



Oldbury Observer Autumn Term 2025 edition 14

Mr Irving's Comment

Our Christmas Fayre was a very happy and successful event that really demonstrated, once again, than Oldbury Park is more than just a school; it is a kind, caring and supportive community. Our aim was to bring everyone together to make some happy memories and to raise some funds for school - I am glad to report that we raised just over £2000. As a result, we will be able to invest in new resources to enhance the teaching of Art and some equipment for lunchtime play. My thanks to everyone who was able to help, whether directly or indirectly. Your kind donations really helped as did the efforts of CTA volunteers in preparation and on the day. I would like to give particular thanks to Mrs Roberts (snr) for doing such an incredible job of organising the brilliant raffle which raised over £700.

Raffle tickets were drawn by representatives of the CTA at school on Saturday morning - winners will be contacted this coming week. The winners of the children's competitions will be announced in assembly.

It was a pleasure to see so many of our children enjoying a turn on the 'chair-o-plane' ride at the fayre. This welcome addition was made possible by the generous sponsorship of Willox Electrical (who have also provided outdoor lights for us previously). [Electrician in Worcester](#)
[J Willox Electrical Ltd](#)

Best wishes.

Worcester Cathedral Christmas Tree Festival

This year, our CTA also sponsored a Christmas tree at Worcester Cathedral's Christmas Tree Festival. If you haven't already been, take a moment to visit our tree (in the marquee) which has decorations made by some Year 5 pupils and messages of hope written by our Student Council and House Captains. Thanks to Mrs Fairman (snr) for helping to install and arrange the tree with the children's decorations.



The Week Ahead

Monday 15th December - EYFS/KS1 Christmas Performance (more info to follow)

Tuesday 16th December - EYFS/KS1 Christmas Performance (more info to follow)

Tuesday 16th December - Year 5 to the University of Worcester to sing carols.

Wednesday 17th December - Y3/4 Christmas Performance (more info to follow) & Y5/6 Carol Concert (more info to follow)

Thursday 18th December - Y3/4 Christmas Performance (more info to follow)

Friday 19th December - Christmas Holidays begin!

School Dates

Term Dates

Academic Year 2025 to 2026

Term dates Academic Year 2025 to 2026		
Holiday	School closes on	School re-opens on
Autumn Term	Not Applicable	Monday 1 September 2025
Autumn mid-term	Friday 24 October 2025	Monday 3 November 2025
Christmas	Friday 19 December 2025	Monday 5 January 2026
Spring mid-term	Friday 13 February 2026	Monday 23 February 2026
Easter	Friday 27 March 2026	Monday 13 April 2026
Summer mid-term	Friday 22 May 2026	Monday 1 June 2026
End of summer term	Monday 20 July 2026	Not Applicable

Academic Year 2026 to 2027

Term Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the academic year 2026 to 2027.

Holiday	School closes on	School re-opens on
Autumn Term	Not applicable	Tuesday 1 September 2026
Autumn mid-term	Friday 23 October 2026	Monday 2 November 2026
Christmas	Friday 18 December 2026	Monday 4 January 2027
Spring mid-term	Friday 12 February 2027	Monday 22 February 2027
Easter	Thursday 25 March 2027	Monday 12 April 2027
Summer mid-term	Friday 28 May 2027	Monday 7 June 2027
End of summer term	Wednesday 21 July 2027	Not applicable

Attendance Update - **IMPORTANT for ALL FAMILIES**

This week, the school has received praise from our Trust Attendance Lead regarding our approach to attendance and the improved outcomes we have seen this school year. Notably, our whole school attendance is up by 1.5% on this stage last year and persistent absence is down by well over 3%. We also remain better than the national average in most, if not all areas. All of this despite a fortnight of really low attendance due to significant and genuine illness. As the term comes to a close, it would be great to see all of our children recovered from illness and in school enjoying the various Christmas festivities going on, not least the Reception and KS1 Nativity, the Year 3/4 production and the Year 5/6 Christmas Concert. With so much to look forward to, it would be a great shame if the children were to miss out.

Mr Williams

Reception

As part of our Celebrations topic, we have been learning about Christmas and how it is celebrated by people who are Christian. We have listened to the Christmas story and have talked about what happens in our Nativity play.

