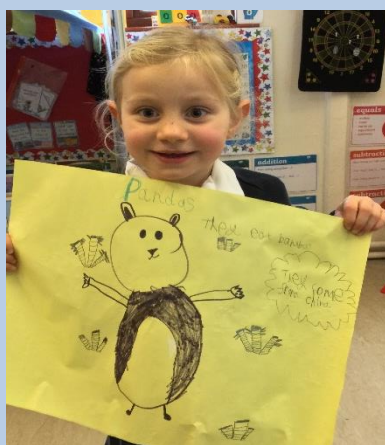
**Christmas Day, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am, Holy Communion**

*11.30am Zoom Service*

For a link to the Zoom Services, send an email to the Vicar: [robert.josephkelsey@live.com](mailto:robert.josephkelsey@live.com)

## J1 Science

This term in Science, J1 have enjoyed learning about the animal kingdom. We have sorted and grouped different animals, investigated where they live, what they eat and found out about any special features. We also explored the human body; labelling the external parts of the body, finding out the function of different body parts and investigating why exercise and eating healthy is important. For homework the children produced their own fact files of an animal of their choice and were very keen to tell Mr Lee about their progress when he visited. Fantastic research J1!





## What fantastic Elves!

At the Junior Department Christmas Assembly at Norham, Mrs Maddock spoke about various trimmings accompanying a Christmas dinner and the unusual custom in one member of staff's household of having a stuffing crisp sandwich! Rory took the idea home and here he shares his version - a turkey crisp sandwich... delicious apparently!





## A Christmas Journey

We were delighted to welcome family and friends to School on Thursday afternoon for our carol service, a celebration of Christmas in words and music. The central theme this year was 'Journeys' with pupils transporting the congregation across place and time in exploration of the Christmas message. Geographically we visited the traditions of a number of countries linked closely to the school community, including Spain, Germany, Ukraine and India. As pupils and staff from throughout the whole school shared readings focused upon different traditions and aspects of the Christmas story, junior pupils symbolised the journey of the Magi for us by transporting delicious gifts chosen from across the world, all coming together to form a Christmas table enjoyed by pupils and guests at the end of the day. We were also transported beyond time and place in representation of the spiritual journey that Christmas invites us to begin. Foremost in our thoughts and hearts were those people around the world currently displaced and harmed by conflict and war.

At the culmination of the event, Form 5 pupils held images which transformed into words, as staff members wished our whole community a Joyeux Noel, Buon Natale, Vrolyk Kerstfeest, Froliche Weihnachten - a Merry Christmas to all. Canon Reverend Dennis Handley, who joined our staff this year, kindly led us in reflection and prayers to close the service.

Below are two of the images used by pupils during the event: marzipan from Spain, and clementines to symbolise the evocative nature of childhood memories. Two readings are included here too, delivered by Ben, Pandra, George, Suzie, and members of the staff team.



## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grandparents' Afternoon Tea

It was wonderful to see a full house for our annual Grandparents' afternoon tea this week. As the sun shone through the Concert Room windows, pupils enjoyed treating our guests to an afternoon with tea, music and singing. This is certainly a highlight of the calendar for several grandparents, and we even had visitors from as far away as Shetland.





This week all senior years competed for their House in hockey and rugby. There were some fantastic games, and we were very fortunate with the weather. Results are shown below for the individual year group competitions, as well as the overall result.

### INTERHOUSE Hockey

| F1+2             | Position | House Pts | OVERALL |    |     |
|------------------|----------|-----------|---------|----|-----|
| HOME             | 1        | 8         | HOME    | 18 | 2nd |
| JERN             | 3        | 4         | JERN    | 20 | 1st |
| STOBO            | 2        | 6         | STOBO   | 16 | 3rd |
| F3+4             | Position |           |         |    |     |
| HOME             | 2        | 6         |         |    |     |
| JERN             | 1        | 8         |         |    |     |
| STOBO            | 3        | 4         |         |    |     |
| F5+6             | Position |           |         |    |     |
| HOME             | 3        | 4         |         |    |     |
| JERN             | 1        | 8         |         |    |     |
| STOBO            | 2        | 6         |         |    |     |
| INTERHOUSE Rugby |          |           |         |    |     |
| F1+2             | Position | House Pts | OVERALL |    |     |
| HOME             | 3        | 4         | HOME    | 18 | 2nd |
| JERN             | 2        | 6         | JERN    | 20 | 1st |
|                  |          |           |         |    |     |
| STOBO            | 1        | 8         | STOBO   | 16 | 3rd |
| F3+4             | Position |           |         |    |     |
| HOME             | 1        | 8         |         |    |     |
| JERN             | 2        | 6         |         |    |     |
| STOBO            | 3        | 4         |         |    |     |
| F5+6             | Position |           |         |    |     |
| HOME             | 2        | 6         |         |    |     |
| JERN             | 1        | 8         |         |    |     |
| STOBO            | 3        | 4         |         |    |     |





## Inter-House Quiz

The final House Competition of term took place on the final day of term. The House Quiz involved teams from each house, questions for the whole of each house, so that everyone could contribute, and even round for the Heads of Houses. The staff-members' baby photos proved to be a highlight, and quite a challenge for pupils to recognise.

