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# THE HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS

Achieving Success Promoting Individual  
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow! We are finally at the end of our autumn term! It has been a long and challenging term in different ways but also one that was incredibly positive and rewarding for both the pupils and staff. We have thoroughly enjoyed all the children's Nativity and Christmas Performances, as I'm sure you all have too. They have blown us away with their confident, assured performances and enjoyment of participating in them.

## Farewell

It is always hard to say goodbye to members of our school community.

We would like to wish Daniel in Year 6 every success as he moves back to Swindon. Do keep in touch please!



We're also sadly saying goodbye to Miss Reynolds who is moving to Devon. Miss Reynolds has been with us for three and half years joining us as a TA in Year 1, completing her Teaching qualification the following year and moving on as a truly outstanding teacher. Thank you Miss Reynolds for all your amazing work and support and we wish you all the very best for your new life in Devon.

And finally, it is with a very heavy heart that I say thanks and 'Adieu' to Miss Dawes. Miss Dawes is one of the very few founder members of staff who quite literally helped 'build' this temporary school and site. She has been a key part of our journey as a school over the past 6 years and always approaches everything with a smile and a 'boogie'. Miss Dawes has a special ability to make all those around her feel loved and valued. She has touched the lives of so many children, parents and staff and is a truly outstanding practitioner. We will miss her enormously as a member of staff but are glad we'll still see her when she drops off and picks up Tula.



## Reception

It's hard to believe our Reception children only joined us 15 weeks ago. They have grown and blossomed in so many ways and it really was a privilege watching their Nativity. Every year I'm amazed by how quickly they learn the words to all the songs in their production. They are quite literally like sponges. As well as performing for whole school this week they really enjoyed their last Yoga lesson. They have used a simple computer programme to learn how to draw Christmas Trees. In Maths the children practiced some subtraction with numbers up to 10. Phew!



## Year 1

We can't believe how much we've squeezed into this week - we've had SO much fun! We re-enacted the Great Fire of London outside on the path. Mrs Powell and Mrs Edwards set fire to one of the houses that we made as school and the wind quickly spread the flames to the other houses. Over a dozen houses were burnt to the ground in less than 10 minutes! We wrote letters to Father Christmas, sewed a Christmas Stocking and made some lovely cards and decorations. We are really looking to our 'Space' topic next term.

## Year 2

It's been great to look at symmetry this week and learning that it's a mirror reflection of a shape, including its pattern and colour. We had fun on our Christmas treat Art and Craft day and loved it when you all came into school to read our dragon stories and collect our artwork and clay dragons on Thursday pm. Next term our topic is 'Chocolate' and we're very excited about the visit from the Ministry of Chocolate.



### Year 3

It's been a busy and fun week for us too! We started by tasting breads from around the world and then adapted a basic flat bread recipe and took our 'bespoke' dough home to bake. We thoroughly enjoyed performing our Carol Concert at St Andrew's Church on Tuesday and Wednesday evening. Thank you for coming to watch and sing along with us and thank you to Reverend Jones for hosting us again this year. In Maths, we were tasked with completing a mystery challenge in pairs and finally finished our Egyptian Death Masks.

### Year 4

We were also set some maths problems to solve this week. Two of these involved an escape room and a crime mystery. Then in Science, we considered what evaporation is and how the water cycle works. We've been using code.org in computing and loved the Carol Concert that we performed with Year 3.

### Year 5

We have been learning about the Battle of Hastings and had a brilliant time at Reading Museum on Tuesday, exploring Britain's full-sized Victorian version of the Bayeux Tapestry. Did you know that it is 70m long, the same length as the original Bayeux Tapestry and has travelled to the USA, South Africa and Germany? In DT, we planned and baked our own sweet treats. These included Raspberry Cheesecake, Gingerbread Shapes and much more. We absolutely loved it!

### Year 6

We finished the term writing some Christmas Acrostic poems and learning to measure angles accurately using a protractor. We had a cracking Hockey lesson at the tennis courts, blowing Mrs Edwards and Mr Cook away with our rapidly developing dribbling and passing skills. We worked in teams to build our own tanks in DT, which was both challenging and fun. We had to take care to create the perfect tank (complete with guns and caterpillar tracks) with limited resources. We then evaluated them all!



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Last Day of Term	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December - School Finishes at 1.30pm
First Day of Term	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2020

Thank you all for your fabulous support and help in so many ways this term. I am in no doubt that we achieve so much as a school because of our strong relationships and partnerships with you as parents, staff, Governors, Trust Members, specialist providers and members of the local community. I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and hope you enjoy some special time together with friends and family over the festive period. I look forward to seeing everyone again in the New Year and new decade!

Karen Edwards  
Headteacher