We were pleased to welcome Rev Sarah into school to tell us about how Christmas is celebrated by Christians. She talked about Christmas being very special for Christians because it celebrates the birth of Jesus. Christians believe that Jesus was God's gift to the world. Sarah told us about the things she does to celebrate Christmas, such as giving gifts, decorating Christmas trees, sharing special food with friends and family, and having services at the Church. We talked about what we do to celebrate too. We noticed that some things were similar, and some things were different.







Year 1

Christmas has arrived!

Whilst continuing with our maths, reading and writing learning we are also enjoying Christmas. Two cheeky elves have joined Year 1 and are causing mischief much to the delight of the children. Christmas rehearsals are going well and we are looking forward to performing to you on Monday and Tuesday - please remember to bring your tickets. The children looked lovely in their Christmas jumpers today.

We will have Forest School as normal next week and will send home puddle suits and PE kits for a wash over Christmas.

Thank you to all of those who are reading regularly at home, it makes such a difference and the children enjoy earning their house points.







Year 2

Let's celebrate our pets! Find out how cats, dogs, rabbits, and other animals are special members of our families. Explore how they care for themselves, what they eat, and why they love to play. A paw-some way to learn about our animal friends! Just ask your children, they are so well informed, they knew the categories the animals belong to , who was a predator, omnivore and producer!

Rowena, from The Blue across came to talk to us about working with animals and how she became a Blue Cross member, she used to work at College and taught animal welfare to students. She has had horses and presently has dogs. That she has rescued from Romania. Luca said he has a bearded dragon, Thomas has a chick. Fred has a corn snake , we discussed

that since 1897 The Blue Cross vision has been, 'Every pet will enjoy a healthy life in a happy home.' As part of our science we have been investigating what animals need to stay healthy. We have written our own fact files about keeping a pet and the huge responsibility that this entails.

The elements are:.

Shelter- environment

Clean water

Appropriate food

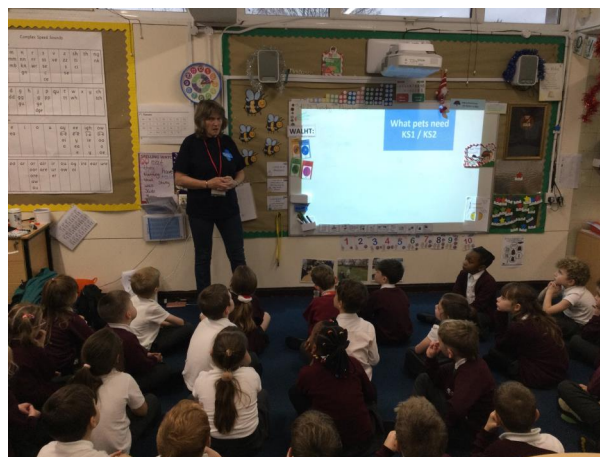
Enrichment- toys, walking

Kindness and love- protection

Company, did you know rabbits need a friend.?

Behaviour- how to train or help them play.

Well done Year 2, a great way to end our topic for this term.





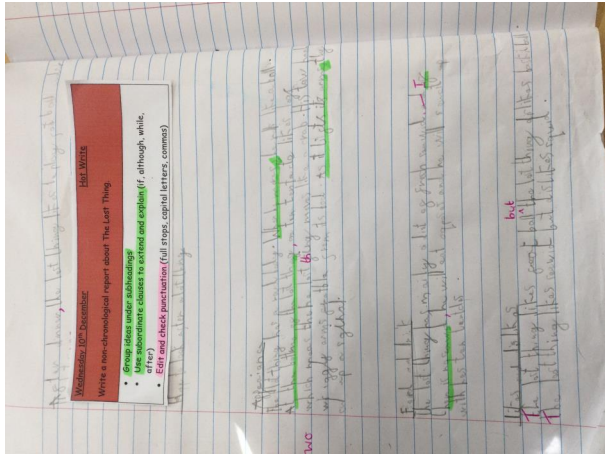


Year 3

This week has been a busy week for Year 3, as we near the end of a very busy term! In English, they have finished their writing sequence about 'How to Look After a Lost Thing'. For this, the children took the idea of a Lost Thing from the text they have been reading in Guided Reading and created a non-chronological report all about this strange creature. Some of the ideas were great - from eating dried seaweed, to sleeping in a cave illuminated by glow worms. A great effort was put into their writing, despite all of the excitement and disruption that this time of year brings.

