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HEIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS



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Achieving Success Promoting Individual
Responsibility and Excellence

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I said that temperature had really dropped last week, but didn't realise just how chilly the mornings would continue to be this week. Hasn't it been beautiful though?!

I can't believe we are almost at the end of this Autumn Term. It really has raced by, perhaps because we've been so busy and packed so much into it. We are so proud of all the children's efforts and achievements and hope that you all enjoy a fabulous festive time together with family and friends.

It has been lovely welcoming parents of all year groups into school to watch our different Christmas performances. The children had lots of fun performing in them and we hope you enjoyed watching them. Many thanks to all the staff for organising and coordinating them.

Reception

This week we've been using all our phonics knowledge to help us write the story of the Gingerbread man. We are really proud of our writing and can't wait for our parents to see it. We have really enjoyed making special bauble presents, completing Christmas Maths challenges, playing with sparkle, messy jelly and Christmas slime and loved taking part in our Christmas performance this morning.

Year 1

We were so pleased when Mrs Edwards came to see us first thing on Monday morning and said how impressed she was with the letters we wrote to her. She said we had been really persuasive and agreed that we could do some yarn bombing on one of the fences. Look at our efforts. Doesn't it look lovely! This inspired us to write more letters - but to Father Christmas this time.

We've also completed some Maths assessments and were hoping to plant out our garlic plants, to watch them grow in the Spring term, but it's been a little too cold this week. We hope to do this at the beginning of next week instead. We made Christingles in our RE and DT lessons and were so pleased to see so many of our parents at our Christmas performance.

Year 2

As well as completing different end of term assessments, we've been making puppets, using embroidery to create Christmas decorations and made Christmas cards. We've also made wooden star hanging decorations using lollipop sticks. It really has been a fun and creative week!

Year 3

We took part in parliament week, this week and really enjoyed learning about how to plan and debate our own motion. We have developed our understanding of the terms 'for' and 'against' and where laws are debated in this country. In Maths we've continued to learn about different types of lines, using the correct mathematical vocabulary for them and in Science, we've been designing our own vertebrate species. We had to think about whether our animal is a carnivore, omnivore or herbivore and how this would influence the body parts we would give it (e.g sharp teeth and claws).



Year 4

This week, we've been revising a variety of punctuation and grammar rules and practising them using a range of activities. We've completed different assessments in Maths and Science and learnt about the different foods eaten by the Maya people in the Rainforest. We are really proud of the death masks we've made and have been evaluating them and considering how closely we followed our design.

Year 5

We have been completing different progress assessments across core subjects this week and have also been planning for the edible treats we'll be making with our group this coming Monday. We are so excited about making them and will be getting all our ingredients and equipment ready over the weekend.

Thank you for coming to our Christmas performance. We heard that you really loved our rendition of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'. We have taken inspiration from 'The Nutcracker' for our Christmas cards this year, below is a selection.



Year 6

We have really enjoyed watching everyone's homework presentations on WW1 and discussing what we've all learned from our study of this topic. We've also created a piece of writing that explores the use of description, action and dialogue and the interpretation of two characters. We've continued our unit on Geometry in Maths and on the changes of the body during puberty in PSHE.

Follow up on the Engagement and Communication consultations

Further to the consultation sessions we held with parents last month, please find attached, a report summarising the findings and possible actions moving forwards and a letter explaining the trial of parents being able to communicate important messages directly to year group email addresses.

The Heights SEND Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend last week's SEND Coffee morning. Mrs Mullaney and Mrs van Schie would like to share the attached information with you.

Years 1 to 6 Performance Sports - After School Clubs Update

Please see the attached letter with updates to the sports clubs, available for pupils in years 1 - 6, in the Spring Term 2023.

PTFA: Bags2School

Thank you all so much for your donations to Bags2School last week and for the PTFA's efforts organising this.

NHS Berkshire Healthcare

Please find attached the School Nursing Primary School December 2022 Newsletter.

Twitter

Please follow [**@AtHeadteacher**](#) for updates!

Dates for the Diary

Years 5 & 6 (for the families of children in Year 6)	Monday 19 th December 2.15pm
End of Term	Tuesday 20 th December 1.30pm
Staff INSET Day	Wednesday 4 th January
Start of the Spring Term 2023	Thursday 5 th January

Thank you for all your continued support this term. It really has been fun and productive, but I know that we're all looking forward to a 'break' and spending some quality time with our families over the Christmas holidays. Can I wish you all a wonderful festive time together.



Mrs Edwards