



NEWSLETTER



Welcome

Welcome to our newsletter. What a week! School has been full of the magic of Christmas. We are beaming with pride from the performances of all of our children.

Our Nursery and Reception children performed their nativity to parents and carers earlier this week. What a show they put on! Children as young as 3 shared the Christmas story with such confidence and enthusiasm.

A huge well done to our KS1 children, who also performed a special take on the nativity to parents and carers. The children sang, danced and acted with such energy and joy. They brought smiles and laughter to everyone's face and it was certainly a moment to remember.

This afternoon was our carol concert for our KS2 children. It was a wonderful performance from all and one that brought so much Christmas cheer to all.

All of our performances have involved hard work and dedication from children and staff. Thank you to everyone for making Christmas at Halsnead a memorable and special time of year.

Our online Christmas raffle and Water into Wine stall are still open for tickets. Please follow the links sent out today to purchase tickets.

We have so many exciting activities planned for next week, including our Christmas parties, breakfast with Santa and our Halsnead Value Awards special assembly. We look forward to an exciting final 3 days next week!

Merry Christmas and best wishes to all of our Halsnead community this Christmas.



Merry Christmas

Happy New Year!



WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS
BY CLEMENT CLARKE MOORE

'TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS, WHEN ALL THROUGH THE HOUSE
NOT A CREATURE WAS STIRRING, NOT EVEN A MOUSE.
THE STOCKINGS WERE HUNG BY THE CHIMNEY WITH CARE,
IN HOPES THAT ST NICHOLAS SOON WOULD BE THERE.

THE CHILDREN WERE NESTLED ALL SNUG IN THEIR BEDS,
WHILE VISIONS OF SUGAR-PLUMS DANCED IN THEIR HEADS.
AND MAMMA IN HER 'KERCHIEF, AND I IN MY CAP,
HAD JUST SETTLED OUR BRAINS FOR A LONG WINTER'S NAP.

WHEN OUT ON THE LAWN THERE AROSE SUCH A CLATTER,
I SPRANG FROM THE BED TO SEE WHAT WAS THE MATTER.
AWAY TO THE WINDOW I FLEW LIKE A FLASH,
TORE OPEN THE SHUTTERS AND THREW UP THE SASH.

THE MOON ON THE BREAST OF THE NEW-FALLEN SNOW
GAVE THE LUSTRE OF MID-DAY TO OBJECTS BELOW.
WHEN, WHAT TO MY WONDERING EYES SHOULD APPEAR,
BUT A MINIATURE SLEIGH, AND EIGHT TINY REINDEER.

WITH A LITTLE OLD DRIVER, SO LIVELY AND QUICK,
I KNEW IN A MOMENT IT MUST BE ST NICK.
MORE RAPID THAN EAGLES HIS COURSERS THEY CAME,
AND HE WHISTLED, AND SHOUTED, AND CALLED THEM BY NAME!

"NOW DASHER! NOW, DANCER! NOW, PRANCER AND VIXEN!
ON, COMET! ON, CUPID! ON, ON DONNER AND BLITZEN!
TO THE TOP OF THE PORCH! TO THE TOP OF THE WALL!
NOW DASH AWAY! DASH AWAY! DASH AWAY ALL!"

AS DRY LEAVES THAT BEFORE THE WILD HURRICANE FLY,
WHEN THEY MEET WITH AN OBSTACLE, MOUNT TO THE SKY.
SO UP TO THE HOUSE-TOP THE COURSERS THEY FLEW,
WITH THE SLEIGH FULL OF TOYS, AND ST NICHOLAS TOO.

AND THEN, IN A TWINKLING, I HEARD ON THE ROOF
THE PRANCING AND PAWING OF EACH LITTLE HOOF.
AS I DREW IN MY HEAD, AND WAS TURNING AROUND,
DOWN THE CHIMNEY ST NICHOLAS CAME WITH A BOUND.

HE WAS DRESSED ALL IN FUR, FROM HIS HEAD TO HIS FOOT,
AND HIS CLOTHES WERE ALL TARNISHED WITH ASHES AND SOOT.
A BUNDLE OF TOYS HE HAD FLUNG ON HIS BACK,
AND HE LOOKED LIKE A PEDDLER, JUST OPENING HIS PACK.

HIS EYES-HOW THEY TWINKLED! HIS DIMPLES HOW MERRY!
HIS CHEEKS WERE LIKE ROSES, HIS NOSE LIKE A CHERRY!
HIS DROLL LITTLE MOUTH WAS DRAWN UP LIKE A BOW,
AND THE BEARD OF HIS CHIN WAS AS WHITE AS THE SNOW.

THE STUMP OF A PIPE HE HELD TIGHT IN HIS TEETH,
AND THE SMOKE IT ENCIRCLED HIS HEAD LIKE A WREATH.
HE HAD A BROAD FACE AND A LITTLE ROUND BELLY,
THAT SHOOK WHEN HE LAUGHED, LIKE A BOWLFUL OF JELLY!