In Maths, the children have continued learning their times tables - by moving onto the 8 times table and identifying key multiplication and division facts related to these. They should now be ready to practise their 3, 4 and 8 times tables on TTRS to develop fluency in these.

This week we began a sequence of learning in Art, related to printing techniques. The children used a roller to create marks in our lovely art room. Later, the children will explore other aspects of printing, before applying these to create a Christmas card.







Wednesday 10th December Hot Write

Write a non-chronological report about The Lost Thing.

- Group ideas under subheadings
- Use subordinate clauses to extend and explain (if, although, while, after)
- Edit and check punctuation (full stops, capital letters, commas)

How to look after a lost thing?

Appearance

The lost thing has a large, round body. When it moves it settles on the golden sand. The back of the lost thing is a heavy green coloured button that turns like an arm. The lost thing has some long web legs that make a rattling sound when they hit shells.

Food and drink

The lost thing mainly eats seaweed, fish and shells. Sometimes it eats starfish. When it is early in the morning, he steps outside and goes on the beach and finds many starfish as he can see. The lost thing drinks a lot of seawater because he is very thirsty.

Wednesday 10th December

Hot Write

Write a non-chronological report about The Lost Thing.

- Group ideas under subheadings
- Use subordinate clauses to extend and explain (if, although, while, after)
- Edit and check punctuation (full stops, capital letters, commas)

How to look after a lost thing

Appearance

The lost thing is a spider and has eight legs. The lost thing also has some dark brown spines on its body and spikes on its head. The lost thing legs are like tentacles and when it crawls, it legs look like waving spider legs. When the lost thing is moved, its spikes grow.

Food and drink

The lost thing really likes soup and sea water. It also loves seaweed. The lost thing also likes cake and apples. The lost thing loves tuna.

Environment

The lost thing lives on a beach and sometimes goes into the sea water to drink up all of it and to eat some days seaweed with some crab in the middle of it. If it gets the tea, he will use a metal pot. If the lost thing is moved, he will come to you and curl up by you and beg you some food.

Likes / dislikes

The lost thing does not like hot places like the desert and holidays, Morocco, Spain, Germany, Australia.

Wednesday 10th December

Hot Write

Write a non-chronological report about The Lost Thing.

- Group ideas under subheadings
- Use subordinate clauses to extend and explain (if, although, while, after)
- Edit and check punctuation (full stops, capital letters, commas)

