



## Reception Weekly Newsletter

Term: Autumn Term 2    Week: 7    Week ending: 18.12.2020

### Religious Education

#### Advent/Christmas - Waiting – Birthdays

Each day as we have opened the Advent calendar, we have been reflecting on what we are waiting for during this time of Advent and with the help of our fantastic Collective Worship, the children have a really good understanding of the Christmas story and the birth of baby Jesus as our saviour. We thought we would share one of our bidding prayers that we said on the day.

*Dear God, As we open our presents on Christmas morning, let us remember your son Jesus, the most special present of all. Amen*

### Maths

This week we have applied all of the skills we have acquired whilst learning the all about the numbers 1-4 and done lots of fun Christmas maths.

### Home Learning

Please see attached.  
When you can over the holidays, please keep up with practising your phonemes.

### What a fantastic week!

We have had a lovely week in school. The children have been so excited. On Monday, the children really enjoyed our trip to the dining room to have Christmas lunch – the cream cakes for dessert were definitely a winner! In the afternoon, we went for a walk outside to visit each classroom window which had been decorated with a different Christmas theme. The children have all been so keen to find out where the elves are each morning, what mischief they have been getting up to and also to find out whose turn it is to have the chocolate from the Advent calendar. On Tuesday, they were excited to do PE and were even more giddy coming into school in their own clothes on Wednesday for our Christmas party. We had such a fun time playing party games, dancing and eating yummy party food including some cakes that the children had made themselves in class. We also had a special message delivered to us from Father Christmas via one of his elves to tell us how pleased he has been watching how well we have done since starting school, especially with all the new rules we have to follow. He thinks, and our teachers agree, that we all settled in so well, have become more independent and have grown up so much already since September. He left us all present to say thank you. On Thursday we watched made some reindeer food parcels to sprinkle outside on Christmas Eve and watched a virtual pantomime with some snacks in the interval which the children loved. We have had such a busy few days but also the best fun. It has been so special sharing this magical time with your children.

### Communication, Language and Literacy

This week we read more Christmas stories. We looked at 'Dear Santa' and used a variety of describing words to talk about the different presents. We also read 'Harvey Slumfenburger's Christmas Present' and discussed what could possibly be inside after Father Christmas' herculean efforts to get it to Harvey in time for Christmas. Finally we read 'Dear Father Christmas' and wrote some letters to Father Christmas of our own!

### Expressive Arts and Design

The children have been making snowmen, snowflakes, Father Christmas puppets and Christmas trees using their cutting and joining skills. They have also become experts at playing 'Jingle Bells' and 'Twinkle Twinkle' on the bells and the xylophones thanks to Buddy; RMJ's elf (aka Mr Jones) who delivered them as a gift to each class, along with some musical notes for them to follow.

We have been listening (but sadly not singing) to Christmas songs and the children were wowing us with their dancing skills at our Christmas party.

### Thank You

Can we just say a massive thank you to all of you! It has been a strange and somewhat difficult term for everyone at school, finding creative ways to try do what we have always done while keeping things as normal as possible for the children. However, they have been wonderful and they have had a very successful 1<sup>st</sup> term in Reception. There has been so much learning and progress made already; we are so proud. Big clap for parents and carers too – your support has been fantastic. We are extremely thankful for your Christmas wishes and your incredibly kind Christmas donations to charity /gifts. We hope you all have a very happy and peaceful Christmas with your families and that you all stay safe and well. We are very much looking forward to building upon our successes so far in the Spring term which starts on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Doors open from 8.30

**Merry Christmas from all of the EYFS team**