

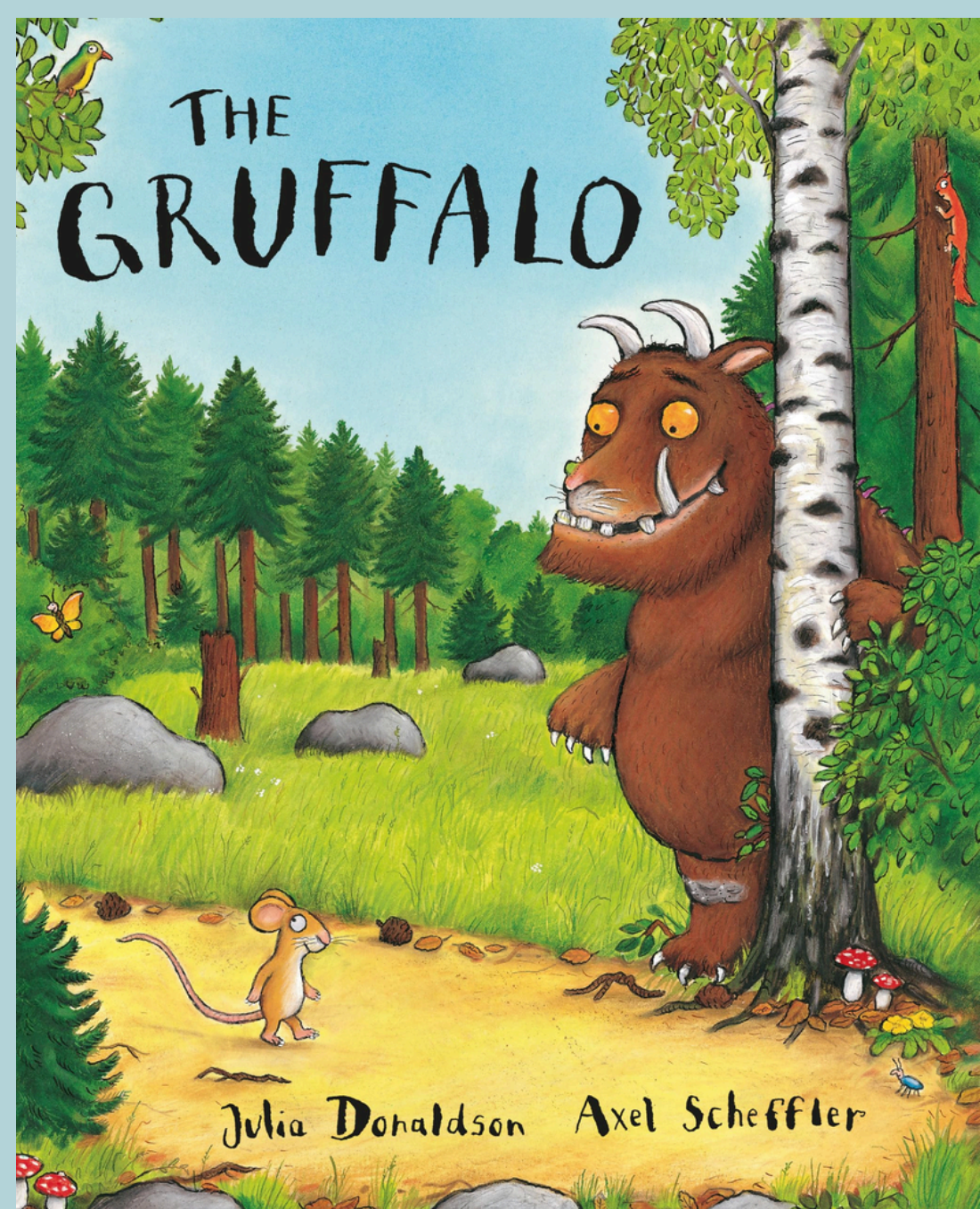