How to look after the lost thing

Food and drink

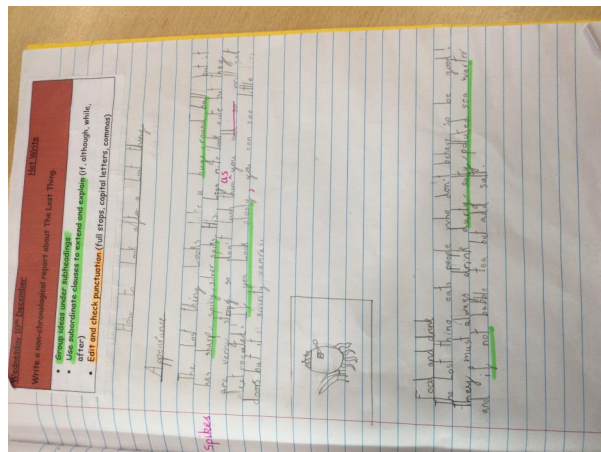
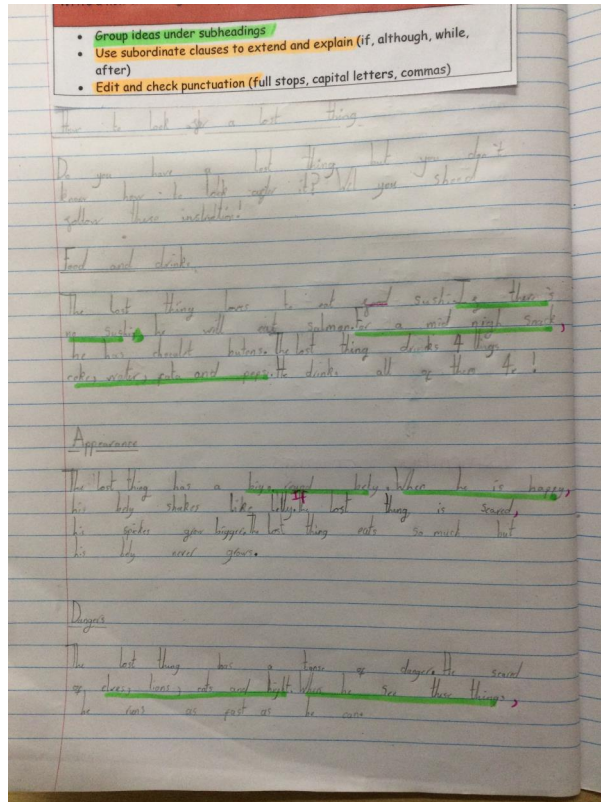
The lost thing likes to eat flowers every morning. After he eats the flowers he will eat some fruit. Although he likes to eat flowers and fruit, he will not eat any other food. He will eat people's hair and dead food.

Appearance

The lost thing has a round body. When he gets scared, his body goes big and when he is angry, he shrinks down to a size. His body has a secret tube that makes him go to sleep but when you get near him or press the tube he is sleeping in the day and night.

Did you know that

The lost thing has a pipe in the middle of his body which helps him breathe. If he didn't have that pipe, he would not survive.



Year 4

In Science we have been learning about States of Matter. The children have learnt about what the particles for each state look like and how they act.

Last week they conducted an experiment with butter to see how a solid can turn into a liquid with heat. This week we have used a freezing cold cola can to see how heat can turn the water vapour in the room into droplets of water. The vapour condenses as it hits the can and this causes it to form bigger and bigger water droplets.

Below you can see how we observed the cans for a period of 10 minutes and the particles and droplets that appeared.

We've already started an experiment to investigate which container water evaporates from the quickest. We're using a bottle, a jam jar and a tray. The children have already made their predictions and we're recording the results every other day.

Wednesday 10th December 2025
Water can change its state of matter

Draw a representation of particles when a solid melts to become a liquid.

Solid Liquid

I predict that we will observe the can will have water droplets on the outside.

Results Table

Time (after)	Observation Diagram	Observation Comments
1 minute		water drops on the outside
3 minutes		The drops are going to the bottom
5 minutes		The droplets are at the bottom
7 minutes		There's new drops coming
9 minutes		There's so many new drops

Wednesday 10th December 2025
Water can change its state of matter

Draw a representation of particles when a solid melts to become a liquid.

Solid Liquid

I predict that we will see a gas condense in a can when it gets cold. Also predict the liquid will make a puddle.

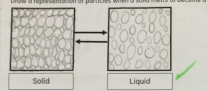
Results Table

Time (after)	Observation Diagram	Observation Comments
1 minute		few water droplets
2 minutes		few more water droplets
5 minutes		It looks like some
7 minutes		Millions of drops are on it
9 minutes		There are about ten million water droplets

Conclusion
 Our investigation showed us that water vapor can change into a liquid when the gas touched the cold can it became a liquid. It happened because gas turns into liquid when it gets cold. This process is called condensation.

Wednesday 10th December 2021
Can a gas can change its state or matter?

Draw a representation of particles when a solid melts to become a liquid.



I predict that we will observe droplets of liquid outside the can.

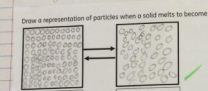
Time (after)	Observation Diagram	Observation Comments
1 minute		1 droplet is visible and condensation.
3 minutes		More water on the bottom.
5 minutes		Only 3 droplets but bigger.
7 minutes		Less big droplets more small.
9 minutes		Only small droplets but lots of them.

