



Dear Parents and Carers

Ooooerr ... It feels rather strange writing Highlights on a Thursday ... but I certainly won't have time tomorrow when we are mid move upstairs to the new classrooms. We can't wait. If you think the children are excited, you haven't seen the staff in the staffroom!

We have had two very special events to celebrate this week - Remembrance and Diwali.

Reception

In Reception we have been learning about and creating repeating and symmetrical patterns. We have learnt the story of Rama and Sita, made divas and drawn mehndi patterns on our hands and Rangoli patterns on the playground. We have talked about Remembrance Day and observed a minute's silence.



Year 1

In Year 1 we have concentrated on time this week. We learnt about o'clock and half past the hour and some of us can even tell when it's a quarter to or a quarter past the hour. We have made the most delicious coconut Diwali sweets, gorgeous lanterns and very creative poppy pictures.



Year 2

In Year 2 we have found out all about Trooper Potts, a local WWI hero and the only Reading soldier to receive the Victoria Cross. We have created some poppy perspective artwork with watercolours and chalks - they are really lovely. We've continued to measure in our Maths lessons this week using metres, cm and dm and looking at the differences between them. In Literacy we have studied information texts and compared life in Mexico City to life in Reading. We have also learnt some simple Spanish phrases and to count to 10.

MOVING UPSTAIRS

Please read carefully the letter accompanying this Highlights regarding access arrangements at drop off and pick up time next week as we settle in to our new classrooms upstairs.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Please note that the lunch for Friday on the third week of the rota has been changed to Fish Fingers with sauté potatoes and peas. This follows the unenthusiastic take-up for Kedgeree.

MULTI-SKILLS SPORTS FESTIVAL - Year 2

Our Sports Festival with St Anne's and Caversham Primary was really fun. Thank you so much to Mr Ellison and his team for running such a great event for us.

UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY

As we are not in school for Children in Need this year, we will be focussing on UNICEF's Universal Children's Day on Friday 20th November when the children can come into school in their own clothes with a voluntary donation of £1 per child. We do ask that children wear shoes suitable for outside play which they are able to take off and put on independently.

PARENT'S GUIDE TO LEARNING IN YEAR 2

As in our email earlier this week we would like to invite Year 2 parents to an information session with Mrs Mullaney and Mrs H'Edwards on Tuesday 1st December from 7-8pm in the new Year 2 room upstairs.

READING FAMILY AID - TOYS AND TEENS APPEAL 2015

As part of Universal Children's Day on Friday 20th November, we are holding a toy collection for Reading Family Aid's 'Toys and Teens appeal'. We are asking each child to donate a new or 'good as new' toy or game, for children up to the age of 16. Your contribution will ensure that the hundreds of children living in poverty in the Reading area will receive some presents this Christmas. Please bring your donation to school on Friday 20th November and we will ensure it goes directly to the charity. For more information please visit: www.ReadingFamilyAid.org.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

We have arranged for our school photographer to visit on Monday 23rd November to take individual and family group (children within school only) photos. If you do not wish your child included please let us know. Many thanks.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

The time for Christmas celebrations is fast approaching and we know it would be helpful for you to have the dates of our panto visit and nativity performances. Full information on ticket arrangements and costumes will follow but please note these dates for your diary:

Friday 11 th December	From 9am	Whole school visit to Hexagon Pantomime
Monday 14 th December	1.45pm	KS1 - Dress Rehearsal for Reception children and KS1 Grandparents
Tuesday 15 th December	9.45am 2.15pm	Reception - Dress Rehearsal for Grandparents KS1 - Performance 1 for Parents
Wednesday 16 th December	9.45am 6pm	Reception - Performance for Parents KS1 - Performance 2 for Parents
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch and class parties in the afternoon	

PUPILS OF THE WEEK

As there is no Celebration Assembly this week we have held over our pupils of the week and will have a double celebration next week.



Karen Edwards
Headteacher

PTFA NEWS

COLOURING COMPETITION

We have been completely bowled over by all of the entries we have received for the Christmas colouring competition! So many of your children took part and produced some absolutely fantastic trees and baubles! It's going to be a tough decision but the winning artwork will be announced in the school assembly on Friday 20 November. Please thank your children for all of their hard work, we can't wait to decorate the school with their festive designs!

CHRISTMAS CARD ORDERS

Please ensure your order forms for this year's Christmas cards are returned by Monday 16 November. Please post your completed form into the PTFA post box in the school reception.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

This year's raffle is on sale now, please try to sell all of your tickets (and do ask if you think you might need any more). The raffle is one of our biggest fundraisers and as the total is price-matched by a parent's company, each ticket sold for a pound is worth £2 to the school! Please return your ticket stubs to the PTFA box in the school reception ASAP! The winners will be drawn at the Christmas Fayre on Sat 5 December.

TEA TOWELS AND SHOPPING BAGS

The artwork for this year's school tea towels and shopping bags is being created by the children this week. The design will feature the Reception children's self-portraits, and they make perfect Christmas presents (especially for proud grandparents!). Watch your child's book bag for more info – available to buy early December!