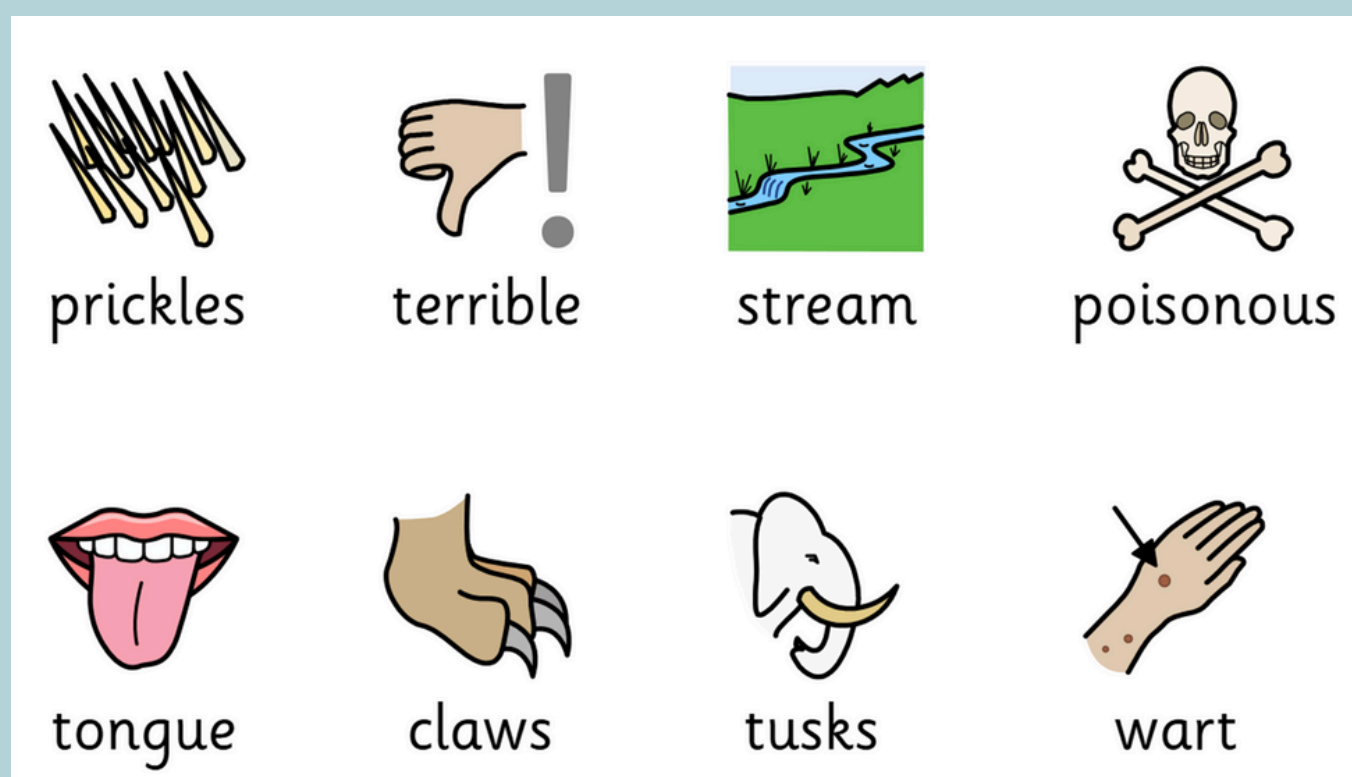
Reception Poppies

