

Early Years Newsletter



Friday 7th December 2018

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2018-2019

Issue 11

NURSERY NEWS

We would like to begin by saying a huge well done to all our children for their beautiful performance during the Nursery sing-along. The children looked spectacular wearing their Christmas hats and singing in front of an audience. This can be a bit daunting for any age, especially for children so young. They have also worked really hard learning the words and actions to a variety of songs. We are all very proud of them. Well Done Nursery!



We have finished decorating the Nursery this week with lots of Christmas art work which the children have contributed to and they are very excited about our super display of Santa getting stuck in the chimney. This caused huge enjoyment between the children! They have also independently decorated the Christmas tree with a range of tinsel, baubles, decorations and sparkles and. It really looks wonderful. Well done Nursery!



The children have enjoyed some wonderful experiences playing in 'Santa's Workshop' where they have had great fun independently wrapping boxes and presents to play with, whilst looking at the various different shapes and sizes. Christmas dressing up has also been a hit with the children dressing as Santa, Elves and even stars. One little boy said 'Ho, Ho, Ho!'



Santa letters have also been written, with children drawing pictures and writing their special messages to Santa! We have had some fantastic name writing too!

This week the children have also made their own very special post-box to post any cards they write for their friends. The post-box is situated in the Nursery cloak-room area and Santa's helpers will ensure any cards will be delivered.



The sensory tray in the outdoor area has also proved a success with the children as they have been busy exploring colours, textures and sounds by playing with tinsel, glitter, bells, baubles and shiny bows. This has enabled the children to explore their senses and also listen carefully to Santa's bells! The children have also enjoyed discussing what they have hanging on their Christmas trees at home and talking about their own magical decorations and sparkles.

Early Years tip to Hatton

We promise to give you news of our trip to see the Enchanted Christmas Kingdom next week, as the trip took place on Friday when we were going to press!

Read, Write, Inc.

The children have been looking at 'g' and 'o' this week. Once again we have had some wonderful items brought in from home and the children have enjoyed discussing and sorting these items into the correct sound boxes during group times. We shall be continuing next week with the letters 'c' and 'k' and once again, if children have any items at home beginning with these letters they are welcome to bring them in to share with us. The children love looking at these items during group time and deciding which sound the items begin with. Thank you once again to parents for supporting us in helping the children look for these items at home.

It is nearing the end of term and next week is due to be very busy once again, with further fun and stimulating festive activities planned for the children.

Have a lovely weekend,

The Nursery Team

RECEPTION NEWS

Dear All,

Well Christmas seems like it is fast approaching! We can almost hear the reindeer bells! The very excited children all walked their letter to Father Christmas down the Firs and popped it into the post box last Friday. Though for some, it was still a very long way away! We had only just lost sight of the playground when one child said with real excitement or possibly with exhaustion, 'We are really, really far away from school now!' Everyone's legs made the journey, although some were flagging heavily by the time we crossed Warwick Avenue and there were many pleas of 'Are we nearly there yet?' We were all very relieved when the post box loomed into sight! Everyone took turns putting their letter in after giving it a kiss for luck! Mrs Reeve posted her letter too but we are wondering whether she has been good enough this year! Time will tell!



The children were imagining this week at carpet time how far their letters to Santa will have got to by now. We pictured him by an open fire, in a big armchair, with a cup of tea steaming next to him and not one but two chocolate biscuits on a plate. Well he has a large appetite! We thought about him opening carefully each letter and then looking in his 'good child' book to check what each child had said was true and then sent it on to an elf to pack onto his sleigh. With some decorations going up in our classrooms, one child said with a look of awe and wonder at the fairy lights, 'Wow! These are really real!' What a magical time of the year! To quote a song!

This week has been very busy with play rehearsals as the stage is now up in the hall. The children thought it looked amazing and somewhat larger than the space they had been practising in up until this point! They adapted so well to the microphones and learning where to sit at the side of the stage. It won't be long before we can show off the fruits of all our hard work. The songs are learnt and the lines are almost perfect so here is hoping for a great nativity! We are very proud of all the effort the children have been putting in to get everything perfect!

In **Maths**, we have been looking at comparison language and ordering six Christmas presents by size. This is a complex skill as children need to reorder their presents when they are given an extra one to put into their line. Whereabouts does it go? Is it smaller or larger than the first present, the second present etc?



We are really pleased with the children's progress in **reading**, with many showing that they can transfer the sounds that they are learning in their phonics work. We have heard some super blending of simple consonant, vowel, consonants words (cvc) and some consonant, consonant, vowel, consonant words too (ccvc). As the books that your child reads become longer and with a more involved story, comprehension becomes more important. Can your child retell the story in detail after they have finished? Can they talk about their favourite moment or predict an ending?

Finally, the most exciting part of our week was definitely the Early Years trip to Hatton County World. It has been a much awaited day! How much more fun can meeting Mrs Christmas and Father Christmas be? We will include lots of photos next week for you to see some of the great things that we got up to!

Notices

A huge **thank you** to those of you who have brought in your child's costume for 'A King is Born'. We will have our dress rehearsal next week so if you are yet to bring yours to school, please could you do so as soon as possible.

Another **thank you** for checking that uniform has been properly named. It has made a big difference to the Reception staff. We will send home slips to remind parents if we find an item without a label. Uniform is so expensive and it is such a shame if it goes missing.

A reminder that a **photographer** will be coming into school on Monday to take an individual photograph of your child dressed for their role in the nativity. These pictures can be purchased by you on Thursday morning next week using cash only.



Have a wonderful weekend!

The Reception Team