



St. Oswald's Church of England Primary Academy

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11th December 2017

LETTER 9

Dear Parents / Carers

HMI Inspection - Our school will be undergoing a section 8 HMI monitoring inspection on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December 2017.

HEAD'S WEEKLY BULLETIN

I can't believe we're now at the end of the Autumn term. Staff and children have worked incredibly hard and I'm extremely proud of them all. We have an exciting week ahead. On Wednesday, the whole school are going to St John's Church to watch year 2 perform our nativity play then we're coming back for our special Christmas lunch - we will be serving the children their celebration lunches!



Over the Christmas break, please could I ask that you keep reading with your children and encourage them to read as many books as possible. Another useful task children could focus on would be ensuring that they know all their multiplication tables off by heart. This could be no more than a 10 minute daily exercise, which can be turned into a fun game. Again, having instant recall of all multiplication tables is a valuable skill and, once mastered, will never be forgotten.

Keeping children safe online over Christmas is another key area which can't be overlooked, especially if children are receiving new devices as gifts. I would like to draw your attention to some websites for parents which provide useful information on how to keep your child safe online:-

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk>

www.children.com (free leaflets for parents)

These websites provide useful and practical tips for parents.

All that remains for me to do now is to wish you all a happy Christmas. Please take care and we will see you all on Thursday 4th January.

Many thanks again for all your continued support - it is very much appreciated.

Miss G Wilson
Head of School

RECEPTION OPEN AFTERNOONS

We are holding a number of open afternoons for prospective reception parents/carers. They will be at 2.30pm and 5.30pm on 12th December 2017 and 9th January 2018.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

School closes at 3.15pm on Friday 15th December 2017 and re-opens on Thursday 4th January 2018. We would like to wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT DINNER MONEY WILL INCREASE IN JANUARY TO £1.70 PER DAY, £8.50 PER WEEK.
NURSERY DINNER MONEY WILL INCREASE TO £1.50 PER DAY.**

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING IN SCHOOL

What we are learning in Nursery

In maths we are learning about advent and the countdown to Christmas Day. You can help at home by counting down the days until Christmas Day. In Literacy we are learning about Father Christmas. You can help at home by reading bedtime stories about Santa and his reindeer. In topic we are learning about the season of Christmas. You can help at home by looking for Christmas objects when you are out and about. In science we are learning about ice. You can help at home by freezing water and letting your child melt the ice with their hands or when wearing gloves.

What we are learning in Reception

In maths we are learning about one more and one less and counting objects to ten and ordering numbers. You can help at home by during dinner time count the cutlery and count how many we need. In Literacy we are learning about the Christmas Story. You can help at home by watching clips online of the Christmas story and retelling it. In topic we are learning about lights around us. You can help at home by talking about why light is important in our lives.

What we are learning in Year 1

In maths we are learning about place value to 20. This includes recognising the numbers, reading and writing the number names and sequencing groups of numbers. We are also looking at shape and learning to name 2D and 3D shapes. You can help at home by talking about tens and ones in a number (for example 15 has 1 ten and 5 ones) and using the language of comparison (greater/bigger and smaller/least). You can also help by looking at the shapes of everyday objects and talking about what shapes they can see. In Literacy we are learning about the Christmas Story. We are writing our own version of A Christmas Story by Brian Wildsmith and focusing particularly on using capital letters and full stops and writing common words. You can help at home by practicing writing simple sentences about books children have read. Looking at punctuation when reading and reading a sentence to show how it makes sense. In topic we are learning about vehicles. We are making our own balloon powered cars and talking about the resources we have used to make them. We are also going to be talking about what we like about our own models and how we could improve them next time. You can help at home by talking about vehicles you see and how they work. We have looked at axles, wheels and the body of many different

vehicles. Talk about how the shapes of different parts are the best shape (eg wheels are round so they roll) In science we are learning about how the weather turns colder in Autumn and Winter. We are having daily discussions about the weather and what we notice around us when it is warmer or colder. You can help at home by talking about how the temperature is changing. Look at what happens to puddles when it is freezing outside and talk about frost and ice, and what happens when it gets warmer again.

What we are learning in Year 2

In maths we are learning about multiplication. We are recognising that we can solve multiplication sentences such as 2×5 , by counting in multiples of five. We are linking our counting in multiples of 2, 5 and 10 to number sentences. You can help at home by asking your child multiplication questions and encourage them to count in multiples to solve the answer. You can also remind your child that the multiplication symbol and the addition symbol mean different things. In English we are learning about how to write a diary entry and edit our writing successfully including remembering our punctuation and neat handwriting. You can help at home by writing a diary entry with your child focusing on our senses; hear, see, smell, touch. You can also help your child learn the year 2 common exception words spellings that have been previously sent home and can be found online. In topic we are learning our Christmas Nativity. We have been practicing our acting and singing skills ready to perform for you at St John's Church on Wednesday 13th December at 9.30. You can help at home by helping your child to learn their lines and helping your child to learn the songs. These were sent as homework last week with internet links included.

