

Weekly Newsletter Friday 8 December 2023

Message from Mrs Langton:

Welcome to this week's newsletter and what a strange week it has been! We were so upset to have to close the school on Monday, especially as we were all ready to have Sparkle Day. We were lucky to find the problem (eventually) and be able to get it fixed but it did take most of the day and with no heating or water we just couldn't have the children in. Anyway our delayed Sparkle Day was a great success and the children looked fabulous in all their Christmas outfits.

It was great to see so many of you at our Christmas Crafts afternoon on Thursday, I hope you enjoyed it as much as the children did, they really enjoy showing you their classroom and what they can do. I know it can be difficult when you have 2 or 3 children in the school but we have found this is the best way to accommodate as many parents as possible.

Christmas is definitely in full flow here at Appleton and we are looking forward to next week's events!

Have a lovely weekend.

Dates for your diary:

Next week:

Mon	11 Dec	2.45pm	Foundation Christmas sing-a-long
Tue	12 Dec	10.45am	Foundation Christmas sing-a-long
Wed	13 Dec	2.15pm	Phase 1 Production (Midwife Crisis)
Thur	14 Dec	2.15pm	Phase 1 Production (Midwife Crisis)

More dates:

Mon	18 Dec	Christingle Celebration
Wed	20 Dec	Christmas lunch and parties
Thur	21 Dec	Last day of term
Tues	9 Jan	Return to school

More information will follow regarding individual events.

Parent/Carer's information:

School Lunches

Reminder - please can we ask that you pre-book your child's lunches on School Money. Thank you



Nut Free School

Polite reminder - we are endeavouring to be a nut free school - can you please consider what you are putting in packed lunches, eg, chocolate spread sandwiches. Thank you



Foundation stage - F1/CG

In the Foundation classroom this week, the children have continued to learn the story of 'The Enormous Turnip.' We have continued to use the signifiers and class story map to help us retell the story. This week we focused on making changes. We decided to change the characters from the story who helped pull up the turnip and in F2 the children also decided to change it from an enormous turnip to the gigantic carrot! We also continued to develop our use of vocabulary so this time we thought of other words to describe how the turnip came out of the ground. The children thought of words such as blasted, jumped, exploded, etc. We also added a new page too with the signifier of 'later on' and a new character of a fox who helped to pull up the vegetable.

We have been busy practicing for our Christmas Sing a long, learning lots of new and traditional songs to share with you on Monday and Tuesday next week. Don't forget to request your tickets for the event. The children have also started to share the Christmas story in class and enjoy the Christmas themed activities, in particular the wrapping station we have set up with lots of festive dressing up outfits.

Through Tapestry, we asked if you could share your photos and traditions of Christmas in the past. We have already had a few sent to us that we have shared in class with the children and discussed the history of Christmas celebrations. We will add these to a timeline in our classroom for the children to see and use. Please send yours in for us to share.

Thank you to all the parents, carers and grandparents who were able to attend the Christmas crafts session. The children had a wonderful time making lots of Christmas decorations and sharing their classroom with you.

Finally, please could we remind you that all children need a hat, scarf, and gloves, named where possible, at school every day.

School Attendance:

Our whole school attendance for last week stands at 90.9% Individual classes were as follows:

F1 - 97.0%	CG - 88.5%	BC - 95.5%
HD - 91.7%	RK - 94.2%	SB - 89.7%
JS - 84.4%	CM - 92.0%	CH - 89.1%

Well done class F1 having the highest attendance last week.

ClassDojo team winners:

w/e 01.12.23 - Wilberforce

Weekly wins so far this school year:

Johnson = 3	Sullivan = 2
Skelley = 2	Wilberforce = 4



Year 1 - BC

It's been quite a short week this week however we seem to have packed quite a lot into the four days we have been at school. During our English lessons we have continued working on developing our understanding of description and adjectives. We have also begun to innovate our own beat the monster story based on the story of the Three Billy Goat's Gruff which we will be writing next week.

In maths we have developed our knowledge of the number bonds of numbers within ten and the children have learned how to find all bonds to a number systematically.

We have continued learning about animals in our science lessons this week focusing on reptiles and amphibians with the children looking at similarities and differences between the two animal groups. They could sort pictures of reptiles and amphibians and also talk about differences such as reptiles having scaly skin and laying their eggs on land whereas amphibians have smooth moist skin, lay their eggs in water and are born with gills.

