

Early Years Newsletter 8th December 2017

Parents as Partners

Thank you to everyone who sent the forms back to school. We are always looking for ways to develop our Early Years setting and have reflected on all your comments. Please see the attached document for our responses.

Christmas Cards

If you would like to send cards to the other children and families in reception, we have a post box in the bay for you to post the cards and we have a team of Year 6 children who will then deliver them each day. We are not able to give out a class list due to data protection issues; the children are very good at telling you who is in their class.

Christmas Fair - Friday 8th December 5.30pm

It will be our Christmas Fair this evening and we are all very excited and looking forward to having lots of fun. You will see lots of our team on stalls this evening and it will be lovely to see you there too. It is a fantastic way to start the Christmas Celebrations with friends and family.

Reading Books

Members of the EY Team listen to the children read individually and send reading books home at a level which is appropriate and therefore enjoyable to share. Children are regularly assessed by the team and, we would appreciate that you do not take books from other levels until they are assessed. It is often confusing for Staff.

Twitter

Early Years are regularly tweeting "snapshots" of our day and exciting times and achievements. Please have a look as we are always super proud of our children and this is an excellent way for you to share this with us.

This Week

In phonics this week we have looked at the new sounds **sh**, **th** and applied them in our phonics sessions with writing and reading. The children have been writing sentences about different wild animals which is a link to their homework and their work in Talk for Writing. They have been segmenting and blending, using finger spaces and a full stop. Their work is super and it is combining all their learning this term. In our maths sessions we have looked at 2D and 3D shapes and revisited their properties. We have handled shapes and used our environment to consolidate our learning. Our afternoon learning has been looking at the weather and how this is changing now it is winter. We have looked at how water changes state due to the weather; water into ice and snow. The children are fascinated with the ice outside and we have been creating activities for the children to use the ice in their learning.

Elf on the Shelf

We are always looking for exciting and new ways to encourage the children to write independently and our mischievous Elf is really working well. You will notice that each morning he has found himself in a "tricky" spot and the children are enjoying coming to see this each morning. They are also writing cards and letters to him which is delightful.

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 Week

We have a busy two weeks ahead of us. The theme will be very festive and fun. Please check the dates at the bottom of the newsletter.

Our Christmas Celebration Assembly and Stay and Play

We will have a short assembly in the main hall on Tuesday 12th December at 9.15 am and then we will go into our classrooms for our second Stay and Play session which will have a very festive feel to it. Please join us for a mince pie and a wonderful morning. Everyone is welcome for the assembly.

Our learning next week

Our new phoneme next week will be **ai, ng, ee**. We will focus on the actions associated with this 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 and go, the, me, we, be** and introduce the new tricky word **was**. A "tricky word" is a word that you cannot phonetically segment. We will continue to use RM maths each day and the children are already fully engaged with this. A member of the team will continue to support them each day. In maths we will be counting accurately, writing numbers and ordering numbers. We will keep the sessions practical and engaging for the children to be active learning. In our afternoon sessions we will be looking at how people celebrate Christmas and around the world.

Homework

We would like the children to share pictures of their Christmas Celebrations at home. This can be their tree, any special ornaments they have at Christmas and any special things that you share together as a family. My own children are "slightly" older now but we still have a routine that we follow each year starting with decorating the tree, Christmas markets and leaving special things for Santa and Rudolph. We would love you to share this on Tapestry and we will share this with the children in show and tell. Please add the conversation you had together as it supports our assessments and prompts the children to talk to their peers in the session.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs J Dodd

Mrs S Morton

Mrs Z Richardson

Dates for Autumn 2

Friday 8th December 5.30pm PTA Christmas Fair

Tuesday 12th December 9.15 am - 10.15 am EY Christmas Celebration and Stay and Play.

Wednesday 13th December Whole School Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 20th December KS1 and EY Christmas Party

Thursday 21st December End of Term until Monday 8th January 2018.

Friday 22nd December - INSET