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AND RESOURCED PROVISION FOR
HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN
Headteacher: Mrs C Findlay

20th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

After a busy run up to Christmas, the holidays have arrived! I would like to thank all of the staff for their hard work this term as always – their dedication to the school and your children makes all the difference.

Christmas Performances

I have very much enjoyed the singing from our Year 3 and 4 children in the run up to their productions. Last week we saw the Year 3's performing their Christmas celebration to parents and this week has been the Year 4 pupil's turn. Thank you for all of your support in helping the children to learn their words and get prepared for the shows. They all did an amazing job!

Christmas Colouring winners

This week we were informed by Mackenzie Smith estate agents that two of our pupils had won Amazon voucher prizes in their Christmas colouring competition. Imogen (3Q) came first in the competition and Gracie-May (4B) came second. Well done girls! Many of our school entries can be seen in the window of Mackenzie Smith in Farnborough.

Christmas Cards to France

Our partner school in France, Le Val Badinter, has sent us some lovely work about their town of Meudon and their school day. It was really interesting to see photos of the pupils and compare their school to ours! We have sent them some Christmas cards in return and look forward to sending some more work in the New Year.

Uniform Expectations

Please could I request that parents check over their children's school uniform during the holidays as for some children this has started to slip. The only school named item required is a Manor Junior School jumper / cardigan which can be purchased from Brenda's – everything else can usually be found in your local supermarket. If you are struggling with the cost of school uniform, then please do not hesitate to let us know as we do have a range of second-hand jumpers and cardigans. Nail varnish and false nails are also not allowed in school – thank you for your support with this.

Update from the Year Teams

Year 3

The last couple of weeks have been even busier than usual if that's possible! We all enjoyed Christmas jumper day and watching the Year 4's fabulous performance on Monday afternoon. Despite the cold

weather we have had lots of fun orienteering outside in PE where we have had to work in teams to navigate between bases marked on a map of our school. Once we had visited each base, we had to solve a puzzle to spell out a festive word! Children in Year 5 kindly organised and led a brilliant games session for us on Thursday afternoon which was brilliant.

Last week we were lucky enough to participate in the Lookout Discovery Centre Virtual Fire and Light show. This show looked at the sources of light on our planet and it considered the properties of fire and how chemicals can react with each other. It was a brilliant bonus to our science topic as we have carried out a lot of experiments to learn all about light.

In RE we have been learning about the concept of angels and this week we enjoyed a drama performance about the Nativity. We were also able to learn more about why angels are important for Christians.

We would like to thank everyone for their support this term and wish all the children and their families a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Year 4

What an incredible end of term for Year 4! We are so proud of all of them for the amazing job that they did of their Christmas production this week. They have worked so hard on it this term and it has been wonderful to see them acting, singing and dancing their hearts out. Thank you to everyone at home who has supported by helping to learn lines – and listening to endless renditions of the 'Camel Funk', I'm sure!

It has been a busy week as Year 4 have also been finishing their Science topic on electricity and completing their DT project. They have used their knowledge of circuits to design and make torches, which everyone has really enjoyed. The children have also been continuing to learn about time in maths. Practise this at home by asking children to tell the time when they see an analogue clock. They have also been learning to convert digital times to analogue (and vice versa).

We have got another exciting term coming up after the holidays. A reminder that the second day back after Christmas (Tuesday 7th January) is our Harry Potter Day: children need to wear their school uniform but may wear some magic-themed accessories if they wish (no wands please!). We have also got our Harry Potter Studio Tour trip coming up on 5th February which promises to be a very enjoyable day for all! Please note that the deadline for payment is 8th January – any final monies on SCOPAY would be greatly appreciated to allow this trip to go ahead.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas from the Year 4 team and we look forward to seeing all of the children again next term.

Year 5

Year 5 have had a busy last few weeks of term. In English, we have been looking at the book 'Coming Home' by Michael Morpurgo. The children have chosen from a range of different tasks including poems, missing posters, descriptions and comic strips. They have really impressed us with the high level of their final pieces.

In maths, we have been focusing on multiplication in particular looking at using the formal written method (short and expanded method). Although the children found this difficult at the start, they have impressed us with their perseverance. If you would like to practice this with your child, you can find examples of the methods which can be found in the maths parents' booklets on our website.

In music, we have been composing and recording layered music using a variety of different instruments including our voices. In DT, we made a range of different seasonal soups. The children tasted, designed

and made a variety of different soups all using seasonal vegetables. The children impressed us with their culinary skills and how many different new soups they tried.

In PE, we have been taking part in inter-house rugby, football and netball. The Falcons came out as the overall winners but all of the children impressed us with their team work and sportsmanship.

We had the pleasure of watching the Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas plays, thank you to both of these year groups for putting on amazing shows and thank you to Year 5 for being a fantastic audience.

Thank you for all of your support this half term, it really has been appreciated. We hope you have a restful and joyful Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Year 6

Wow - what a term! Year 6 have squeezed so much into their learning so far this academic year, we couldn't be prouder of their efforts.

Our most recent writing unit - How to Steal Christmas - has produced some fantastic results. The children wrote a set of instructions inspired by the Dr Seuss story 'How The Grinch Stole Christmas'. We were pleasantly surprised that the children were so keen to get writing! They came up with some brilliant ideas and presented their work beautifully. A great end to English for 2024.

In maths we entered the world of algebra this week. Letters and numbers combined didn't phase the pupils as they solved festive puzzles and equations.

To end the year, in assembly this week we performed our end of unit music learning. Their performance of Afraid of Heights by Tom Fletcher from The Christmasaurus theatre production was very well received. The huge round of applause was definitely deserved - you can always ask your child for a private performance as they know the lyrics off by heart. Well done Year 6!

Finally, I would like to wish all of our families a restful break from school. I hope you have a lovely time celebrating with your families and I look forward to welcoming your children back in the new year.

Merry Christmas!

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Findlay
Headteacher