Coaley Church of England Academy

Headteacher: Miss Jen Thomas

As a family, we flourish.

Love each other as I have loved you (John 15:12)

Friday 27th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The past two weeks have been filled with moments that remind us what it means to flourish together as a school family. From sporting success and community generosity to exciting improvements to our school environment, there has been much to celebrate.



A huge well done to Eloise in Owls Class, who represented Coaley at the District Sports Cross Country event at KLB in truly treacherous weather conditions. Despite the heavy rain and challenging course, she demonstrated remarkable stamina, perseverance and determination throughout the race. I was incredibly proud to watch her find an extra burst of energy and increase her pace in the final stretch. Eloise achieved a phenomenal 12th place out of 74 runners and, even more impressively, finished as the 5th placed Year 5 pupil. This is a fantastic achievement, and the whole school family is incredibly proud of you. Well done, Eloise!

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Poppy Appeal. Through your generosity, our school collection raised an impressive £116.01, which will make a meaningful difference to those within the Armed Forces community. We are grateful for the way our community continues to show compassion and support for others.

I am also delighted to share some exciting news about our school facilities. The new glass-framed breakout space at the rear of the hall, where the library was previously located before the opening of The Nest, has now been installed. Many of you will have the opportunity to see it during Celebration Worship this afternoon. As a small school, we are often limited by the amount of space available for interventions, music lessons, meetings and other important activities. This newly created area will make an enormous difference to the opportunities and support we can provide for our children and staff. We are now just awaiting the frosting on the door before the project is fully complete.



It has also been wonderful to see the children making the most of the seasonal changes and becoming immersed in nature during their playtimes. The fallen leaves around the school have inspired some truly imaginative ideas, from creating giant piles of leaves to launch high into the air together, to constructing a mammoth leaf-weaving project along the playground fence. The creativity, collaboration and joy that these simple natural resources have sparked have been fantastic to witness, and it has been a lovely reminder of how much learning, awe and wonder can be found in the world around us. As a family, we continue to flourish through these shared moments of exploration and discovery.

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We are also looking forward to seeing many of you on Sunday at the Coaley Christmas Tree Light Switch-On. The event begins at 3.00pm at the Village Hall, and our children will be performing on stage. Our school performance is scheduled for approximately 4.30pm, and we kindly ask children to arrive from 4.15pm to give us plenty of time to get organised before taking to the stage. This is also a polite reminder that parents and carers are expected to remain with their child(ren) for the duration of the event.

Finally, thank you all for your continued support, encouragement and partnership. The strength of our school community is one of Coaley's greatest assets, and we are incredibly grateful for everything you do to help our children flourish.

Jen Thomas
Headteacher





Diary dates

Week 4 Afterschool Clubs	23rd Nov	24th Nov	25th Nov	26th Nov 9.00am- Maths parent workshop with Mrs Haines	27th Nov 2.00- Miss Thomas parent coffee morning 2.45- Celebration Worship
Week 5 Afterschool Clubs	30th Nov	1st Dec	2nd Dec	3rd Dec	4th Dec 2.30- Class learning parent drop in
Week 6 Afterschool Clubs	7th Dec	8th Dec	9th Dec 9.00am- Christingle Worship	10th Dec	11th Dec 2.45- Celebration Worship
Week 7	14th Dec	15th Dec 8.30am- Panto @ Everyman	16th Dec 2.00pm & 5.00pm- Carol Service in Church	17th Dec	18th Dec 1.30 End of school

