



## Fortnightly Newsletter



2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Can you believe that we are now in December? The time really is flying by and we have now moved into the most exciting time of the year for your children! It was so lovely to see most of you last week at our parents' evenings – a lovely opportunity to meet many of you for the first time! Thank you so much for your kind comments. The children certainly should feel proud of themselves and they really enjoyed reading the lovely feedback that you wrote for them.

We enjoyed a fantastic visit to Sudbury Hall last Tuesday. The whole experience was perfect for our children, building on their knowledge of toys both old and new. Our leader (Tom) was highly impressed with how much the children knew and were able to contribute to the various sessions across the day, answering and asking sensible questions. He also commented on how calm, well behaved and engaged the children were for their age. A huge thank you to Miss Derry, Vicky Malia and Lorna Parker for their valued help and company – we couldn't have managed without you! Photographs from the visit can be found in the usual place on the school website – worth a look!

We have been really busy preparing for our forthcoming Nativity 'Christmas with the Aliens' which will be performed on the afternoon of Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm. This week, we have managed to get the children on stage so that they get a sense of performing. Once costumes have been organised, there will be a dress rehearsal for the Key Stage 2 before the big event on the 7<sup>th</sup>! School will be providing most of the costumes for Year 2. We will contact you by letter if anything may be needed from home.

We enjoyed a PHSE session last Thursday afternoon with a lady called Jenny. The children spent time learning about their emotions and different types of exercise. They were also interested to learn about how different organs of the body work. This session of course linked in beautifully with our current science topic which focusses on our bodies and the five senses.

We are keeping an eye on the World Cup games – there have certainly been some very interesting results so far! Now that all the group games have been played, we will unfortunately have to say farewell to half of the 32 countries taking part (including mine!) The remaining 16 countries will move onwards and upwards into the next round! As you can see from the photo below, we are all keeping our fingers crossed for England who play this weekend!



### Maths:

Our unit of work on addition and subtraction is continuing to progress well. We have now moved on to subtraction, looking at different ways of applying the rule and spotting the relationship between addition and subtraction. The children have used practical resources, number lines and mental application to solve a variety of one and two step subtraction problems. We have also spent time explaining how we worked out our answers using our verbal reasoning skills. Many of you asked if there was anything you could help with at home – If you have a spare few minutes, I would recommend playing games (this could be on a car journey, walking to school, in the bath etc) counting backwards and forwards in tens (starting at different numbers and realising that the last digit remains the same) counting in 2s, 5s and 3s. Number bonds to ten and the relationship with number bonds to 100. There is also an excellent free app which you may already be familiar with – there is a wealth of age-appropriate maths games on here which the children love! You can find it here: [topmarks](https://www.topmarks.co.uk/) Lots of activities can be found under the 'Learning Games' tab.

### English:

In addition to spelling. Reading comprehensions, grammar and handwriting, we have enjoyed our new text 'Dogger' by Shirley Hughes. Many of the children are already familiar with the story and it is an old favourite! In fact, it is so old that an early copy of the text could be found in the museum at Sudbury Hall!! The story links nicely with our topic of old toys. So far, the children have used their prediction and inference skills to predict what they think the story might be about from simply looking at the front cover. We have also sequenced the main events of the story onto a story map from memory.

### Reading:

Please continue to encourage your child to read at least three times a week and continue to sign it in the diary pages of their planner – I really appreciate your support with this. As always, I am quite happy for children to record their own home reading into their diary under your supervision if this is easier. I am also happy for children to read their own books from home or the library if they wish to. I will continue to be

checking diaries every Friday and will award stickers as a reward for regular reading. If books need changing in between your child's nominated book change day, they will need to let me know and I can organise an extra book.

Additional Information:

You should, by now have received information about our overnight residential visit to Beaumanor Hall at the end of March. (Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>)

- P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for Tuesday sessions and a warm outdoor kit for Friday mornings.
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity 2pm in the school hall.
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December – trip to the pantomime.
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas dinner day!
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Key Stage 1 Christmas party (afternoon)
- Please keep checking my class page of the school website for all information, photos and updates.

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Gilbey