



MARTON-CUM-GRAFTON CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Class 1 News

15th December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy week in Class 1! Thank you to everyone who came to watch and support the children in their contribution to the Key Stage 1 Nativity. We think they did brilliantly and are sure you will agree. We had soldiers smart enough to be on guard outside Buckingham Palace and snowflakes sweet and soft enough to make a winter wonderland. In recognition of their hard work we have presented the Superstar Certificates to the whole of Class 1! Well done all.

A big thank you also for your help in sorting costumes and present wrapping! You are welcome to take 'presents' home or to leave in school for the children to use in their role-play or modelling area.

This week our '**Writer of the Week**' certificate was given to Freddie Hopper, who has been so enthusiastic and motivated to use his growing writing skills and has been bringing me lots of lists of letters and words that he has seen around the classroom and written out. Keep it up Freddie!

Obviously our afternoons have been rather taken up with quick-changes, singing and smiling. Not forgetting that the Reception children also joined Key Stages 1 and 2 in their trip to the pantomime, oh yes they did!

I'm sure you have found your children rather tired at the end of the day. Especially so because we have, of course, continued with our busy mornings of play and learn opportunities.

The children have been using and developing their making skills, busy in our craft area and Christmas workshop. They have been sharing all kinds of wonderful ideas in their crafting, from cameras to computers and cat puppets to pet carriers. It is great to see the children working with each other on their ideas and gives us a great opportunity to extend Communication and Language learning as well as to draw upon aspects of Personal, Social and Emotional Development as the children choose resources and negotiate with one another about the process.

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This week Nursery and Reception have all been learning and enjoying Christmas rhymes including When Santa got stuck up the Chimney and Here we go to Bethlehem.

Our Phase 1 phonics learning for Nursery children has incorporated aspects of identifying rhyming words, tuning into sounds in the environment and putting sounds together. Reception children have learned two new digraphs, 'oa' as in boat and load, and the digraph 'oo'. The digraph 'oo' is a little more challenging as it frustratingly represents both a short sound as in 'good' or 'foot' and the long sound as in 'pool' and 'food'.

The Reception children have been identifying missing numbers and using number recognition skills to select the missing numbers and developing formation skills to write them down.

At the time of writing we are also expecting one or two special visitors into school this week (Friday afternoon) to consolidate and celebrate our learning and interest in owls.

Reminder

Please remember that **water bottles must be taken home** at the end of each week for a thorough wash, but ideally every day.

Please could we remind everyone that home toys should not be brought into school. If your child's transition into the school is helped by bringing something in may we suggest they choose a favourite book (with name written inside) that we could share at a storytime instead. Many thanks.

Dates for your Diaries

Monday 18th December: 2 pm – Class 1 (Nursery and Reception) Stay, Play and Learn Together session – Christmas songs and crafts. You are very welcome to join us for this session which we will hold in the school hall. We will begin by sharing some of our favourite Christmas songs and there will then be opportunity to play and learn with your child as they have a go at some Christmas themed crafts. Thank you to those of you who have signed up.

Tuesday 19th December: p.m. – Class 1 Christmas Party – the children will enjoy some party games and dancing, you are welcome to send in party clothes (in a named carrier bag please) which we will help the children to change into after lunch.

Friday 22nd December: 1.15p.m. – Christmas service at Christ Church

Tuesday 9th January: - return to school

Have a very happy weekend,

Mrs Williams and The Early Years Team