


Friday 10th December 2021

2021/22 Newsletter No: 12

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 www.ralphbutterfieldprimary.co.uk

Headteacher's Update

Hello

I hope you have been able to have a good week.

One child has tested positive for Covid-19 this week, in our lower junior phase; parents/carers of the class have been informed and, as always, we wish the child well. Please rest assured, amidst the media coverage regarding the new variant, and movement to the Government's plan B, that we regularly review our risk assessment and outbreak management plans as a matter of course. Since our outbreaks last half term, we have sustained phase assemblies, rather than whole school assemblies, and children sit with their own class in the lunch hall. This reduces mixing in the only inside location in school where multiple phases potentially mix. In light of recent news, we will be sustaining this mitigation into January. Our full risk assessment is always available to read on our website in the 'News' section.

We are excited about our Christmas events next week, as shared with you on 26th November. You will find a reminder of these below, including arrangements for the morning outside singing! We are really not certain how well this will work, but we are looking forward to trying and we really wanted to share something Christmassy with you in person!

Thank you for your tombola donations in support of the PTA event today; we hope you are able to come along to enjoy the event too.

I wish you all a lovely weekend.



Seasonal Celebrations

w/c 13th Dec Christmas Jumpers & Festive wear

We welcome children to replace their school sweatshirt/cardigan (only) with a Christmas jumper throughout the week.



w/c 13th Dec Christmas Parties

Please send your child in non uniform on the day of their party

Reception Mon 13th **Year 1 & 2** Tues 14th **Year 3 & 4** Weds 15th **Year 5 & 6** Thurs 16th



w/c 13th Dec Christmas Singing each morning (8:55am)

Parents/Carers are welcome to wait in the playground, after drop off, and listen to their child(ren)'s class/year group sing on the following days:

Reception Mon 13th **Class 3** Tues 14th **Class 4** Weds 15th **Class 5** Thurs 16th **Years 3-6** Fri 17th



w/c 13th Dec Christmas Nativity (Reception, Year 1 & 2)

Pre-recorded Nativity productions will be sent home via an online link. Tissues at the ready!



Thur 16th Dec Christmas Dinner

Pre-booked only (booking closed).



Change to Menu— Wed 15th December



As we have our festive Christmas lunch on Thursday 16th, which can be a challenging time for the kitchen staff, the roast dinner scheduled for Wednesday 15th has been changed from roast chicken / Quorn fillet to cheese & tomato pizzas and wedges. Jacket potatoes and sandwiches will still also be available that day.



Festive Singing in the Playground



Next week, our children will be entertaining you with festive songs on the playground, at the start of the day. We are very excited to be able to share with you some of our Reception and Key Stage One Nativity songs and Key Stage Two have chosen their favourite Christmas songs to perform.

When bringing your child(ren) to school in the morning, they will take their bags into school and gather in their classrooms, ready to perform for you on the large playground at (Reception/Key Stage One) 8:55am or (Key Stage Two) 9:00am.

- Monday 13th December - Classes 1 & 2
- Tuesday 14th December - Class 3
- Wednesday 15th December - Class 4
- Thursday 16th December - Class 5
- Friday 17th December - Key Stage Two (Years 3-6)

We look forward to seeing you next week and spreading some festive cheer.



EYFS



This week in **phonics** we began learning the phase 3 sounds. We learnt **j v w x**. The children have really impressed us with how they are retaining their knowledge of the phase 2 sounds and combining this with the new sounds they are learning when reading new words. Before long the children will be able to switch roles and read to you a bedtime story! When reading at home it can be fun to see if your child can spot any of the sounds they have learnt so far. For example, who can be the first to find a 'j'? etc

In **Maths** we have enjoyed lots of Christmas themed maths activities. The children particularly enjoyed counting the baubles on the Christmas trees and then finding the corresponding number card to match.



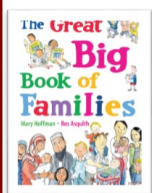
There hasn't been a day this week without glitter, glue, paints and Christmas sparkles and the children have LOVED it. The children have had to use their pencil control and scissor skills for many of the creative tasks - it has been a pleasure to see how their fine motor skills have developed since September. The children will be bringing their artwork home next week for you to enjoy together at home.

