

Weekly Newsletter — 12

It has been a very busy week practising for our Christmas performance. The catchy songs are even being sung by the children in the playground. As far as it is possible, please could you bring your pre-school children to the afternoon performance of the play. If they do come to the evening performance on Thursday, please could you make sure they stay with you at all times.

Yesterday years 1 and 2 had their flu vaccinations and they were all very brave. The nurses were very organised and caring, explaining to the children what they were going to do beforehand.

Thank you for your generous donations of chocolates/bottles for our Friends of Leamington Hastings Christmas Fayre. Hopefully you will buy lots of tombola tickets to win it all back!

Thank you to the ladies from the surrounding villages for coming in to help the children to make a Christingle ready for the service on Sunday 4th December at 4.00pm in Willoughby. In class the teachers explained the parts that make up a Christingle and their relevance.

We look forward to seeing you at the Christmas performances on Wednesday and Thursday and the Christmas Fayre next Friday.

PE Kit

Please could you send in named shorts/skorts **and** jogging bottoms for PE as we still do PE outside as much as we can, depending on the weather. Thank you.

Attendance letters

Letters with your child's attendance figures have been sent home today. Please read these carefully as we will be following WCC guidance more closely from next term.

School Photos

Please could all school photo forms be returned to the office on Monday. If you miss this deadline, photos can be ordered online but there will be a postage fee incurred.

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day – Weds 14th December



Save the Children
**CHRISTMAS
JUMPER DAY**

On Wednesday 14th we are joining in Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children. Children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper in return for a contribution to this great charity. If your child doesn't have a Christmas jumper, how about decorating another jumper with Christmas decorations?

We will also be having our delicious Christmas dinner on that day. **Please let the office know by Wednesday 7th December if your child normally has a packed lunch but you would like them to have a Christmas dinner instead.**

Stickman – Thursday 8th December, Nursery and Reception

A reminder that permission slips and contributions must be returned to the office by **Monday**. Children will have an early lunch on that day. Thank you.

Leamington Hastings' Got Talent

Thursday 8th December, KS1 are doing Leamington Hastings' Got Talent in the morning so if your child would like to take part, please could they bring in any props they need.

Nursery

We have started to think about Christmas by rehearsing for the Christmas concert and finishing off the props and headbands. We have even put our Christmas tree up and taken it in turns to place the baubles on the tree. Some children wanted to make their own tree decorations by colouring and cutting out pictures of baubles. The children helped to wrap presents up to place under the tree too.

In the classroom there is a wrapping station where the children can have a go at wrapping their own presents, write labels and Christmas cards to their families and friends.

We have made a small Christmas decoration using salt dough and Christmas cutters. The children have made prints on the dough using natural found objects including fir leaves, acorn shells, dried berries and twigs. The children cannot wait to add the ribbon to their creations.

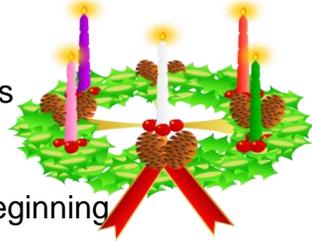
The children have enjoyed exploring the freezing water in the mornings. Our water tray was very pretty with glitter and sequins stuck to the frozen water. They used different tools to break the ice and scoop up the water into the bowls and jugs. What a fun and exciting week we have had with lots more fun to come!

Reception and Year One

The children have been sooooo excited this week, especially with the beginning of advent and they could tell me how many days to go until they could have their chocolate.

This week, we have been finding out about Advent, what it means and why it happens. We learnt that it is the Christian calendar's New Year celebrations and that it is also a time to prepare for the Christmas celebrations. We created our own advent calendar so we can count down the days to Christmas.

We learnt about the Advent Crown (who remembers the Blue Peter tradition of making one from coathangers?!) and that on the first Sunday the candle is lit to represent hope, on the second Sunday the candle is for peace, the third is love and the fourth day is joy. The centre candle can represent Jesus. We learnt that the circle wreath reminds us that God's love has no beginning and no end. The ever-green holly and ivy shows us that God never changes.



