

Happy Christmas and Happy New Year

This has been an excellent first term which has been exemplified by fantastic teaching and learning, and children demonstrating positive behaviour; superb class assemblies; an amazing Christmas assembly from our Reception pupils in which everyone performed brilliantly; and many wonderful experiences undertaken by the pupils.

All the experiences take thought, time and additional work to make them happen. It is through our hard-working staff, supported by parents, working together and showing consideration for what our children need that makes Addison so positive and great for our children. Thank you all! I hope that everyone has a restful Christmas break and has Happy a New Year!

Advent

Cameron, the local Vicar led a school assembly at the beginning of the month and discussed the theme of 'light' and 'showing goodness' to all. Advent reminds

us that even in darkness there is hope. Let us pray for all who suffer through poverty, ill health, loneliness and broken relationships, that this season gives them hope.

As we proceed into the season of Advent, it is always a time to reflect on what is important in life. Christians believe Jesus taking on human form and being born to a poor family teaches us to appreciate that there are more important things in life than status and wealth. Family, love, friendship and faith are things that money cannot buy. In the lead up to Christmas, Advent slows us down, it helps us to not get so caught up in the materialistic and commercial side of the season.

Winter Fair—Friday 12th December

We have been planning our Winter Fair for some weeks and final preparations are underway. Pupils will be dismissed at the usual end of day time— families can make their way to the Fair, located in the lower hall (stalls) and upper hall for the bouncy castle and face painting.



Autumn 2025

- 12th Winter Fair
- 19th Last day 1pm finish

Spring 2026

January (Perseverance)

- 6th Pupils return
- 8th Fire Safety workshop Y2&5
- 14th Topaz parent class visit
- 15th Topaz class assembly
- 21st Jade class parent visit
- 27th Y6 into university
- 28th Sapphire class parent visit
- 29th Pearl class assembly

February (Ollie Honest)

- 1st- 9th National Story telling week
- 3rd Phonics workshop 2:30pm
- 4th Ruby class parent visit
- 11th Topaz class parent visit
- 25th Pearl class parent visit
- 10th Internet Safety Week

HALF TERM

- Mon. 16th – Fri. 20th Feb.

Ruby Class

Year 3 had an amazing Autumn 2 half term! Under our topic, 'Settlements and Land Use' we explored different settlements in the UK and how land is used. We explored the differences between Middlesex and Cumbria and recognised how land use has changed over time.

In English Year 3 wrote funny poems based on our book, 'I'll send you to Mrs Cole'. Pupils used rhyme and repetition to create fantastic imagery for the reader. The children then focused on writing emotive diary entries based on, 'Fantastic Mr Fox'. I was really impressed with how they were able to get into character.



In Maths the children learned about multiplication and division using our 3, 4 and 8 times tables. Using strategies from skip-counting, arrays, grouping and sharing counters, the children have amazed me with how they have understood this topic. Our Science lessons have been enlightening! The children explored light and how it interacts with a range of materials. We have been making different shadows and experimenting with how the distance you stand from an object effects the shadow it casts. A key highlight was our class assembly, where everyone worked incredibly hard by learning their lines, performing and singing so beautifully. It was really lovely seeing how many parents came to support Ruby Class too – thank you!

Topaz Class

We are incredibly proud of the hard work and determination shown by all our pupils this term. Their positive attitudes, resilience when facing challenges and commitment to their learning have led to impressive achievements both academically and personally. It has truly been rewarding to watch their confidence grow.

In English, we explored the exciting and adventurous story, 'Varjak Paw'. Fully engaged in the narrative, the children developed thoughtful responses to the characters and produced imaginative pieces of writing. By writing from Varjak's perspective, pupils demonstrated their ability to think deeply, select rich vocabulary and apply narrative techniques effectively.

Our Science learning centred on electrical circuits, providing pupils with hands-on opportunities to experiment, investigate and solve real problems. Their ability to identify faults, make improvements and explain how electricity flows showed excellent scientific thinking. This work continued in Design Technology (DT), where pupils designed and made their own torches. With careful planning, purposeful material choices and secure understanding of circuits, they produced creative and functional products and were genuinely proud of their accomplishments.

