

# Early Years Newsletter



Friday 6th December 2019

King Henry VIII Preparatory School

Academic Year 2019-2020

Issue 11

## NURSERY NEWS

We have had a fun and a very festive time in Nursery. We began the week with huge excitement amongst the children as we decorated our Nursery Christmas trees with sparkly tinsel and baubles. The children independently dressed the trees and worked together to strategically place the tinsel, baubles and decorations. We had many fantastic comments from the children such as, "oh my goodness", "look everybody" and one little girl said 'this is so fun!' The finished product looked amazing too. Well done to all the children for a super job!



We have also been busy this week making decorations and paper chains to brighten up the Nursery environment, which all look fantastic. Paper chains are a great way to improve fine motor skills and whilst the children struggled at first, they soon got into the swing of things. Nursery has been very sparkly and glittery, which is lovely! Many festive art and craft activities have kept the children busy, making Christmas cards, calendars and tree decorations to name a few.



The children have also made their own very special post-box to post any cards they write for their friends. They used plenty of paint, glue and 'snow'. The post-box is situated in the Nursery cloakroom area and Santa's little helpers will ensure any Christmas cards posted will be delivered!



Santa letters have been written this week, with children thinking about and drawing pictures of what they would like Santa to bring them. Sending their own special messages to Santa has been really special for the children and also a wonderful literacy activity. We have had some super present ideas such as; hatchimals, dolls, hammers, footballs and go-karts. Great effort was put into writing their names on the letters, after all, no-one wants another child to get their toy!



The children have loved the new Role - Play area as we have transformed it into 'Santa's Workshop', where they have had great fun, independently wrapping boxes and presents to play with, looking at the various different shapes and sizes of the boxes and deciding how much wrapping paper they need to use. They have also enjoyed writing cards and labels for the presents. Christmas dressing up has also been a hit with the children as they have dressed as Santa, his Elves and even stars. We have had plenty of 'Ho, Ho, Ho's' coming from the role-play area this week!



During Forest Fun there were more festive activities taking place, with the children decorating Christmas Wreaths using leaves, sticks and natural materials. They loved searching the forest area for natural items to use as decoration. Once back at Nursery, they added red pom-poms onto their wreath to look like berries. They look wonderful!



Next week we look forward to another fun packed week as Christmas is fast approaching. The highlights being the Early Years Nativity, 'Whoops a Daisy Angel'. The children have been continuing to work very hard learning all the words and actions to many songs, together with learning their very own special snowflake dance! Just a reminder that if your child does not usually attend on a Tuesday afternoon, please can they stay all day on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> for the afternoon performance. Thank you! We hope to see many of you watching the children as they perform with the Reception children as 'snowflake's' in the Nativity next Tuesday and Wednesday. We really hope you enjoy seeing your little one on the stage during their time to shine, which is a really special time for parents too! The children have been working so hard and we hope it will leave you with lasting memories.



Another highlight next week is of course our trip to see the performance of 'Father Christmas' at The Warwick Arts Centre. We plan to have a lovely afternoon and it will be a fantastic way to conclude a very enjoyable and busy term for the children!

**Read, Write, Inc.**

The children have been looking at the letter 't' this week. Once again we have had some wonderful items brought in from home. We shall be continuing next week with our final letter of the year 'i' and if children have any items at home beginning with this letter, they are, as always, welcome to bring them in to share with us. Children love looking at these items during group time and it is a lovely way for children to focus on the initial letter sound. Thank you to parents for supporting us in helping the children look for these items at home.

**Dates to Remember**

**10<sup>th</sup> December at 2:15pm & 11<sup>th</sup> December at 9:15am** - The Early Years Christmas performance. (If your child does not usually attend on a Tuesday afternoon please can they stay all day on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> for the afternoon performance).

**12<sup>th</sup> December** - Early Years Trip to Warwick Arts Centre to see the performance of 'Father Christmas'. This takes place during the afternoon; therefore, children will need to stay with us all day if they do not usually do so.

**17<sup>th</sup> December** - Nursery Christmas Party. This will take place during the afternoon of Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. If any morning children would like to stay on and join us for this, they are very welcome to do so and the party should end by 3:00pm.

**18<sup>th</sup> December** - End of Term at 12pm Midday

**19th & 20th December** - Holiday club is open with fun Christmas activities taking place. (Forms are now available if you would like to book)

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your continued support.

The Nursery Team

## RECEPTION NEWS

With only one full week of the year left, it is unbelievable how quickly time has flown. How can it nearly be 2020!

This is a very short and sweet newsletter this week as we have been spending our time working on lots of things that you are not yet allowed to see! Things that we are going to give you, or show you, at some point during the remaining few days of term. It is such an exciting festive time of the year and the children have really enjoyed dressing up their classrooms with Christmas trees, tinsel, lights and lots of other decorations, whilst listening to Christmas music on the whiteboard.

Not surprisingly, we have been thinking about the birth of baby Jesus, listening to stories and watching animations to familiarise ourselves with the Christmas story that we are going to be acting out for you next week. As each Reception class is performing a different part of the Nativity, we want to make sure that the children are not just familiar with the section that they, themselves, are acting out.



It has been a particularly busy play practise week. The stage is now up in the sports hall so we have been able to think about where the children need to stand and what dances they will be doing. Most importantly, we have had our first run through all together, with Nursery too. The children have done a super job of learning their lines and they are now trying to be as clear as possible so that every word of the play can be heard. There are four Whoops-a-Daisy Angels, one from each class, allowing more children the opportunity to show off their skills and talents. Thank you to you all for your support with the costumes. We can tell you that everyone looks fantastic! Please make sure that you already have a ticket to watch at least one performance next week to avoid any disappointment and tears.



The **school post box** has arrived in Swallows for children to post any Christmas cards that they wish to send to their friends. To make it easier for the sorters, it would be greatly appreciated if you could put the name and class of who it is going to, clearly on the front of each envelope. Writing cards is a great way of learning how to form your name correctly!

**Class Bears and Star of the Week** award. These will not be going home over the Christmas break so this is the last week of the year that they will be awarded. Well done to all those who have received them!



For those of you that are unaware, **Celebration Assembly's** are held regularly during term time and the dates for these are in the school calendar. They are the time in which your child may be awarded a school certificate for the number of stars they have received. 50 is a Bronze Award, 100 is Silver, 150 is Gold. If your child has been awarded a certificate for something outside of school that you would like to share with us, (a swimming, football or karate award, for example) if you bring it on the day of these assemblies, they will be shared with all the children in Swallows.

As there is so much happening at the moment, here is a quick reminder of key dates.

### Dates for last days of term

10th of December at 2.15pm **Early Years Nativity.**

11th of December at 9.15am **Early Years Nativity.** (There will be no swimming on that date)

12th of December is the **Early Years Christmas trip** to The Arts Centre at Warwick University.

13th of December is the date for our **Swallows Christmas Dinner** and also the day that you will receive your **child's report**.

18th of December **School finishes at 12 O'clock and there is no Aftercare.**

### Dates for the term ahead.

14th of January is **Reception's Parent's Evening.**

27th of January is the day of the **Class photographs.** (Please could you ensure that your child brings in their blazer.)

### Notices

**A plea for the return of a school hat.** A child in RF has lost his hat. It is clearly named and has been missing for a week. Please could you check your child's hat over the weekend. We have a lost unnamed one to swap it with!

**Please could all Reception children bring their PE kit in on Monday for the week.**

Finally, there will be **no swimming** after this week as we have our play next Wednesday and then it is the end of term. Thank you!

We appreciate all your support.

Have a peaceful weekend!

The Reception Team

