

Year 4 Update

Friday 8th December 2023

RE

In RE this week, we have continued with our Advent topic and thought about the signs and symbols of Advent. We created our own displays to guide us through each week of Advent towards the birth of Jesus, with prayers and intentions for each day. We have also written a letter giving thanks to God for the gift of Jesus.

Key Vocabulary: Advent, gift, prayer, intention

RE Mission of the Week:

We will be setting a religious based mission for you each week from now on. Each week, we send children out with a 'Mark 10 Mission.' As we encounter Jesus, he invites us to live our lives differently. The weekly mission is a suggestion of how we can do just that.



English

This week in English we have looked at a Christmas story based on the recent John Lewis advert. We read the story of Snapper and how he was an unusual but special tree. We designed our own trees and have thought about how we could use our persuasive skills to create an advert in order for people to buy our product.

Key Vocabulary: persuasive, advert, design

Pre-Teaching

Next week we will be looking at some Christmas poetry.

Maths

This week in maths we have continued looking at multiplication by a one-digit number. We have explored how to use the column method to work out word problems that involve multiplication.

Key Vocabulary: multiplication, column method, carry over, hundreds, tens, ones.

Pre-Teaching

Next week, we will be looking at how to use the bus stop method for division.

Additional Information:

Homework:

This week children will receive Rosary homework on Teams as well as maths and spellings on a sheet. Please ensure that homework is completed in the correct book and handed in on time.

Rosary- Tuesday 12th December 2023

Maths- Tuesday 12th December 2023

Spellings- Thursday 14th December 2023

Times Table Rockstars

Please continue using TTRS at home as we are really seeing an improvement in fluency with those children who are consistently using it. We will be setting up another competition between the two classes for all children to participate in over the Christmas break.

South-West Herts Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated to the appeal we took part in as a school. The gifts were all collected this week as presented by our class chaplaincy members and were greatly appreciated by Ella and Carly who work on behalf of the charity.

Christmas Party Day

All children have now received a slip of paper telling them what to bring in on party day. This is on Friday 15th December during school hours. Please ensure your child brings in the allocated items on the morning of the party and no earlier. Any food that requires cooking must be cooked prior to bringing it in and please make sure there are no traces of nuts as per school policy.

Children can come to school in their own clothes on this day and will be taking part in Christmas activities and some party games throughout the day.

Christmas Jumper Day

On Wednesday 13th December, children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper and their own clothes to school. There is no donation required on this day.

School Closure

As you will have seen via email, the school will not be open on Thursday 4th or Friday 5th January 2024 due to building work taking place. **School will be open as normal on Monday 8th January 2024.**

Home learning tasks will be set for these days and will be available on Teams on Tuesday 19th December 2023.

Forest School

Monday 11th December will be the final week of Forest School for year 4.

Below is an email from their session this week:

Hi,

We are rapidly reaching the end of the year and into December already, so today's session was all about getting into the festive spirit with some tool work and a story.

We started with a check in with our bodies before our welcome routine and name game. There was no hesitation today, with everyone using clear, confident voices and being really creative.

After this we introduced a new game to warm up our bodies called Fox and Rabbit. This game takes lots of concentration as the children have to be watching closely so that they know when it is their turn to be the rabbit and run away from the fox. Some children were so fast as rabbits, the fox needed a bit of a rest after running for a while. During the game, we paused to make sure that all children were being included. We thought of ways to let the other players know that we hadn't had a turn, so that everyone was able to play, join in and have fun.

Once the warmth had built up in our bodies, we gathered together to hear Emma tell an old folktale about the Winter solstice called Deer Mother. This story tells of the courageous Deer Mother travelling to Southern lands to bring back the Sun to break the endless Winter.

For the rest of the session the children chose how to explore. Many chose to use the bow saw and hand drill to cut wood cookies and create Christmas tree decorations. They decorated the wood cookies and used pipe cleaners to secure them together to make a variety of Christmas decorations including snowmen, angels, Christmas puddings and reindeer. Others threaded bells onto pipe cleaners and wound them around sticks to make jingle sticks. Den building using the ropes and tripod lashing was also popular. Finally, we had some children who took their skills on the slackline to a new level, using people instead of hand slack line to balance themselves. Some children even tried to get across by hanging and pulling their bodies along, showing great core strength and determination.

We gathered together at the end of the session to reflect on how our bodies feel before we come to Forest School and how they feel at the end of Forest School on a scale from 1 -10. The vast majority of the children had increased their score by a large amount. Thoughts that were shared were that they had a choice, they could be creative, they could feel strong, they made something they didn't know they could.

Have a great week,
Emma and Carrie

Five Ways to Wellbeing



BE ACTIVE

Take some time to choose your family's Top 10 favourite songs, books or music that may be special for all sorts of different reasons.

We hope you have a lovely weekend!
Abbie and Orla