

We've had a wonderful and busy couple of weeks filled with lots of opportunities for learning and reflection.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the church to learn about Advent. Rev. Ruth and some volunteers from the church helped them explore the four key themes of hope, love, peace, and joy. It was a lovely chance for the children to reflect on these values as we move closer to the Christmas season, and they showed great interest and enthusiasm throughout the experience. They especially enjoyed lighting the candles in the Advent wreath.

Earlier in the week, we also had an engaging assembly with a visitor from Severn Trent Water. The children learned all about where our water comes from, how it is cleaned, and some fascinating (and slightly revolting!) facts, including that the water we drink has been consumed and passed by up to seven people before it reaches us. The children were reassured that it is cleaned thoroughly, of course! They also learned simple ways to save water and help the planet, such as turning off the tap while brushing their teeth.

We've had lots of practice for the Nativity, and I am so proud of how hard the children have worked on their lines and singing. It is all coming together now, and we cannot wait to perform it for you on Wednesday! The children are very excited to show how hard they have worked and showcase the true story of Christmas.

In science, we have been learning about the five senses. The children thought carefully about the dangers around us and how our senses keep us safe! In R.E., we have reflected on the birth of Jesus and what we are most thankful for during Advent and Christmas. The children offered some well-thought-out answers, including kindness, smiles, family, and my personal favourite: the love in our hearts!

## Maths:

In Maths, we've finished our unit on place value, and our end-of-block assessment showed some very promising scores. I was very pleased with the progress made in both fluency of facts and problem-solving. The children have been learning to identify the 2D faces on 3D shapes, and today they had so much fun creating their own shapes using cocktail sticks and midget gems. It was fantastic to see their problem-solving skills and teamwork as they built a variety of shapes. Please see photos in the whole-school newsletter.

## English:

'Talk for Writing' unit text — The Magic Porridge Pot

In Talk for Writing, we've finished exploring the story of *The Magic Porridge Pot*. During the innovation stage, the children created their own new characters and magical objects. Their ideas were incredible! Their creativity has been amazing, and they have thoroughly en joyed developing their own unique stories.

## Reading at home:

Please aim to read with your child at least three times a week and continue to sign it in their diary. I will continue to check diaries every Friday and will award stickers as a reward for regular reading.

## Additional Information:

• P.E. – Children will require an indoor kit for Wednesday sessions and an outdoor kit for Thursday.

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- Reception and Key Stage I Nativity: Wednesday IIth December (afternoon)
- Pantomime at Newark Theatre: Friday 13th December
- Christmas Dinner Tuesday 17th December

Have a great weekend! Kind regards, Miss Fisher