

End of Term Newsletter.

This has been the busiest couple of weeks yet!! I hope you enjoyed our performance of 'I'm Gonna Shine' yesterday. We were so proud of every single child – they worked so hard to learn the words to all the songs and their individual parts. They really rose to the occasion with such confidence. Thank you so much for all your kind comments!



This morning was the most exciting day ever with a visit to Newark Theatre to watch a wonderful performance of Snow White, followed by a picnic lunch back at school – thank you to our adult helpers for accompanying us to the pantomime. All our children had a lovely time – a real treat to watch others working hard on stage after all the efforts of our own nativity performance.

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, 10s 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](#) Lots of activities can be found under the 'Learning Games' tab.

English:

In addition to spelling, reading comprehensions, grammar and handwriting, we have enjoyed learning the story of 'The Papaya That Spoke' The children have drawn story maps, acted out the story and even interviewed our very own papaya complete with facial features and an impressive head of yellow hair! From this, we have looked at vocabulary from the story as well as using alternative words for 'said'.

Spelling:


I have been very pleased with how well the children have adapted to the routine of regular, weekly spelling tests and it is clear they have been supported and encouraged at home. The new lists for the first half of the spring term are already on my class page of the school website (under the 'homework' icon). I will also provide the children with a copy as well as the individual weekly list next term. The first test will take place on Thursday January 11th, 2024.

Your child might have told you about our virtual class Advent Calendar. We have been enjoying this every day, but it will all stop on the 15th December when we break up! Unfortunately, it is not a free calendar but for seven pounds it is well worth the money if you are interested in keeping your child occupied during the build up to Christmas! There is a wealth of activities, games, puzzles and daily mini videos to enjoy – they love it and know how to navigate their way around the calendar. If you are interested, it is the Jacquie Lawson Edwardian calendar and can be purchased at www.jacquielawson.com/advent/calendars

If your child would like to bring a board game or playing cards from home to share with their friends, we intend to host a games morning on Tuesday 12th December. Please do not send games with lots of small parts or electronic devices. We also have a range of games in school for children to use.

Other Information/dates:

- Tuesday December 12th – Christmas dinner and jumper day!
- Wednesday December 13th – Christmas party
- Thursday December 14th – cooking experience (information already sent out)
- P.E. days will remain the same for all children next term. Please note that the Friday slot will soon change to indoor P.E. with Gordon Fearn – start date TBC.



➤ Overnight residential at Beaumanor Hall - Wednesday March 13th/Thursday March 14th, 2024

As this is the final newsletter for this term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank so many of you for your support and kind comments this term – it has been very much appreciated!

We are all so proud of how hard the children in Key Stage 1 have worked this term and they are certainly ready for a well-deserved break.

I will continue to add photos of your children onto my class page.

I would like to wish you all a restful and enjoyable Christmas holiday and look forward to welcoming your children back to school on Wednesday January 3rd, 2024.

Kind regards,

Mrs Gilbey ☺