What we are learning in Year 3

In maths we are learning about the 3 and 4 times table. We will have a focus of reasoning in this area. You can help at home by practising the times table facts. In Literacy we are learning about poetry. We are making predictions, reading our WAGOLL poem and answering some comprehension questions. You can help at home by reading lots of examples of poetry. In topic we are learning about food preparation and food safety. You can help at home by making meals together and talking about how you can do this safely.

What we are learning in Year 4

In maths we are learning about using formal methods for multiplication and division. You can help at home by encouraging your children to think and work out different calculations. In Literacy we are learning about conjunctions. You can help at home by encouraging them to write sentences with conjunctions. In topic we are learning about different forms of art: Portraits, Joiners. You can help at home by researching different artists including the new Turner Prize winner and by buying our paintings next Thursday after school. In science we are learning about how sound changes over distance. You can help at home by experimenting with talking and distance.

What we are learning in Year 5

In maths we are learning about multiplication and division. We are learning how to check our answers using the inverse. You can help at home by practicing time table facts with your children – they are the foundations of all our Maths learning! In Literacy we are learning how to describe a character and a setting. We are using expanded noun phrases to describe and personification to excite our readers! In topic we are learning about the phases of the Moon and how we have night and day. We are also learning about the Christmas story!

What we are learning in Year 6

In maths we are learning about Shape. We are looking at the properties of shapes including the numbers of sides, angles and vertices. You can help at home by recapping a range of 2D and 3D shapes and their properties. In Literacy we are learning about the book 'Rooftoppers'. We are working towards writing our own hot write tasks – diary entries – this week for the end of this English unit. The use of commas in our writing is a key focus, using them for a range of purposes within our writing. You can help at home by creating diary entries and discussing how children might feel about moving away to a new country. In science we are learning about light and how it travels in straight lines. We are also designing and planning our own investigations. You can help at home by looking at different materials that light travels through. Discuss whether materials are opaque (no light travels through), translucent (some light travels through) or transparent (light travels fully through).

Star Learners of the Week

R Oak – Lybah Waqas.

R Ash - Eshan Ahmed.

1 Pine - Noor Digale for excellent effort in all areas of learning and persevering with difficult activities.

1 Birch - Hamza Tahir for fantastic comprehension work in Guided Reading and English.

2 Maple – Raihana Hussain for fantastic improvement in her maths skills

2 Redwood – Abdullah for recognising suffixes to improve his reading fluency

3 Beech - Annalee Ferrerira Kallo for always putting in extra effort and being unstoppable with dojo points.

3 Sycamore - Lina Kauser – super attitude to learning and always trying her best.

4 Olive - Aryaan Ahmed for showing empathy and suggesting we share profit from our art with charity.

4 Poplar - Nela Piskarova for using adjective before her nouns.

5 Rosewood – Haseeb Nadeem; being an absolute pleasure to teach.

5 Willow - Shazia Hannan; fantastic work in Maths.

6 Cherry - Mason Brown and Ridhwan Satti – fantastic contributions to the food bank.

6 Rowan - Denis Cordos – detailed English PEE answers.



SCHOOL MENU – WEEK COMMENCING 11th DECEMBER 2017

All main meals are accompanied with seasonal vegetables or salad and either potatoes, rice or naan bread.

Jackets, Cheese Panini, sandwiches, wraps and bread are available daily.

Fresh fruit and fruit yoghurts are available daily.

	MAIN	DESSERT
MONDAY 11 th DECEMBER 2017	Pork meatballs (Gluten free) Halal Beefburger Vegetable Soya Lasagne	Pear and Vanilla Sponge Oat Cookie
TUESDAY 12 th DECEMBER 2017	Meat & Potato Pie Halal Shepherd's Pie Cheese & Onion Quiche	Peach Oaty Crumble Strawberry & Vanilla Mousse
WEDNESDAY 13 th DECEMBER 2017	Pasta Bolognaise Halal Lasagne Quorn, Spinach & Potato Curry <i>Christmas dinner day</i>	Mandarin Sponge Decorated Bun
THURSDAY 14 th DECEMBER 2017	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Pineapple Upside Down Cake Fresh Fruit Salad
FRIDAY 15 th DECEMBER 2017	Harry Ramsden's Fish Fillet Quorn Sausage	Chocolate Sponge Flapjack