Year one learnt about the Christingle, which we made on Friday afternoon and the meaning of all the different parts used to make it. We also found that this began as a tradition 250 years ago in Germany.

In guided reading, we have been busy learning our lines for the Christmas play. The children are really gaining in confidence at saying their lines and at reading in a loud voice. We have had several rehearsals this week and each one has been getting better and better.

In maths, we have continued to halve shapes and amounts. We began to think about how a shape could be halved in different ways. We found some Christmassy paper and made some paper chains, as well as making Christmas crackers for the Christmas Fayre next week. We cannot wait to have a go at all the fun activities and maybe win one of our crackers back! We have continued to practise counting to and back from 100 and both reception and year one are gaining in confidence! We also have been counting in 5s and 10s with some counting in 5s on their own!

This week at Leamington Hastings

Year 2

Advent has begun, our first envelope has been opened and we are getting very excited about Christmas. We have started practising for our play in preparation for the dress rehearsal on Monday.

Now that we are in December, routines get lost and although we will try our very best to read individually with all the children, play practise and Christmas cards tend to get in the way. Whilst we keep on with our guided reading in school, we do ask that you read at home with your child as often as you can (ideally five times a week) in order to make sure that the children continue with their progress over this busy and exciting time. We really value the difference you can make to your child's learning.

English

We have been planning, editing and writing newspaper reports about the Great Fire of London.

Our Steps to Success were - the use of first or third person, past tense verbs, punctuation and extended sentences.

Guided reading – together, we worked through a reading comprehension test then marked it and went over any misconceptions the children may have. We stressed the importance of using the text to answer the questions, and that it is useful to re-read a text to find an answer.

Maths

We used our understanding of place value and inverse relationships between addition and subtraction to attempt to solve missing number questions. The children have found this very hard and we will need to go over it again in the New Year.

Next week we will be moving on to 2D shape-naming, describing properties of shape, shape patterns and symmetry of shapes.

Topics:

History- a chronological time line of the Great Fire.

RE - Advent - the advent wreath with the 5 candles of advent representing Hope, Peace, Love, Joy and the Birth of Christ.

The Christmas story- practising for our play.

Art - Christmas display work.



Head Teacher's Awards

- Y2 – Liam for his handwriting.
Chloe for her maths.
PE Stars – Amarveer, Eloise, Mihai & Ella.
- Y1 – Robbie & Anna for their super work on capitals.
PE Stars – Robbie, Amber, Owen & Kara.
- YR - Nevaeh for always making good choices and for being so helpful.
- YN - Cicely, Niamh & Tom for using their words in circle-time and in role play.
Elsie & Tiarna for good listening on the carpet.

Table of the week – Yellow for working well as a team.

Attendance Awards – Tawny Owls - 100% and no lates.

Dates for your Diaries

Sun 04/12/16

**4.00pm Christingles Service,
Willoughby Church**



Mon 05/12/16

PM – PE

Weds 7/12/16

3.15-4.15 Sports Club

1.30pm Christmas play, Parish Hall

Thurs 8/12/16

No Sports Club this week

French Club 11

Nursery & Reception Stick Man, Warwick Arts Centre

Fri 9/12/16

6.30pm Christmas play, Parish Hall

Weds 14/12/16

3.00pm Christmas Fayre

12.00 Christmas lunch

Fri 16/12/16

Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children

3.05-6.00pm Wise Owls Christmas Party

1.30 End of Term Church Service, Birdingbury

**Parents/guardians must collect their child/ren
from school at 1.00pm and transport them to the
Church in Birdingbury. Children will be able to
go home after the service.**

Parent Governor Update

Following a second request for nominations for the vacant parent governor position, no nominations were received. The governors, as indicated in a recent newsletter, have agreed to reallocate responsibilities within the current governing body and are pleased to confirm that Matt Markham, Phoebe Tooth-Markham's Dad, will become a parent governor with immediate effect.