



Newsletter 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2016

**Christmas Party**

On Tuesday we had our first Christmas party with our friends in KS1. We had a really fun time and we have put some pictures on Tapestry. The children looked very smart and the entertainer that visited school commented on their exemplary behaviour.

In phonics we have been learning new sounds **oa** and the tri-graph - **igh**, the new tricky word **my**. In maths we have been looking at teen numbers; we will revisit these numbers in the next term. The children have been listening to different stories throughout the week focussing on the Christmas story and looking at how other people from around the world celebrate at this time of year.

We have listened to each child read individually this week and used the benchmarking system to allocate new reading levels. These are clearly marked in the reading diaries. We will continue with guided reading groups on our return in the New Year. Red is the next level after pink.

We have completed a 2D shape assessment this week with the children; we have sent a copy home for your reference that should help you to support their understanding of the shapes at home.

Throughout the week we have been very creative with our Christmas crafts and these were all sent home on Wednesday. Miss Eccles worked with the children to make some delicious cakes and we looked at how chocolate changes state when heat is applied. The children loved watching the scientific process and looking at how it changes when it cools. We received a letter from Mrs Claus on Thursday asking for our help to find some missing sprouts for Santa Claus. The children looked for clues and eventually found all the sprouts and had lots of fun doing it too.

**Junk Modelling materials**

Thank you for the boxes and tubes that have been coming into school this week the children have been very creative and made some adventurous models. Please continue to bring them into school as we will always need the materials replacing.

**Next Year**

Our new phoneme first week back will be **oo** (short and long sound), **look, cook, book, moon, shoot, boot** and **ar**. We will focus on the actions associated with these letter sounds (we follow Jolly Phonics) and have a variety of games and activities to support this. We will review all our "tricky words" **I, to, no, go, the, me, we, be, was, my** and introduce the new tricky word **you**. A "tricky word" is a word that you cannot phonetically segment. We will introduce the high frequency words **will, with, that, this**. We will continue to use RM maths each day and the children are already fully engaged with this. In maths we will be looking the concept of time and the language associated with this. We will look at how we organise our day in school, at home and how the clock looks at o'clock.

Thank you for all your support this term. It has been lovely getting to know the children and their families. Have a lovely Christmas and enjoy the special time together as a family. We return to school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

Mrs J Dodd

Mrs K Heywood

Mrs Z Richardson