



CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG

Thank you all so much for coming along to our festive food sing-a-long and supporting our children by being a fantastic audience. I am sure you were impressed by the quality of the singing and the excellent speakers. Every class did their bit and learnt their songs exceptionally well and the whole school songs nearly lifted the roof. What amazing young people we have in this school and what great families we have to come along and support their children's endeavours.

JANUARY

We look forward to welcoming you all back on **Tuesday 7th January 2025**. Please ensure that your child comes to school in correct uniform and following the policy regarding hair being tied up at all times, no jewellery, no nail varnish and only small, plain earrings. Please also ensure that your child brings their complete PE kit to school **from the first day back** with blue PE t-shirt, black shorts, black joggers/leggings, trainers and socks. We did have a number of items in the spare kit box but these have all been borrowed and not returned – please check to see if you have any spares lurking around at home.

CLASS NEWS

PIPITS

Pipit class have had a very busy time learning about winter. Having a snow day so recently has really brought their learning to life! Many of the children were lucky to have enough snow to make a snowman. When we shared the story of the Snowman they were able to understand and remember that snow melts when the temperature rises. We have also learnt about Emperor penguins and their home in Antarctica. The children are able to find Antarctica on the globe and they know it is very, very, cold there.

One of our favourite events each year is the lantern walk. The children worked hard to make their lanterns. It was fantastic that so many families came along. There is something really magical about singing in the park as night falls. The lanterns made a second appearance in the Christmas sing a long and the children sang the song beautifully.

KINGFISHERS

Kingfisher class have shown brilliant understanding during our recent work on 2D and 3D shapes in maths. The children have learnt new vocabulary such as vertices and faces as well as learning shape names such as square based pyramid and triangular prism!

The children have also written fantastic 'Man on the Moon' stories based on the John Lewis advert of 2015. If you can, please do have a watch of it at home as it is a really lovely film clip about reaching out to people who are on their own. Kingfisher class were very thoughtful in their comments about how the man on the moon feels living on his own, using words such as trapped, heart-broken and abandoned. We talked about how important it is to reach out to people who may be feeling lonely this Christmas.

Kingfisher class would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and we hope you get to spent special time with your families over the holiday period.

JACKDAWS

As we have had so much going on, December has whizzed by! We very much enjoyed sharing our poetry and drinking hot chocolate. Lots of us were very brave and read our final piece of writing to the class; some of Jackdaws decided half way through that they would like a chance to read aloud when initially we didn't want to – which was great too. The rest of this term's English has been non-fiction writing based on the text, "How Santa Really Works". We've designed our own sleighs with very detailed diagrams and are ready to write about how they work.

Jackdaws have worked hard at outdoor learning, focusing on map work, extending their geography and art skills. We made maps of the outdoor learning area and then the route to and from our Outdoor Learning site. It was great to link the classroom learning to learning in the outdoors; it always ends up inspiring some really lovely work and attitudes to learning.



We've completed our DT project about Castles too, which links nicely to our learning about settlements that we've done in geography, and touched on in our history too. We evaluated some different types of castles and discussed their features. We learned what different parts of castles are called and then had a go at drawing 2D representations of what we wanted to build, labelling them with their 3D shapes. After deciding who we were each going to make our castle for, we decided that the castles should have these 3 design specifications: they needed to be strong and stable; they needed to have a flag; and they needed to use a net of some kind to add a different shape. We had great fun building these, and got really stuck in with our learning. We experimented with different joining techniques (lots of us enjoyed using the glue gun!)

and all create some fantastic castles on Wednesday morning. I am also really impressed with how well we managed to tidy the classroom **after** the building too. Definitely some budding architects amongst us!

OSPREYS

This term we have started our geography topic called Biomes and Ecosystems. We are specifically learning about the temperate biome of the UK and have been learning about the ecosystems in The New Forest. Next term, we will be doing some field work to support this topic when we visit Mrs Burleigh's farm.

As a link with the topic, our writing focus has been based on the book *The Fourteen Wolves* by Catherine Barr. The book is a cross between fiction and non-fiction and it beautifully describes the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone Park: a re-wilding story. We examined the rich vocabulary and sentence constructions in the text and children wrote diaries in the role of one of the wolves – WOW!! Their writing was of a very high standard and most of them illustrated their diaries that depicted the wolf's experiences.

In maths, we have been securing written methods for multiplication and division. We are encouraging the children to think about mathematical calculations and to decide if they need a written method or if they can use mental methods. Problem solving is an integral part of the maths lesson and the children are encouraged to show their thinking, try different solutions and show their methods.

In science we have been experimenting with electrical circuits and made electronic Christmas cards using copper tape, button batteries and LEDs which we were extremely proud of – they were fiddly but worth it in the end!

School Diary Dates

Our forthcoming events and diary dates are on our website listed in the *News & Events* section.

More specific details can be viewed online by clicking on the relevant event, this will then display the letter content or additional information

[Diary Dates website link](#)