In PE, pupils continued to develop their cricket skills. Their teamwork, determination and willingness to push themselves further were evident throughout every session.

Finally, we were delighted to celebrate the success of the pupils in Topaz, who achieved the attendance award for having the highest attendance across the school. This fantastic accomplishment reflects their dedication, enthusiasm and commitment to learning every day.



Pearl class

As we approach the Christmas break, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic achievements we have seen from Year 5 this term. It has been a busy and productive few weeks, and the effort from all of the pupils has been admirable!

Year 5 embarked on an exciting exploration of Earth and Space, delving into the wonders of our solar system and the celestial patterns that shape life on our planet. Through hands-on activities and inquiry-based learning, children investigated the Sun, Moon and planets, gaining a deeper understanding of their features and movements. They also explored how Earth's rotation and orbit create the cycle of day and night, as well as the time zones that influence how we experience time around the world. This unit developed scientific curiosity while helping pupils make meaningful connections between astronomy and everyday life.

In English, pupils wrote newspaper articles by researching Greta Thunberg's 2020 Strike for Climate Action March in Bristol. Through drafting headlines and using direct and report speech from eyewitnesses, children developed their writing skills while deepening their understanding of global climate action and youth advocacy.

During PE lessons, we have been developing important interpersonal skills and teamwork by working together, communicating clearly and supporting one another in group activities.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this half term — it has made a wonderful difference to our learning community.

Amber Class

We have had a wonderfully busy and successful Autumn term. The children have impressed us with their maturity, enthusiasm and willingness to take on new challenges. One of the major highlights was our IntoUniversity Week, which encouraged pupils to think about their futures through a series of engaging and inspiring, 'Lawyers for Learners' workshops. During these sessions, pupils enjoyed debating, exploring fairness and gaining an insight into how the legal system works. Another memorable moment was our trip to the Lyric Theatre to watch, 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Year 6 were captivated by the lively performance, eagerly joining in with the singing, humour and festive fun that made the pantomime feel truly magical.



In English, the class worked carefully on narrative writing inspired by the classic, book, 'Goodnight Mr Tom', producing thoughtful and sensitive stories that reflected the novel's themes of courage, belonging and evacuation. They also created detailed brochures about Italy, demonstrating strong research skills and cultural understanding alongside creative presentation.

In Science, pupils explored the topic of Light through hands-on investigations, learning how shadows change, how light reflects from surfaces and how refraction causes light to bend through different materials. In Maths, they have made excellent progress with fractions, becoming confident in comparing, simplifying and calculating using different denominators.

This term has been filled with curiosity, creativity and achievement. We wish all our families a restful break and look forward to the Spring term 2026!

Staff leavers

Sadly, we say farewell to Mrs Maple & Miss Eason at the end of term.

Mrs Maple has been at Addison for almost three years and supported pupils with their phonics, reading and arts and crafts. She is passionate about nurturing confidence in every child and has inspired so many children. With her EYFS experience she has supported many adults at Addison to be better teachers too. She will be very much missed and we wish her the very best in her next role. Thank you Mrs Maple for all that you have contributed to Addison!



Miss Eason joined Addison In September as a cover teacher for Mrs Gillespie's maternity leave. Despite only being at our school for a term, she has made a tremendous impact to everyone in the school, especially the Year 5 pupils. She has been an outstanding teacher and has formed positive relationships with staff pupils and families. We are sorry that Miss Eason is leaving, and we wish her the very best on her return journey home to Australia.

Academic Year 2025-2026

Being in school every day is a legal requirement. Parents should not take children on holidays outside of these dates and the Head Teacher cannot authorise these absences.

Term dates for 2025/26 are available and can be viewed on the school website:

<https://www.addisonprimary.org/term-dates-1>



Spring 2026	First day Tuesday 6 th Jan.	Half-term Monday 16 th —20 th Feb.	Last day Friday 27 th March
Summer 2026	First day Tuesday 14 th April.	Half-term Mon 25 th — 29 th May.	Last day Friday 17 th July.