Coaley C of E Primary Academy, The Street, Coaley, Dursley, Gloucestershire, GL11 5EB
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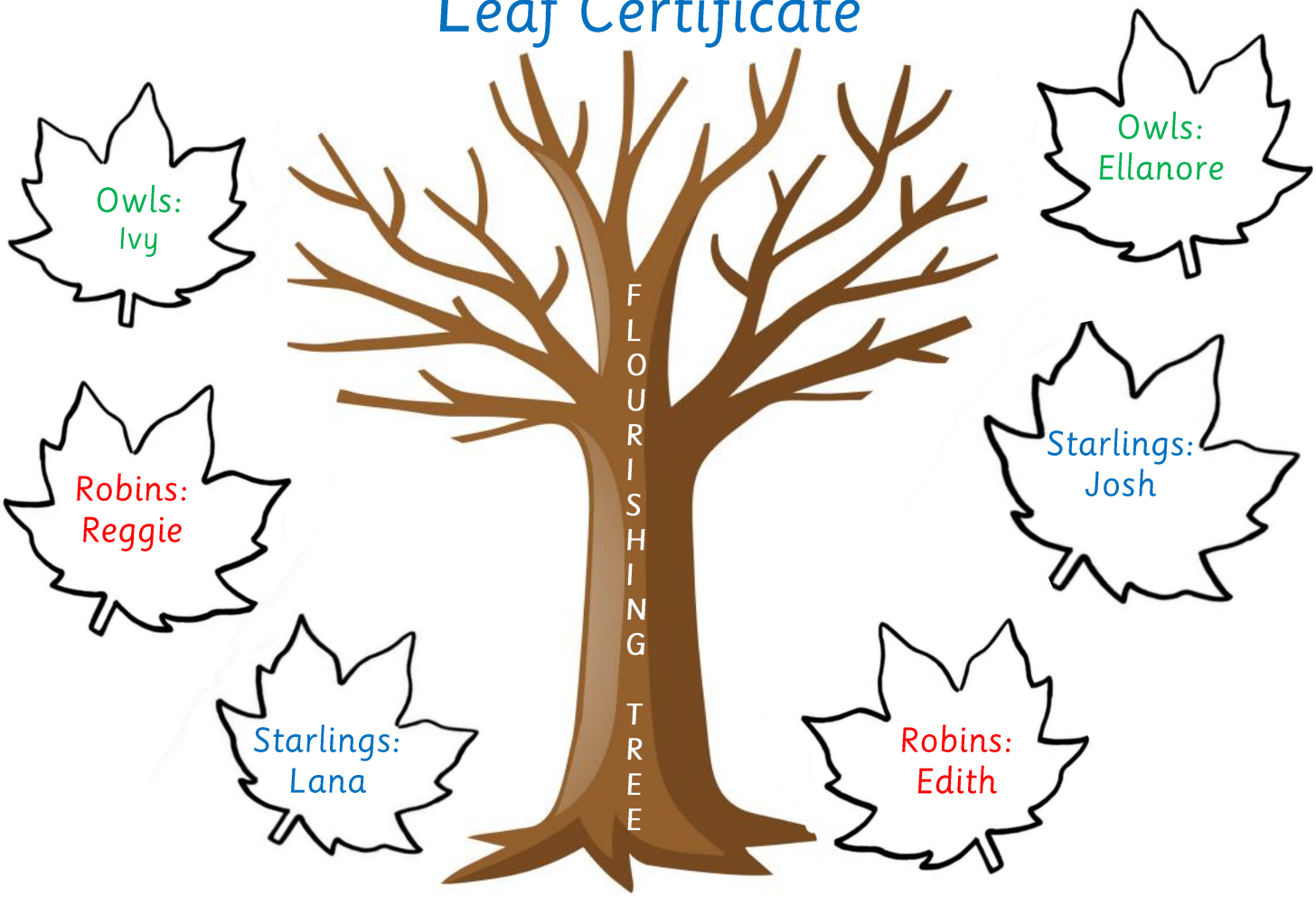
Leaf Certificate

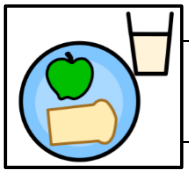


Values Certificate

Respect Humility Compassion Forgiveness Courage Truth

Robins	Edie	Alfie
Starlings	Louie	Harper
Owls	Albert	Jacob

Lunchtime Certificate



Isabelle

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unlocking potential



Samaritan's Purse sends special thanks to

Coaley C of E Primary Academy

for packing Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts and sending Good News and great joy to precious children around the world!

for 4 boxes

Nick Cole

Nick Cole, Director of Operation Christmas Child UK

Samaritan's Purse

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December 2026 Services

St Bart's, Lower Cam • St John's, Slimbridge • St Bartholomew's, Coaley

Wednesday 2 December	Mid-week Communion — Lower Cam, 10am
Sunday 6 December	Morning Service — Coaley, 9:30am Holy Communion — Slimbridge, 10am Morning Service — Lower Cam, 11am
Wednesday 9 December	Mid-week Communion — Lower Cam, 10am
Thursday 10 December	Slimbridge School Concert, 6pm
Saturday 12 December	Slimbridge Singers Concert, 4pm
Sunday 13 December	Holy Communion — Coaley, 9:30am Morning Service — Slimbridge, 10am Holy Communion — Lower Cam, 11am
Wednesday 16 December	Mid-week Communion — Lower Cam, 10am Coaley School Service, 2pm & 5pm
Saturday 19 December	Carols at Tesco, Cam
Sunday 20 December	Holy Communion — Coaley, 9:30am Morning Service — Slimbridge, 10am Holy Communion — Lower Cam, 11am **Community Carols — Slimbridge, 3pm** **Carols by Candlelight - Coaley, 4pm** **Carols by Candlelight - Lower Cam, 6pm**
Wednesday 23 December	Mid-week Communion — Lower Cam, 10am
Thursday 24 December	**Christingle + Crib — All Churches, 4pm** **Midnight Communion led by Bishop Robert** **Lower Cam, 8pm / Coaley, 9:30pm**
Friday 25 December	Christmas Communion — Slimbridge, 10am Morning Service — Coaley, 10am
Sunday 27 December	Together Service — Coaley, 10:30am
Wednesday 30 December	Mid-week Communion — Lower Cam, 10am

We warmly invite you to join us and share in the joy, peace and love of Christ this Christmas.

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