Congratulations to all who took part, and thanks to Ms Kirk for putting together the powerpoint, Mr Westthorp for the "buzzer" technology, Mr Carter and Mr Burns for the audio-visual set-up, Mr Woodrow for organising the "Plicker" technology, Mr Crowe for keeping score, Mr Dodd for hitting the "time-over" cowbell and all the staff for setting questions.

Oh, Jerningham House (red) had most points at the close, but it was the taking part and teamwork that were the winners.

# Longridge Towers School



## Burns Night Ceilidh

*Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 6pm-10pm*

*Food - Longridge Lovely Ladies*

*Music - Alnwick*

*Bar + Raffle*

*Tickets £25 -*

<https://forms.gle/3EGrQBnDQZLt9kCz7>

*Fundraising for House Charities*



# *Merry Christmas by Dorothy Brown Thompson*

*At Christmas, when old friends are meeting,  
We give that long-loved joyous greeting -  
'Merry Christmas!'*

*While hanging sheaves for winter birds  
Friends in Norway call the words,  
'God Jul!'*

*With wooden shoes ranged on the hearth,  
Dutch celebrators cry their mirth,  
'Vrolyk Kerstfeest!'*

*In France, that land of courtesy,  
Our welcome to our guests would be,  
'Joyeux Noël!'*

*Enshrining Christmas in her art,  
Italy cries from a full heart,  
'Buon Natale!'*

*When in the land of Christmas trees,  
Old Germany, use words like these -  
'Fröhliche Weihnachten!'*

*Though each land names a different name,  
Good will rings through each wish the same -  
'Merry Christmas!'*



*BC:AD by U.A. Fanthorpe  
This was the moment when Before  
Turned into After, and the future's  
Uninvented timekeepers presented arms.*

*This was the moment when nothing  
Happened. Only dull peace  
Sprawled boringly over the earth.*

*This was the moment when even energetic Romans  
Could find nothing better to do  
Than counting heads in remote provinces.*

*And this was the moment  
When a few farm workers and three  
Members of an obscure Persian sect  
Walked haphazard by starlight straight  
Into the kingdom of heaven.*



## Calendar week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January:

Boarders Return

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January:

Term Begins

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January:

GCSE Mock Exams Begin

F4 Art trip National Gallery

U12 and U13 Area Hockey Tournament @ LTS PB: 12.30pm

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March:

Open Evening in the Concert Room 5.15 – 6.30pm

## Community Links

Norham Village  
You are invited to:

**Retrace the Story of Christmas**



**Saturday 23rd December 2023**  
Meet at the churchyard gates - 3 pm  
Let's follow Mary, Joseph and the (real live) donkey on their way to Bethlehem

Singing favourite carols as we go  
with the Norham Junior Singers and Soloist

Meet a Roman Soldier, Wise Men, Shepherd & Angels on our way

At the end of our journey we gather round the stable at the Village Hall  
Adults & Children are invited to dress up as figures from the nativity story

Refreshments served at the end in the Village Hall

**Donations in aid of Berwick Cancer Cars**

**kooth**

**Kooth's live chat hours over the holiday period**

24th December (Christmas Eve) - 4pm - 8pm  
25th December (Christmas Day) - 4pm - 8pm  
26th December (Boxing Day) - 4pm - 8pm  
31st December (New Years Eve) - 4pm - 8pm  
1st January (New Years Day) - 4pm - 8pm

Other days over the holiday period will follow our usual live chat hours of 12pm - 10pm on weekdays and 6pm - 10pm on weekends.

**kooth.com**



**Border Ice Rink  
Festive Skating Dates**

3rd, 10th & 17th December  
2.45 - 5.15pm  
23rd Christmas Eve's Eve Disco  
6.30 - 8.30pm  
24th Christmas Eve with Hot Chocolate specials  
1.00 - 3.00pm  
Festive Skating Week  
28th, 29th, 30th & 31st Dec  
2.00 - 4.30pm



Skating every Sunday  
2.45 - 5.15pm  
Booking online advisable  
[www.bordericerink.co.uk/shop](http://www.bordericerink.co.uk/shop)