We wish you a wonderful festive weekend and look forward to seeing you next week for a very Christmassy last week of term! Thanks.

Miss Knowles, Mrs Greenwood & the EYFS team

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

We have had a busy week filming our nativities. The children have honed their acting and singing skills whilst the staff have become directors, choreographers and camera operators. We are all excited with what the finish products will look like and can't wait to share them with you!



Art this week, has been linked to PSHE where we have revisited what a family unit looks like and how every family is different and special. The children then used their art skills to draw and paint their families to create their own book front cover based on the book 'The Great Big Book of Families' that we have looked at throughout our lessons.

In maths, the children have explored fact families. They have used their prior knowledge to look at the relationship between a group of numbers and how maths facts can be collated from the same three numbers. In the case of addition/subtraction, you use three numbers and get four facts. For example, you can form a fact family using the three numbers 10, 2, and 12: $10 + 2 = 12$, $2 + 10 = 12$, $12 - 10 = 2$, and $12 - 2 = 10$.

We hope that you have all had a lovely week and are looking forward to our morning singing next week. Just a reminder of the days (at 8.55am).

Class 3- Tuesday

Class 4- Wednesday

Class 5- Thursday

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Reeves and Mrs Atkinson



Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

It has been another fabulous week in Lower Juniors and the children have enjoyed a range of activities. In class 6, the children loved their history activity this week of making their own Ancient Egyptian style paper using strips of baking paper and flour/water glue. They made lots of mess but produced authentic (if a bit floury) looking papyrus and gained an insight into the ancient art of paper making in the process.



Class 8 started learning how to manipulate a spreadsheet by inputting data to create a graph. Once they had a go at learning about the different cells, they learnt how to input data, change cell colours and select appropriate graphs for the data.

Meanwhile in class 7, the children found out about food chains and then tried making their own by sequencing small pictures. It was quite a hard task, but the children understood the concept and they did well although there were one or two unlikely food chains produced!



All the classes had some time to work with the YoYo team, who came in to take an assembly and then worked with each class on a follow up activity in a short workshop session based around the Christmas story. The children have loved watching the Riding Lights Theatre production of 'Fizz finds his feet' and also a magician called the 'Magic Hatter' both as online experiences.

Well done, Year 3 and 4 another fantastic week!

Please do come and speak to us if you have any questions or queries.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Hodgson, Mrs Greenwood and Miss Clapham

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)



In history, we have learnt about the living conditions in rapidly expanding towns and cities as well as the working conditions for children in the factories. After reading detailed reports, we summarised our findings of life during this time period. The children were particularly concerned about the contamination to drinking water and the health problems caused by the lack of a suitable sewage system.

In English, we have been learning about how to write effective character and setting descriptions. As our inspiration, we used the character of Fagin and his lair from the novel 'Oliver' by Charles Dickens.

To improve the overall quality of our work, we have spent time using a thesaurus to learn a wider range of higher level vocabulary which was used to support our descriptions.



Please contact us or speak to us directly if you have any questions or concerns.

Mr Daniel, Mrs Stephenson & Mr Tod

PTA



Christmas Eve Treat Bags

Thank you for all your orders and hopefully they have all been distributed this week. We hope they are a nice little addition to your Christmas Eve traditions. The total amount raised will be announced next week.

The BIG Christmas Prize Draw

By the time you read this the big Christmas prize draw will be drawn (or nearly). Thank you to everyone who has bought tickets or donated prizes, we are so grateful. Good Luck!



A full list of winners will be list on our Facebook page next week.

Final Call for all Shoppers at Tesco



Please keep using your Blue Coins to support RBs! It's the time of year for the big Christmas shop so we would welcome your support. We have been successful in being part of the Tesco Community Grant Scheme to help us '**Rejuvenate Outdoor playtime**' at Ralph Butterfield. If successful we can win between £500 - £1,500.



We have a box in All York Tesco stores until **31st December 2021**. Thank you for your support.

Joanne Barrow—Chair PTA

Snippets from the Log Books of Ralph Butterfield School



29th November 1934 - School closed for the royal wedding - The Duke of Kent to Princess Marina of Greece and Denmark.



6th November 1935 - School closed for the Royal Wedding. His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester marries Lady Alice Montagu Douglas Scott.