

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers in Reception,

Not long to go now before the festive season arrives! This week in Reception we have been starting to think about the Christian festival of Christmas and comparing this to the Hindu festival Diwali and the Jewish festival Hanukkah. All these celebrate the gift of light in a time of the year when it is dark, we give and receive gifts and celebrate with our family.

On Tuesday, we had a visitor come to Reception, (he is going to stay with us for a few days.) He is Buddy, the cheeky elf. He arrived in a special wooden box, express delivery from the North Pole. He asked every child to write him a letter about themselves; Buddy loves writing and he promised a special letter back to all the children in the class. He kept his promise and the next day every child had a letter with a special job for them to do. He requested a Duplo bed and a car, a mobile phone and some sweets! He has been sleeping in his car for the last two nights eating sweets! It has been lovely seeing the children becoming so excited to see what Buddy has been up to during the night.

Buddy said all the children needed to write a list for Santa for Christmas. It is always interesting to hear what the children are requesting from Santa. There were the traditional toys like bikes, scooters and dollies and there were also some I had never heard of – I hope Santa knows what they are!



The children have been making paper chains, stars from lolly sticks, Christmas trees and stockings. They have also enjoyed galloping around the outside area singing Christmas songs with the jingly instruments.

In Maths, we have been sorting and identifying 2D and 3D shapes and ordering them in size order from the largest to smallest and vice versa. We have also been adding two amounts using different baubles and making number bonds to 10 with the different coloured baubles.



### **Phonics sounds learnt so far:**

s, a, t, p, l, n, m, d, g, o, c, k, ck, e, u, r, h, b, f, f, l, ll, ss j, v, w, x, y, z, qu  
ay, ch, th, ng

**This week:** ai, oa, igh, ee

**Tricky words:** no, go, I, the, to, we, me, be, was, my

Reading yes or no questions:

Is it light at night?

Is rain wet?

Is a train fast?

### **Things to do at home:**

See how much your child can remember about Hanukah, Diwali and Christmas.

Have a selection of baubles, sort them into their colour, sizes etc - Can your child add two of the groups together? Can you write a number sentence to match?

Practice the tricky words: no, go, I, the, to, we, me, be, was, my

Think of words that have the oa, igh, ee, ai sounds in them – can you put these words in a sentence?

### **Next Week:**

- We are going to start celebrating Christmas all week! We will be having our Christmas song videoed which will be shared with you virtually. If your child wants to bring in a Christmassy hat to wear on Monday that would be great.
- We will be making cards and reading the Christmas story.
- Christmas party on Thursday afternoon.

Have a great festive weekend!

Best wishes,

Mrs Bradford, Mrs Wood and Miss Ord