

# Bumblebee Newsletter

6.12.19 & 13.12.19

Dear Parents/Carers,

Apologies that we forgot to send out the newsletter last week. This one will be a combination of both!

## Adults in class

Many of you have been aware that we have had several adults in our class recently. I wanted to clarify who they are.

Mrs Mitchell and Miss Hickley – Teacher and Early Years Assistant.

Mrs Duddridge – Learning Support Assistant (LSA) working in our class every morning and Monday and Tuesday afternoons.

Mrs Kirstein – Learning Support Assistant (LSA) working in our class Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. She also works at our after school club on these days.

Miss Bettridge – Student Teacher. Miss Bettridge has worked with us for three weeks and will be in on odd days throughout the year. She will be with us for a 4 week block teaching practise in May.

## Christmas Fair

We made biscuits to sell at the fair last week. They were all dairy free biscuits made completely by the children (except a bit of extra mixing when required and cooking by the adults).

We hope that those of you who were able to come enjoyed the fair.

Santa's grotto was amazing and you could see how much hard work had been put in by Mr De Halpert and his team of helpers. Thank you for transforming our room into such a magical place for the children.

## Christmas performance

We practised all last week and Monday ready for our performances on Tuesday. We thought the children were fantastic at remembering their dances and when to stand up and are incredibly proud of them. It has been lovely to hear all the positive feedback from you all and are glad that you appreciated all the effort the children put into it.

## THANK YOU

We want to say a massive thankyou to Mr Nabb for organising a team of parents who helped take apart, move and rebuild our outside role-play structure. We have wanted to move it for a long time and we really appreciate the effort and time you put in to moving it on such a miserable day! We cannot do this type of thing without the

**Headteacher Miss S Vittle**

support of parents and we are very grateful that you are all so supportive, it makes such a difference to the children and their learning opportunities in school.

**After school clean up**

We want to say thank you to the parents who were able to stay after school today to help with cleaning up our outdoor area. Again all the support you give will help us ensure the best learning environment for your children.

**Craft morning**

On Thursday morning, while the role-play structure was being moved, the children in Bumblebees, Honey bees and Carpenter Bees mixed together to make 2 Christmas craft items. They got to choose 2 items and worked with different adults across the classes. It was a lovely morning and we are now using these to decorate our classroom for next week. The children will bring home their craft items at the end of next week.



**Christmas party**

We are having a Christmas party afternoon on Wednesday, where the children again mix into teams with Honeybees and Carpenter Bees to play Christmas inspired games, such as Pin the Nose on the Reindeer. **Please can you send party clothes in with the children to change into on Wednesday in a named carrier bag**

**Reminders**

- Please can reading folders and phonics folders be in your child’s book bag every day.

**YEAR R LEARNING**

 <p><b>Phonics</b></p> <p>This week we have introduced the graphemes y, z, qu. We talked about ‘y’ being a cheeky letter as he represents one sound at the beginning of words and different sounds at the end of words. We have matched words to pictures in varying games and each read sentences containing all the sounds that we have learnt. We have reinforced the tricky words I, no, go, the, into, he, me we and be.</p> <p><b>Vocabulary</b> –digraph, long vowel, short vowel.</p>	 <p><b>Number</b></p> <p>This week we have begun to focus on the number 6. We have looked at its relationship to the dice ad played dice games. We have also begun to make six in different ways using blocks and talked about the numbers that they can see within number 6.</p> <p><b>Vocabulary</b> – cube, total, whole, same, different, dice.</p>
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**Child Initiated play**

**The main focus of learning last week was:** using technology independently.

Starry night

Some children used the stimuli of 'The starry night' to create their own paintings / pictures.

Post-it notes.

This week we have added post-it notes to our writing resources. The children have loved this and have spent most of the week writing messages to each other, or messages to stick up on the wall.

Beebots

The children have enjoyed programming the Beebot (as a rocket) to travel to different planets.

iPads and camera.

This week the children have been using a camera and the iPads to take photographs of the things they have been doing in discovery time.

Christmas

This week revolved around getting ready for the production on Tuesday afternoon. On Wednesday we all wrote 2 sentences about the production. This is the first really formal writing we have done and the children worked extremely hard to hear the sounds and write the letters they needed. They were very proud of the end result.

Yesterday we spent the whole morning making Christmas craft items.

**Vocabulary**

**New**

- Constellation
- Galaxy
- Milky way
- Universe
- Photograph
- Zoom
- Program
- Direction / directions
- Left
- Right
- Forward
- Backwards
- Nativity
- Jesus, Mary, Joseph
- Stable, manger
- Wise men

**Reinforced**

- International space station
- Astronaut
- Mission control
- Mars, Jupiter, Saturn
- Moon buggy
- Solar system
- Galaxy
- Satellite

**HOME LEARNING**

Over the next week, please take the opportunity to:

- Go through your child's Phonics folder and reinforce the sounds.
- Share your child's reading books. (Please note due to Christmas rehearsals our changing books schedule has been disrupted, please bear with us over the next couple of weeks.)
- Play a game with your tagged words. We have tested the children's words this week and many have a new set. Thank you for all the work you are putting in at home the impact is beginning to show at school.
- Share books with your child. Perhaps choose a word from the book and see if you could think of a different one. Eg small – tiny, minute, dark – dull, dim, gloomy,

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- Reinforce the vocabulary introduced this week.
- Continue to practise counting backwards from different numbers. They children are finding this hard particularly when starting from numbers between 10 and 20.
- Rest as much as possible for the final week. The children are very tired!!

**CAN YOU HELP?**

To lend

- Not this week

To donate

- Not this week.

Many thanks, Mrs Mitchell, Miss Hickley, Ms Duddridge and Ms Kirstein (The Year R Team)