5. Condensing how do materials change state?
 condensation
 water vapour (gas)
 and condenses
 gas returns to a liquid
 water droplets form

Why do cold cans warm up and liquid start to get out on the outside?
 "Does the liquid inside the can start to evaporate?"
 not true - this is a misconception

Wednesday 10th December 2021
Can a gas can change its state or matter?

Draw a representation of particles when a solid melts to become a liquid.



I predict that we will observe water on the outside of the can.

Time (after)	Observation Diagram	Observation Comments
1 minute		in the can I see there is little drops of water.
3 minutes		in the can I see there are more droplets and they are bigger.
5 minutes		in the can I see the droplets are bigger ones.
7 minutes		I can see that there are small droplets but there are more.
9 minutes		there are more droplets and some are bigger.

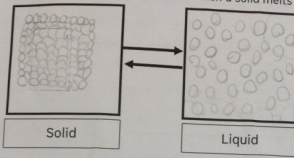
5. Condensing how do materials change state?
 condensation
 water vapour (gas)
 and condenses
 gas returns to a liquid
 water droplets form

Why do cold cans warm up and liquid start to get out on the outside?
 "Does the liquid inside the can start to evaporate?"
 not true - this is a misconception

Observe the outside of the can closely when it is placed on the table in warm air.

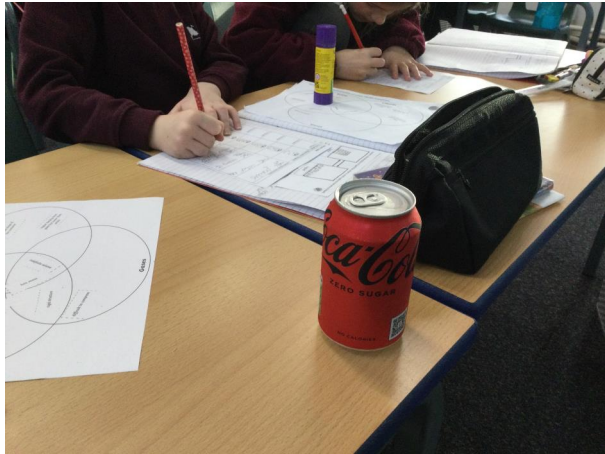
Wednesday 10th December 2021
Can a gas can change its state or matter?

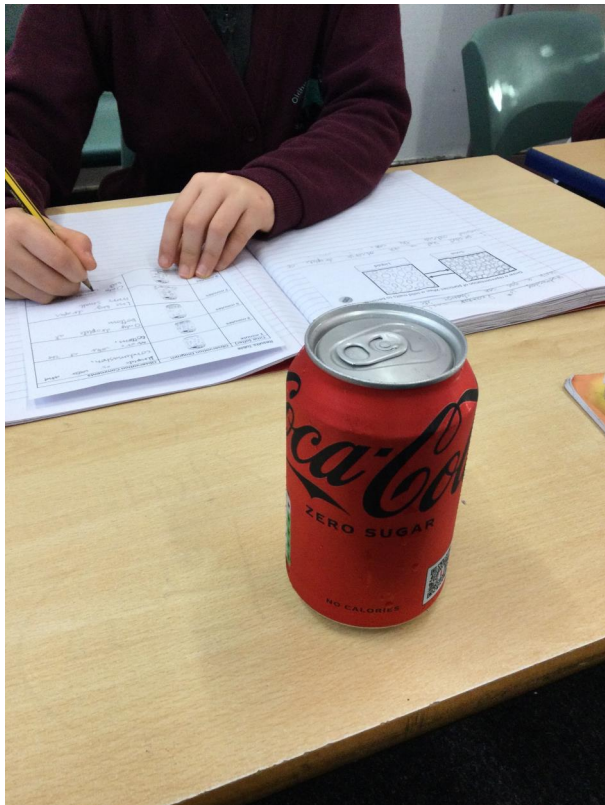
Draw a representation of particles when a solid melts to become a liquid.