HE WAS CHUBBY AND PLUMP, A RIGHT JOLLY OLD ELF,
AND I LAUGHED WHEN I SAW HIM, IN SPITE OF MYSELF!
A WINK OF HIS EYE AND A TWIST OF HIS HEAD,
SOON GAVE ME TO KNOW I HAD NOTHING TO DREAD.

HE SPOKE NOT A WORD, BUT WENT STRAIGHT TO HIS WORK,
AND FILLED ALL THE STOCKINGS, THEN TURNED WITH A JERK.
AND LAYING HIS FINGER ASIDE OF HIS NOSE,
AND GIVING A NOD, UP THE CHIMNEY HE ROSE!

HE SPRANG TO HIS SLEIGH, TO HIS TEAM GAVE A WHISTLE,
AND AWAY THEY ALL FLEW LIKE THE DOWN OF A THISTLE.
BUT I HEARD HIM EXCLAIM, 'ERE HE DROVE OUT OF SIGHT,
"HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD-NIGHT!"

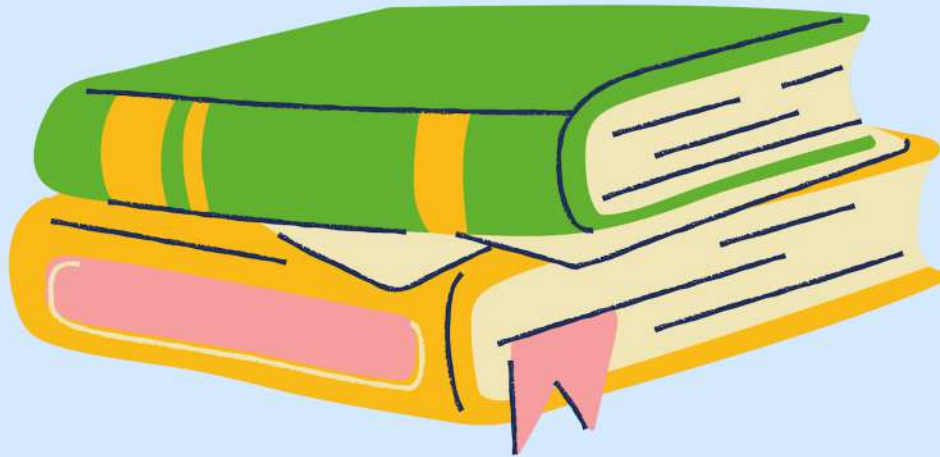
A POEM FOR THOUGHT

The Halsnead Reads Book Recommendations

We have been so impressed with so many of our children are a school filled with book lovers! Ms Rayner had a dream that we would collect enough books to be able to gift a book to every child in school, and we have surpassed that. You have, in fact, donated an amazing.....370 books... and counting!!! This means that every child will receive a book over the next week.

Thank you all again, for your generosity and helping promote a love of reading!

...and thank you to Ms Rayner and the reading champions for organising everything.



The Halsnead Reads Golden Coin Winners

As you may be aware, we are very lucky to have a 'Book Vending Machine' in school. Each week, teachers may choose to nominate children to receive a golden coin that allows the lucky pupil to choose a book to take home! Children are nominated for showing extra effort, enthusiasm, and confidence with reading and/or writing!

This week's lucky golden coin recipients have been:

Gabriella B and Finley S.

Who will be next week's winners?

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

WE HAVE BEEN SO IMPRESSED WITH SO MANY OF OUR CHILDREN ARE A SCHOOL FILLED WITH BOOK LOVERS!

THIS WEEK, GEORGE WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND THE DOGMAN SERIES BY DAV PIKEY.



DOG MAN IS A COMEDIC GRAPHIC NOVEL SERIES CREATED BY AMERICAN AUTHOR AND CARTOONIST DAV PILKEY AND PUBLISHED BY SCHOLASTIC CORPORATION. THE SERIES IS ABOUT A DOG-HEADED COP PROTECTING THE CITY HE RESIDES IN WITH HIS FRIENDS.

WHEN DAV PILKEY WAS A CHILD, HE WAS DIAGNOSED WITH ADHD AND DYSLEXIA. DAV WAS SO DISRUPTIVE IN CLASS THAT HIS TEACHERS MADE HIM SIT OUT IN THE HALLWAY EVERY DAY. LUCKILY, DAV LOVED TO DRAW AND MAKE UP STORIES. HE SPENT HIS TIME IN THE HALLWAY CREATING HIS OWN ORIGINAL COMIC BOOKS - THE VERY FIRST ADVENTURES OF DOG MAN AND CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS.

IN COLLEGE, DAV MET A TEACHER WHO ENCOURAGED HIM TO ILLUSTRATE AND WRITE. HE WON A NATIONAL COMPETITION IN 1986 AND THE PRIZE WAS THE PUBLICATION OF HIS FIRST BOOK, WORLD WAR WON.



ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR 30 HOURS FREE CHILDCARE?
[HTTPS://WWW.GOV.UK/30-HOURS-FREE-CHILDCARE](https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare)

IF YOUR CHILD ATTENDS BREAKFAST AND/OR KID'S CLUB, PLEASE ENSURE THAT ANY OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS ARE UP TO DATE TO AVOID LOSING YOUR PLACE IN JANUARY. IF YOU HAVE ANY OUTSTANDING DINNER MONEY DEBTS, PLEASE PAY THESE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ALL PAYMENTS ARE TO BE MADE VIA PARENTAPP.

SCHOOL ADMISSION PROCEDURES - PRIMARY CLOSING DATE PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CLOSING DATE FOR RECEPTION PLACE APPLICATIONS FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2023 INTAKE IS FAST APPROACHING;. PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK TO APPLY ONLINE:
[HTTPS://PARENTPORTAL.KNOWSLEY.GOV.UK /WEB/PORTAL/PAGES/HOME](https://parentportal.knowsley.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home)



MALORIE
BLACKMAN



Malorie Blackman is an English **children's author**.

She writes young adult and children's novels, short stories, and picture books. She was named the United Kingdom's Children's Laureate in 2013.

The role of Children's Laureate is awarded once every two years to an eminent (important) writer or illustrator of children's books to celebrate outstanding achievement in their field.



Malorie Blackman.

Blackman's books always feature black characters. This is because none of the characters in the stories she read as a child were black. Blackman felt that this was a problem, and she vowed to solve it as a writer.

Books teach children to see the world through the eyes of others and empathise with others.

Malorie Blackman says:





VALUE AWARDS

Robbie Respect



Colleen Collaboration



Andy Aspiration



India Integrity



Keron Kindness



Rosie Resilience



Our School Values - Respect, Resilience, Aspiration, Collaboration, Integrity, Kindness

Half Term Value - Integrity

Value Behaviour of the Week - We are role models to others.

Nursery - Mrs Hoang

Being awesome performers in our Nativity.

Reception - Miss Lucas

What a half term! Each and every one of you have shown our school values through your actions, words and attitude to learning. It has been a pleasure teaching you and having lots of laughs and fun experiences along the way! You have made Mrs Irving, Mrs Marshall and I so proud with how you have taken on new challenges with a 'can do' attitude, whilst supporting each other to overcome challenges. Have the BEST Christmas break - you deserve it! Well done for a fab half term!

Year 1 - Mrs Wills

Well done for having an excellent half term. You have all really developed your resilience and independence in all aspects of school life. I see you try your best every day and watch proudly how you never give up. You have worked super hard to learn the songs for our Christmas performances, what a fantastic choir you have been. I am so proud of you all.

Three cheers for 1W

Year 1 & 2 - Mrs Thomas

Wow! 12T, what can I say...your resilience for the whole term has been incredible! When you have found something tricky, you have all asked for help and listened to feedback; this shows the desire and determination to grow in character and academically. Well done, I am extremely proud of each and everyone of you. Enjoy Christmas, have lots of fun and don't forget to listen out for the jingle of Santa's sleigh bells!

Year 2 - Miss Spencer

. 2S - for showing resilience, determination and collaboration this half term. You have worked so hard, in particular with your writing and I am blown away with your independence! Have a lovely Christmas, and I'll see you in the new year for a fantastic 2023!

Year 3k-Mrs Keenan

Where do I start?! What a term! You have shown an abundance of resilience over this term! It has been inspiring to watch you work hard and truly try the best in each and every lesson! We have made some real progress this term and I can't wait to see what lays in store in the New Year! Now it's time to relax and rest your brains ready for January! Well done!

Year 3 & 4 - Mrs Kendall

A big well done, for another fantastic half term and displaying all Halsnead values. Enjoy your Christmas holidays and see you all in the new year. Merry Christmas everyone.

Year 4 - Miss Thorneycroft

Well done 4T for a brilliant half term! You have all shown determination and resilience throughout, keep up the good work.

Year 5 - Mr Owen and Miss Neale

All of 5ON- you have all had another fantastic half term in year 5. You have shown resilience in abundance while we have faced some tricky topics in maths! Your English writing has improved massively, you should all be so proud! Thank you for showing manners and respect every day, have a brilliant Christmas! Miss Neale

Year 5 & 6 - Mr Doherty

What an incredible term! I have been blown away by your attitudes to learning and your desire to succeed. You never fail to put a smile on my face. I am so proud of each and everyone of you and look forward to the coming months. Enjoy your Christmas holidays - switch off, relax and enjoy time with your families. Happy Xmas and happy new year!

Year 6-Mr Lenaghan

Well... reflecting upon the first full-term we have had together in Year 6, I cannot emphasise it enough just how wonderful it has been - it has been an absolute pleasure to teach this class. We have seen resilience in overcoming the trickiest fraction calculations. We have seen collaboration during our 'writing workshops'. We have seen aspiration to exceed children's own expectations of themselves. If this is only term 1, I cannot wait to see what the next two terms will hold. Have a wonderful Christmas from all of us in 6L and enjoy the well-deserved break - see you in the new year.