

Reception -

This week in EYFS we started the exciting topic of Christmas and in all classes we have received a special visitor of an Elf. The Elves in Reception have been very busy causing mischief around the classrooms and we have enjoyed naming them and writing to them.

On Tuesday we also took part in our first dress rehearsal for our Christmas show and we are so excited to show it you. We also enjoyed watching the Key Stage One show on Friday.

We had lots of fun in our Christmas Craft Afternoons and would like to thank all the parents and carers who attended and we hope you enjoyed creating with us.

HOMEWORK

Reading at least 5 times a week and practising sounds and words, and reading diary signed and dated.

Year 1 -

This week the children have continued to practise their writing skills. We have read the story 'The Littlest Elf' and the children have written an Elf profile imagining that they are elves and are working in Santa's workshop! They have used some simple adjectives to describe an elf. As always in Year One we are looking for the children to remember their capital letters and full stops as well as finger spaces between their words. The children are working hard at writing their letters on the lines in their books.

In Maths this week we have continued to familiarise ourselves with Numicon, using it to help us with our addition sums and with problem solving activities. The children are beginning to solve simple word problems. We are teaching them to look for the numbers within a story as well as the mathematical vocabulary that tells them whether the calculation will be an addition or subtraction

For example: I put **5** baubles on the Christmas tree. My friend gives me **7 more**. How many do I have **altogether?** $5 + 7 = 12$

In RE the children have been learning about the Jewish Festival of Hanukkah. Mrs Sholem kindly brought in a menorah and told the children the story of Hanukkah. She also gave each child a dreidel spinning top to take home.

As always thank you for doing the reading homework. Please try and ensure that your child has read four or more times in order to be in with a chance of winning the reading challenge.

Please continue to practise the 100 words in the back of the reading diary. If your child is able to read all 100 words confidently, please can you begin to practise spelling them.

Thank you for the donations towards Christmas cooking and crafts, we are planning some fun activities for the last week of term.

HOMEWORK

Reading: at least 4 times a week and reading diary signed and dated.

Year 2 -

This week in Maths we have been learning to use our knowledge of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s to solve simple problems.

We have also been practising all of our skills and have tried hard to remember everything we have been taught this term. We have practised adding and subtracting numbers, finding missing numbers in number sentences, using the greater and less than symbols and recalling the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

In English we have been practising our reading skills when answering reading comprehension questions and have been learning to infer meaning from texts (read between the lines), as well as find the answers to straightforward questions.

Today we had the dress rehearsal for our Christmas concert. Thank you for helping the children to learn their words, they now know them really well.

Please continue to practise at home so that they can recite them loudly and clearly.

Congratulations to Rowan and Oak who won the Reading Homework Challenge. We hope that they enjoy their special reward. Well done to those children in Year 2 who did their homework.

Homework

Reading is homework and the children should be reading to an adult at least 4 times a week, and reading diaries signed and dated. Please make sure that your child is doing this as it makes a considerable difference to their progress in reading, particularly if they talk and answer questions about what they have read.

Spellings: as explained in the letter stapled into book diaries, written below are the phoneme/graphemes that the children will be practising next week. Please practise these at home too.

Alternative spellings of **ow** and **ng** phonemes

e.g. brown, town, round, about

bring, string, strong, along

Tricky words -where, there, thought, through, work, mouse