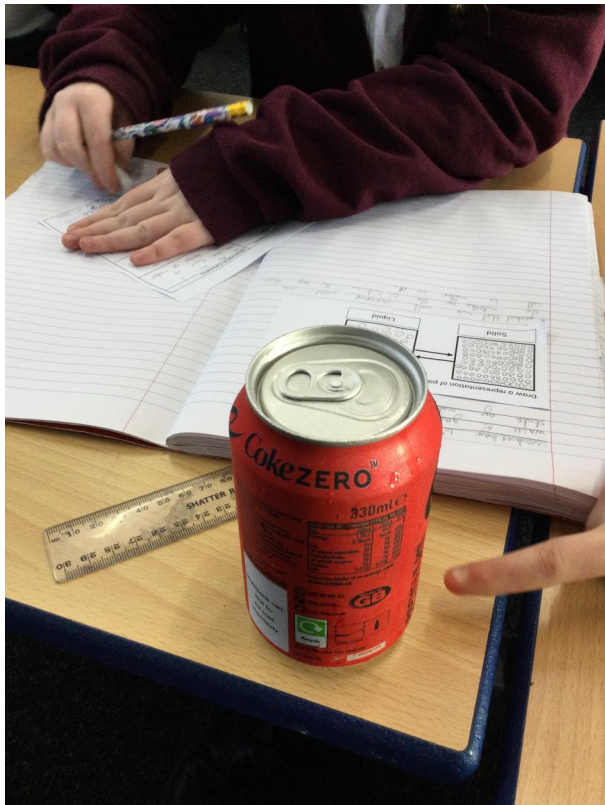


I predict that nothing will happen.

Time (after)	Observation Diagram	Observation Comments
1 minute		In 1 minute I can see small drops of water.
3 minutes		In three minutes there is more drops which is little bigger.
5 minutes		In 5 minutes there are more particles at the top.
7 minutes		In 7 minutes they are dipping.
9 minutes		In 9 minutes the can is full of particles.









Year 5

Last Thursday, Year 5 took part in a Space Camp evening linked to our Science unit of work for this half term: space. The children returned to school at 5pm and enjoyed spending the evening taking part in a range of different activities that celebrated all things space. The children were able to use a telescope to look at the stars, and we were very lucky that there was a super moon that evening which made using the telescope even more fun! The children also used iPads to locate the star constellations, some children were also able to find the positioning of the ISS! In addition to this, the children were also given the chance to paint a planet, make a star constellation with pipe cleaners and beads and use a VR headset to explore space. We finished the evening with a cup of hot squash and a biscuit.

All of the children thoroughly enjoyed the evening and the opportunity to bring their Science learning to life!







Year 6

This week in Year 6, pupils are embracing a lively mix of learning and creativity. They have been practising and rehearsing their Christmas carol performance, singing with enthusiasm and harmony as they prepare for the upcoming show. In maths, we've been strengthening are understanding by tackling multiplying and dividing fractions, analysing problems that require critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Their English work focused on finishing detailed diary entries, where they reflect on memorable moments and use vivid language. Meanwhile, in PE, they have finalised their dance sequences, blending movement, rhythm, and expression with confidence and teamwork. In art, we studied Queen Victoria, creating collages that depict her era, thoughtfully combining history and visual storytelling to deepen their cultural awareness.



MAB

We kicked off the week with some festive fun, working together to decorate our Christmas tree.







In our penultimate farm session, we enjoyed making s'mores, completed our animal-care routines, and spent extra time with everyone's favourites: the small animals.





















Contact Us



If you wish to get in touch with the school, please use the following details:

Oldbury Park Primary School

Oldbury Road Worcester WR2 6AA

01905 424878

office@oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk <http://www.oldburypark.worcs.sch.uk/>

Phase email addresses:

For ALL parents, we have set up a new way of contacting Phase Leaders. These email addresses are SOLELY for classroom, pastoral and academic enquiries and NOT for general enquiries which should still come through the office@ email address.

Children in Reception eyfparents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Miss Molloy)

Children in Years 1 & 2 KS1parents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Mrs Marks)

Children in Years 3 & 4 LKS2parents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Miss Moule)

Children in Years 5 & 6 UKS2parents@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (Mr Williams)

SENDco Enquiries office@oldburypark.crst.org.uk (FAO: Miss Miller)