w/c 24th November-The Gruffalo

In school this week we have been rehearsing our Nativity as well as focusing on our writing, phonics and maths skills. They have been very busy practising on the stage with the lights and music and speaking in a loud, clear voice. They cannot wait to share their production with you all next week. We are very proud of each and everyone of them.

This week, we have read the story of 'The Gruffalo' and thought lots about our writing and blending of words. We have been looking at how to use adjectives to describe our own terrible woodland creature. We each thought about an imagined creature and drew them. Then, we used our imaginaitons to think about what the character might be like. Our work focused on the type of traits they have such as scary, funny, kind, grumpy, soft, prickly, etc.

Key Vocabulary this week:



RE

In RE this week, we have been exploring the Annunciation. We spoke about the special story from the Bible when Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her she would be having a very special, holy baby called Jesus. Lots of us recognised the story from our own Nativity rehearsals! We completed lots of activities focusing on both of these significant people such as creating our own angel, designing stain glass windows, writing what Angel Gabriel said to Mary and role playing the event. As we begin to move towards Advent, we will be exploring the stories that bring us to Jesus' birth and talking about the symbols of Advent.



Mary



News



Angel Gabriel



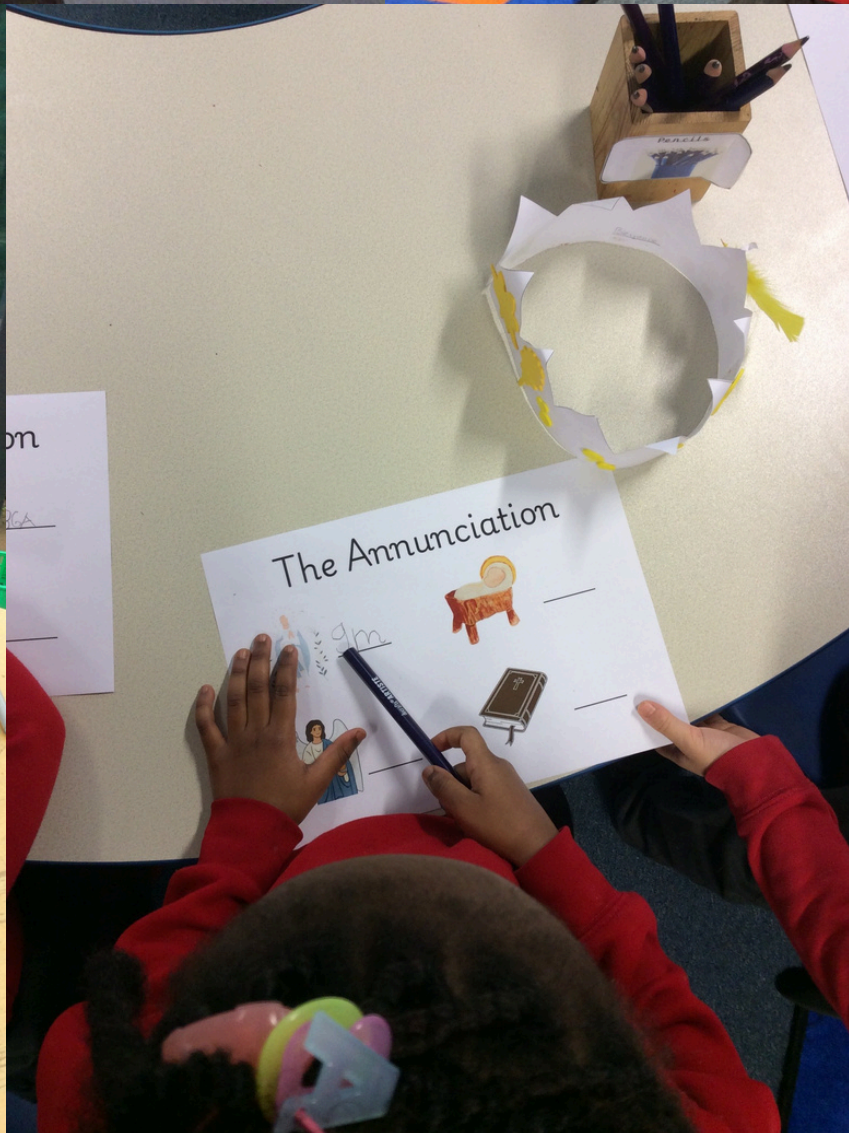
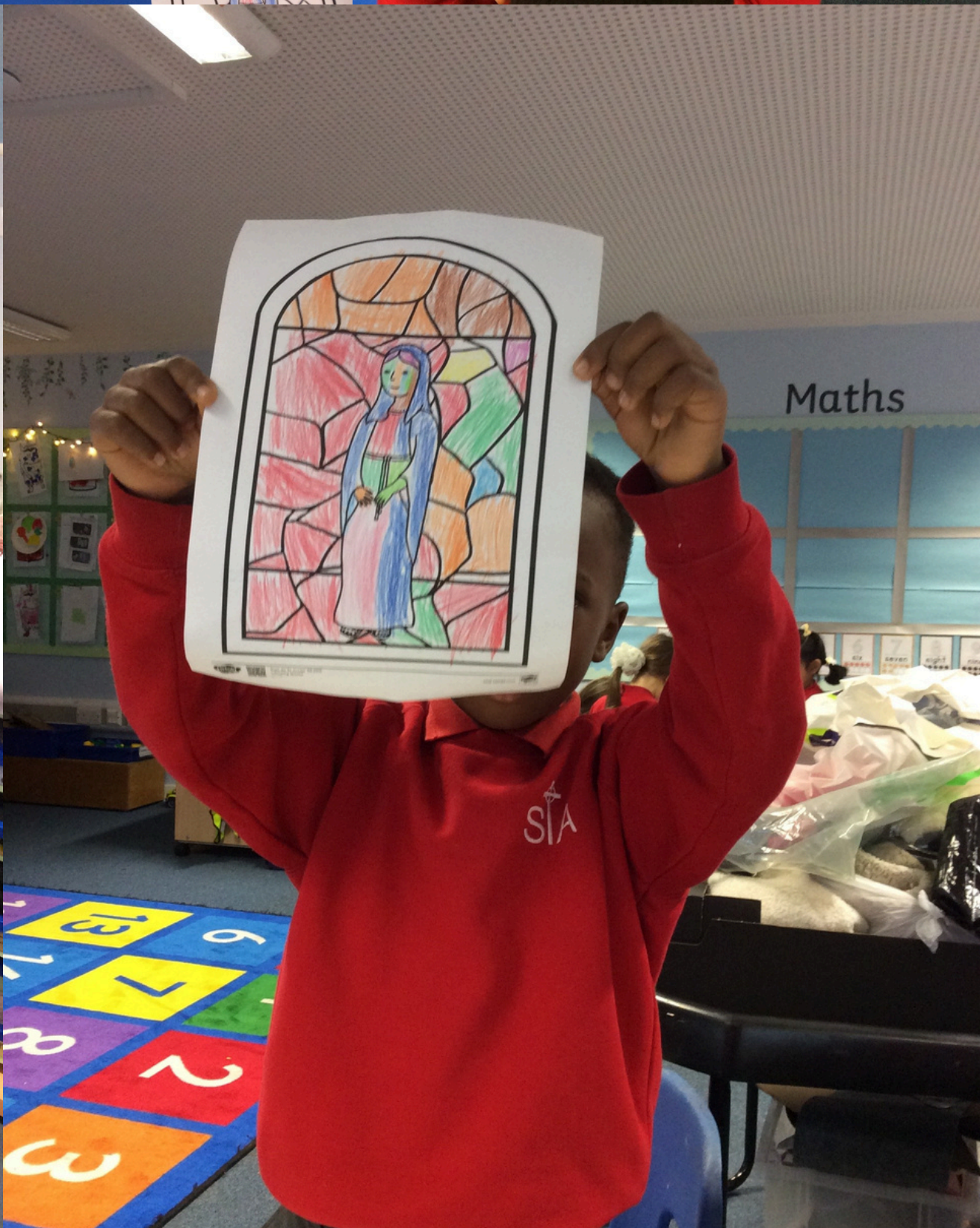
Blessed