The music service visited school this week too and performed a concert for the children. They enjoyed this very much. We were also able to watch the dress rehearsal for the Foundation stage's Christmas concert which was lovely. We are really excited about seeing all the parents at our Christmas production next Wednesday and Thursday too. Please remember to bring in the clothes asked for by Monday as we will be performing our dress rehearsal to the school on Tuesday.

Finally it was lovely to see so many of you at the Christmas Craft afternoon yesterday. I hope you all enjoyed it, I know the children certainly did.



Year 2 - HD

What a great way to start the week with Sparkle Day! The children helped to decorate the class Christmas tree and then enjoyed an art lesson creating their Christmas cards using tone and texture to create a 3-d effect. The children then practised their Christmas production and can't wait to show you next week!

In English the children have been practising retelling the model text using signifiers and Makaton signs they have learnt. They have looked at the text and the type of words that have been used such as compound words and who, which and that sentences. They have then written their own sentences using these types of words.

In maths we have carried on our work subtracting two 2-digit numbers that cross moving on from practical work to developing our understanding of the written method and how to show that you need to exchange a tens into the ones column.

Well done to those children who are consistently reading three times per week. Remember to return reading and library books on a Thursday.

Year 3 - RK

What a great week in RK this week. In our English lessons this week, we have picked out some more inspiration to begin our long write next week. We have also created some lovely poems about woodland animals using noun phrases. In maths, we have continued our Multiplication and Division topic, we have looked at strategies for the four times tables ready for the eights next week. Our More Maths Friday topic of 'money' we have been recognising coins, notes and amounts of money. Our Jigsaw this week was all about using kind words and recognising the impact of our choices. We have been very excited to see our parents for the Christmas Craft and it was so lovely to see you all enjoying time with your children. Thank you to everyone who filled out a parent survey. We would also like to say thank you to those who are reading and practising spellings at home every week, we know you are all super busy and making time for these activities with the children is really appreciated. Looking forward to another amazing week in Year 3, have a great weekend.

Year 4/5 - SB/JS

Once again this week, classes JS and SB have really enjoyed our learning. The week started with the excitement of our Sparkle Day, it was so lovely to see our children in their festive outfits! In Maths, JS have continued their work on multiplication and division focussing this week on written methods for both. In SB, the children have also continued looking at multiplication and division, focusing their learning on the 3, 6 and 9 times tables. In English, we have continued with our portal story text, Elf Road, learning the story of Billy's adventure through the mysterious door. This week we have focussed on some more of the tools from the writing toolkit including ed clauses and apostrophes for possession. In addition to this, we have also looked at the language and vocabulary used by the writer and began planning our own versions. We have all carried on reading our class novels focussing on fluency when reading out loud, learning new vocabulary and looking more at comprehension skills thinking about how characters might feel at certain points in the story! In PE this week, both classes have really enjoyed playing team games and JS have looked at different rolls in gymnastics working independently, in pairs and as part of small groups. In RE, SB have looked at symbols of Christmas and how light is represented whilst JS wrote their own cinquain poems on expressing faith and beliefs. We would like to say a huge thank you to all of those families who came to join us for our Christmas craft afternoon, although the classrooms were very busy, it was great to see so many of you! The children thoroughly enjoyed making their handprint Christmas trees with your help.

Year 6 - CM/CH

Firstly, we would just like to thank all the family and friends that came into the classrooms to help the children with their Christmas crafts, it was lovely to see you all. The children in Year 6 have had another busy week despite it been shorter than expected. In English, the children explored the author's vocabulary choice to get a better understanding of how the words were related by meaning as synonyms and antonyms. They also looked at the author's choice of sentence structure and had a go at writing their own in preparation for their own persuasive writing. In reading, the children were introduced to a poem by Valerie Bloom called 'The River', they were able to read the poem with growing confidence, expression and intonation as well as comment on the vocabulary used by the author and retrieve and infer some of the information. In maths, the children have continued to expand their knowledge of fractions, looking at improper fractions and mixed numbers and using these to add, subtract and even multiply them. We have also explored some polygon shapes in geometry, recognising them as well as beginning to access reasoning and problem solving questions based on them. In RE, the children have worked in small groups to plan and prepare their very own PowerPoint presentations explaining what Christingle is and what it symbolises. They will then use these presentations to go to each class in the school to present and help the children make their own Christingle. In Geography, class CM have looked at how Athens and Corfu are similar and dissimilar in relation to their human and physical features and explain how these features relate to their population. Finally, the children had the pleasure to watch a live music concert; the music service performed an interactive concert showcasing a range of musical instruments.