



Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the next two weeks, we will focus our learning around Christmas. Next week, we will be performing our own Christmas nativity, as well as watching Year 1 and Year 2 during their dress rehearsals. In class, we will discuss the Christmas story in more detail and give the children plenty of opportunities to take part in different Christmas crafts!

Christmas Nativity: Thank you for all the wonderful costumes you have brought in for your children; they look amazing, and we can't wait for you to see them all together! We have been busy filming the speaking parts of our nativity this week which we are excited to share with you as part of our live singing performance. Please ensure you only attend the performance that you have tickets for to prevent the hall from being overcrowded. Please bring your tickets with you.

Phonics: We will be reviewing the Phase 2 and Phase 3 sounds that we have learnt so far, as well as the HRSWs. **Please continue to practise these at home.** Currently, your child should know how to read the following HRSWs: I, the, no, put, of, is, to, go, into, pull, as, his, he, she, buses, we, me, be, push, was, her.

There are many ways you can practise recognition of these words – not just in their reading books! Below are a few ideas to get you started...

- Spot the words in books when being read to at night time
- Stick the words up the stairs for children to read
- Play the matching game (turn HRSW cards upside down, then children have to find matching pairs)
- Copy/write the words in soapy bubbles, rice, flour, mud etc.
- Sing the following songs -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvMyssfAUx0> , <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R087IYrRpgY>

Maths: Next week, we will be recapping some of our maths learning from the year so far, including the 'stopping' number when counting, as well as repeating patterns.

Help needed:-

- We have noticed that some children are now becoming independent with changing for PE which is fantastic; they are so proud of themselves, and it speeds up the process a lot! However, there are still a significant number of children who will not even attempt to change themselves and will wait for an adult to do it for them. This is tricky to manage when there are only a couple of adults in a class of 30 children. Please can we ask that you are getting your child to dress themselves at home – we know this takes a bit longer, but it is an important life skill for them to learn and worth waking up five minutes earlier to practise in the mornings!
- We would also like to ask if there are any parents or carers who celebrate Christmas in a different way, specifically linked to a different culture or country. We know it's a very busy time of year, so whilst we would love to welcome you into school to talk to the children about this, we would also be really grateful if you just wanted to record a video talking about it, or simply send in some photos from past Christmases with an explanation. If you are unsure, please speak to your child's class teacher.

At home you could:-

- Play some of the suggested games to enhance your child's knowledge of our HRSWs
- Count groups of objects in the environment around you – how many red baubles are there on the Christmas tree? How many chairs are at the table? How many sausages are on a plate? Etc.
- Talk to your child about the Christmas story – what parts can they remember?

Diary Dates:-

Monday 4th December – YR Christmas Performance (2:15pm) – Young children welcome

Tuesday 5th December – YR Christmas Performance (9:15am)

Wednesday 6th December – Rock Steady Concert (10:00am) Invitations sent directly to parents of children who attend Rock Steady

Friday 8th December – Drama Tree Performance (2:30pm: only for parents of children who attend Drama Tree)

Sunday 10th December – FoML Christmas Fair (12:00-3:00pm)

Monday 11th December – FoML Pantomime for Year R & 1 children (morning)

Wednesday 13th December – Rock Steady Concert (10:00am) Invitations sent directly to parents of children who attend Rock Steady

Thursday 14th December – Christmas Lunch

Thursday 14th December – YR Christmas Party (information to follow)

Friday 15th December – End of term – EARLY FINISH: 1pm

Thank you
Reception Team