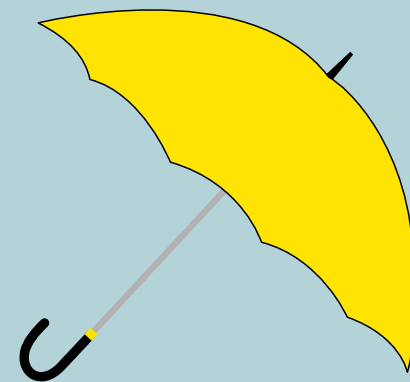
Baby



Joseph



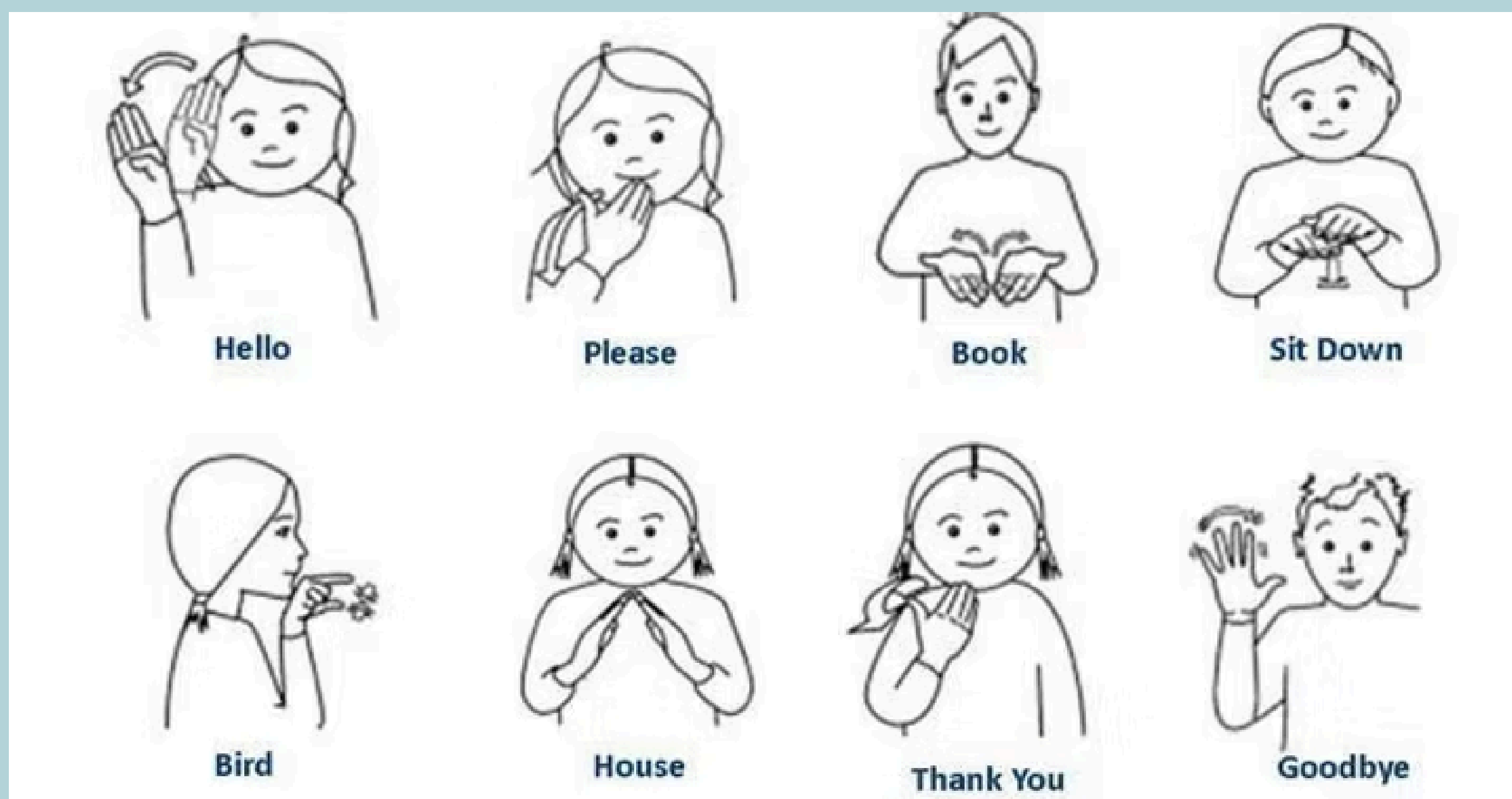
Electric Umbrella



This week, we were incredibly lucky to have Electric Umbrella visit us and put on a fantastic performance for all of Early Years children to enjoy together. We got to watch and learn lots of new songs, as well as learn some new Makaton signs to match these. All of the children looked fantastic in their Electric Umbrella crowns that they each made, and the whole visiting group were thrilled to see the children celebrating their arrival in such a creative way! We were certainly inspired to make sure our Christmas performance is just as amazing as what we got to experience with Electric Umbrella!

