

The children worked very hard in the weeks leading up to Christmas. There was a lot of excitement about the Nativity performance. The whole class learnt songs, practised words, rehearsed dance moves and learnt where to stand on stage! In our Literacy lessons the children read about the Christmas Story and wrote their own recounts. We were all delighted with their performance.

Everyone enjoyed the Christmas party!

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In our Maths work we investigated and learnt more about numbers. This work continues throughout the year.

- Writing numbers to 100 in digits and words (correct spelling is essential!)
- Making numbers that are 1 more or 1 less
- Knowing numbers that make 10 and 20
- Adding 3 numbers
- Finding the missing number in very simple addition/subtraction equations
- Money – knowing the value of all the coins, making amounts, working out simple problems.
- Using a number line to add /subtract

As well as the number work that continues throughout the year we will also be looking again at Time. The children should be able to read a clock face, and should know 'o'clock' and 'half past' by the end of this half term.

We will spend some time on height and weight and how to measure it.

We will also be looking at simple dividing and counting in equal groups. ( 2s, 5s, 10s)

In Literacy the ReadWriteInc lessons have continued. Pupils made progress in their phonics learning last half term and, after assessments, the groups were re -arranged accordingly. They have continued to learn new sounds. Daily reading helps your child to practise their skills. Thank you all for your support in this area.



We try to learn Tricky Words on the Word Train.

In our SPAG (Spelling and Grammar) lessons we have been working on understanding and using adjectives, capital letters, alphabetical order, and adding -s, -es, and -ed at the end of words. The children are using their phonic knowledge to help with their spellings, and are beginning to learn by heart the spelling of some tricky words. This will be one of our focus areas this term. The class are practising re -reading their sentences to be sure they make sense. A lot of our writing takes place through the Topic and Science work we do each half- term. The class researched information and wrote recounts, captions and labels using what they had found out.

Topic – We looked at ‘The Victorians’ and the pupils began to understand what life was like for ordinary people, especially children, which they then compared with the lives of wealthy people. We looked at Victorian houses. The class investigated some of the changes and inventions that improved conditions for children during Queen Victoria’s reign. Through this topic the class began to understand a very simple timeline. They had to read to find facts, and work in groups, taking turns to write facts.

The pupils also designed and made models of terraced houses.

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Working together to make our models of Victorian Houses.



Our Science themes continue to be ‘The Seasons’ and ‘Plants, Animals and their Habitats’. We used the school grounds to explore the changes throughout the Autumn and the onset of winter.

We are now looking for the first signs of Spring. We will be looking at seeds and bulbs, and growing plants in the classroom.

We will also begin investigating Materials and some of their properties.

#### Messages

In P.E. we will be back on our full timetable. Please ensure your child has a named P.E. kit.

Some of the pupils are bringing a book bag and a very large rucksack, and on occasions a third big bag for P.E.kit. Unfortunately the pegs in the cloakroom will not support a large amount of bags and a coat, hat and gloves etc. A book bag or small back pack is all that is needed. P.E. kit is best kept in a gym bag with a pull string top. This prevents items falling out and onto the floor where they often get lost! Your child is responsible for taking care of their coats and bags and this will make their job much easier. Many thanks.

Mrs Aitken and I would like to thank all the families who sent cards, gifts and good wishes at the end of last term. They were very much appreciated! We both wish you all a happy New Year and look forward to seeing you at the next Parent’s Evening and future events.

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Using the grounds for Science, in all weathers!