



★ Newsletter ★

3rd December 2021

I can't believe that we are already in December!! The children are naturally very excited about what lies ahead – such a lovely time of year for them. The snow that fell over last weekend certainly added to the excitement! The next few week's activities will certainly be involving copious amounts of glitter and metallic paper so it is a good job we have our art shirts at the ready!

You will be well aware that we are currently still managing outbreaks of Covid both within our class and across school – we miss our isolating children, we wish them all well and look forward to seeing them soon. You will now be aware that regrettably we have had to put our Nativity on hold. We felt that in the circumstances this was the correct decision. We have so many children across the classes who are having to isolate for ten days that it has been impossible to rehearse properly. The children have worked so hard to learn the songs and their lines and we are hopeful that everyone will be healthier in the new year. I have told the children that this at least gives us something to look forward to in January! Thank you so much for your understanding. You can find the new dates below.

Once again we have had such a busy couple of weeks and as always, your children have worked really hard. We were lucky enough to welcome Vinnie's mum into school last week. She kindly offered to run an 'Outer Space' drama workshop for each of our Key Stage one classes. Each class enjoyed a half hour session with Jade and I think you can tell by the children's faces on the photos (see class page) that they all thoroughly enjoyed the session and it was perfect for our current 'Moon Zoom' topic.

The children are continuing to embrace our topic and have enjoyed sharing their own non-fiction books about The Solar System with the rest of the class. We have completed planet fact files over the last couple of weeks where we have developed our research skills by looking more closely at specific planets to gather further interesting information.

In R.E. the children have been learning about the Christmas story and have spent time sequencing the main events and writing captions to accompany each illustration. They have also written about how Christians celebrate Christmas in a variety of ways.

In science, we have been sorting different objects and categorising what material each one might be made from. We have also conducted a science investigation to find out which type of paper absorbs liquid best. The children made predictions before testing each strip of paper.

Maths

In maths over the last couple of weeks, we have completed a huge amount of work! We have been working with base ten apparatus to add larger numbers within 100, focusing on the ones and the tens. From this, we then set out our calculations using the formal column method of addition, remembering to add the ones

first and then the tens. The children have also been introduced to 'exchanging' when the ones have made ten or more. I have been very impressed with how well the children have understood this method and the practical work with base ten has certainly helped with this. We have now moved on to formal subtraction, number bonds to 100 and adding three larger numbers together.

The children will complete an assessment next week to check their understanding. We will revisit addition and subtraction later in the academic year.

English:

We have been continuing to enjoy our text 'Beegu' by Alexis Deacon over the last couple of weeks.

The children completed comprehension questions from the text with a strong focus on answering in full, complete sentences that are correctly punctuated. They have also spent time identifying and highlighting adjectives and nouns from sections of the text. Earlier this week, we designed our own alien character and developed this by writing a detailed description of its appearance and personality. The children were encouraged to include descriptive, expanded noun sentences, conjunctions and varied sentence starters to improve their writing skills. I was very pleased with their efforts!

Homework:

Thank you for encouraging your child to complete the homework activities off the current grid linked to our topic. We always enjoy looking at and celebrating the children's efforts on a Friday morning. As always, I am so impressed by the enthusiasm and quality of the work that is sent in.

Thank you for the support you are providing at home to help your child learn and feel confident about their lines for our nativity.

I have attached some seasonal maths investigations for your child to complete at home if they wish to. They can have a go at one, two or all three of the tasks. Please stick their completed work into the homework book and return next Friday as always.

Reading:

Once again, thank you for supporting your child with their home reading and for encouraging them to read at least three times a week. As always, all children with three or more pieces of reading evidence in their diary, will receive a sticker and a house point for their efforts.

Additional Information:

- P.E. days will continue to be Tuesdays (indoor) and Fridays (outdoor - weather permitting!)
- Monday 13th December – Phonic Screening for all Year 2 children. (Any absent children will be screened later that week)
- Wednesday December 15th – Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day!
- Rearranged Nativity – Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th January 2022 at 2.15pm

Please be aware that I can now only be emailed at the address below. My old account no longer exists and I will be unable to reply to emails sent there.

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend,

Kind regards,

Mrs Gilbey 😊

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