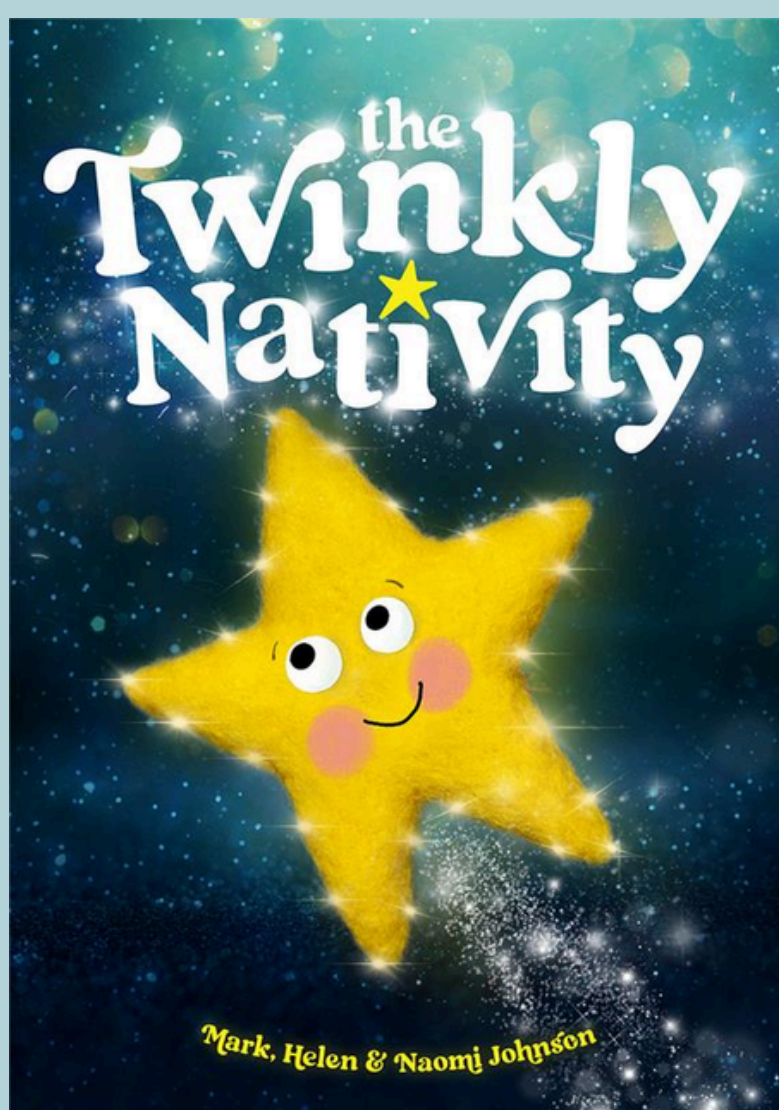


Here are some Makaton signs that we have learnt:





Our morning
with Electric
Umbrella-
singing,
dancing and
signing!



Nursery and Reception Nativity Performance

The Nursery and Reception performance will take place on Wednesday 3rd December at 11am for Nursery and Reception parents.

Filming – Please refrain from using phones/iPads etc to film your child's Christmas production as we have organised for the play to be professionally filmed. This link will be sent to all parents at the end of term. The professional filming has been funded by school. This will give parents the chance to relax and enjoy the performance instead of worrying about filming it. It is also overwhelming for young children to have lots of phones and iPads in front of them as they perform their scripted line or join in with the singing.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this. We are so looking forward to sharing the show with you all!



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Access Code **3z6xpxee**

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so please be careful when entering the details into the portal.



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Optional Homework

Can you go on an adventure this weekend and look for some of the animals we heard about in The Gruffalo?

What other animals or creatures can you find in the woods? Have you been able to spot any plants or flowers?

Seeking Shelter?

A shelter is a home - it's where a creature lives and sleeps.
They are all around us and some are big, others small.
Take this sheet outside with you and start to look around!

The Gruffalo's home is quite big!
He lives in a cave in the deep dark wood. Can you see any caves?

Fox lives in an underground house. Can you see any holes in the ground that could be Fox's house?

Where might Owl live?
If you look up at the trees, can you spot him?
Where might Snake live?
What other creatures live in log piles?

If you look very carefully you might see a small hole in a rock, or a tree. Maybe Mouse lives there!

The Gruffalo © Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler 1999

Southwest Herts Partnership Family Support Service Appeal

Dear Families,

We are delighted to announce that our School Chaplaincy Team and Mini Vinnie group have, for the third consecutive year, teamed up with South-West Herts Partnership Family Support Service. For the last two years, St. Anthony's School community gave with extraordinary generosity and helped to make a huge difference to families being supported by South-West Herts Partnership. Knowing the difference we have been able to make, our Chaplaincy Team and Mini Vinnie group, want to help again. We are asking our families for a donation to help families' health and wellbeing this Christmas. As with previous years, we have separated donations into different categories and allocated a category to different parts of the school. Please could we ask that all items are new. If you would like to be involved, could children from the following Key Stages or Year Groups please bring the following:

EYFS New books (board books, picture books, early readers) Winter warmers (children's hats, gloves, scarves, socks)

Guidance from South West Herts Partnership is as follows: All gifts are new and unopened. All gifts remain unwrapped so that they can be wrapped by the SWHP team. All gifts are donated by the 5th December 2025 at the latest. If you would like to get involved, please send your gift in with your child to give to your child's teacher. A member of the Chaplaincy Team will go to each class every day to collect any donations. We hope we can make a difference and thank you. The children and staff of St. Anthony's School Chaplaincy Team and Mini Vinnies



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Sun 30th Nov- First Sunday in Advent

Weds 3rd Dec- Reception and Nursery Nativity performance for parents – 11am.

Weds 10th Dec- Christmas Lunch and Christmas jumper fundraising day

Thurs 11th Dec- Foodbank donation day

Thurs 18th Dec- Class parties – details to follow in updates.

Fri 19th Dec- Term ends at 1.30pm for the Christmas holidays.

Mon 5th Jan- School resumes.

