



# Newsletter

East Whitby Weekly News

Date 15.12.23

**Genies:** Our story of the week is Stick Man and it's really helping us get into the Christmas spirit! Not to mention our fantastic performance in the nativity this week, the genies have worked so hard practising actions and learning all the songs. We are all so proud of you!

**Pixies** This week we have read Stick Man, we were so excited when he saved Santa! In Phonics our new sound was n and in maths we have been substitising pictures with 1, 2 or 3 items. Our week has been all about the Nativity! The Pixies did an amazing job telling the story of the first Christmas. They made us very proud for not only singing, doing the actions and dancing but they did it all with a smile! The playground renovations are complete! Monday morning we will be out there exploring our new outdoor classroom. After Christmas we will invite you all in for a Stay and Play session so you can see for yourselves.

**Sprites:** This week we've enjoyed having family in to watch our 'Little Nativity' performance. What an amazing job you all did, we are very proud of how well everyone remembered their words, sang the songs and did the actions. Thank you to our brilliant audience!

**Elves** Year 1 have been very busy rehearsing for their nativity this week. KS1 have completed their dress rehearsal of their nativity for the school and cant wait to share it with their families on Monday. We have had a split digraph revision week this week in phonics and we have been started our RE question 'What would we give baby Jesus if he was born in our town today?'

**Phoenixes:** The children have produced some fantastic writing this week. They have been learning about fact families in maths. They have enjoyed Christmas crafts. After the success of the Key Stage 1 Nativity dress rehearsal, they are really looking forward to performing it to parents on Monday.

**Unicorns** In Year 3 this week, we have continued comparing the Poles and exploring which animals and plant-life we might find there. We have also been working hard on our 3,4 and 11 times tables! The Year 3s have examined different ways of communicating online and how to be safe doing this, and we have investigated what the true meaning of Christmas is to Christians around the world.

**Centauris:** our work this week has all focused on the work of the artist Wassily Kandinsky. We have looked at his abstract pieces and thought about what they make us feel, think and see, we listened to music like he did and tried to draw what we heard! We have also looked at techniques Kandinsky used for colour mixing and creating his pieces, using both water colour and oil pastel. We have imitated his work and next week will be creating pieces in the same abstract style he used.

**Griffins** This week year 5 have started writing their science fiction stories. It has been great to see all of the children's imaginative ideas - we have been blown away by their effort!

In R.E we have focused on the Christmas story and have compared the Christmas Gospels from Luke and Matthew. In Maths we looked at subtracting fractions.

Gnomes ☺

This week in maths we have been looking at matching; we matched colours, shapes and made matching towers. In phonics we have been learning the sound 'k'. We have been mark making by dipping Christmas tree branches in paint. We celebrated a birthday this week too!!

**Dragons** Another brilliant and hard-working week for year 6! We have finished writing the first draft of our ghost stories and they are sounding great! In art, we have been practising our drawing and shading techniques. We also completed a reading SATS paper this week and the children did amazing!

**Pegasus** Pegasus loved watching their friends in the KS1 nativity this week and also watching the EYFS nativity. We have made calendars and talked about how after December a new year will start. We are continuing our stickman book in our literacy group and moving onto the 4 times table in maths. We ended the week with some Pegasus children attending dodgeball. ☺

The penultimate newsletter of 2023! What a busy old week it has been here, like we said last week we don't "wind down" for Christmas here and the amount of incredible quality work being produced is a testament to that!

This week we have seen some truly beautiful work taking place, we watched the younger children in school performing their Nativity plays for the rest of school, EYFS then performed for families, and it was simply beautiful! Key stage one will be performing for their families next week and you will be amazed by how confident they are and how well they do on stage. 😊

We also had some great ambassadors for school going out into the local community to spread a little Christmas cheer, thank you to the children who took part, it can sometimes be a little overwhelming for them, but they did incredibly well and made us all so proud. We also had a group taking part in an inclusive dodgeball afternoon today, they have had a great time and will make a formidable dodgeball team in the future.

This week we were all treated to a Panto in school, we watched Sinbad the Sailor, it was hilarious, and the children loved every second of it. Things like this wouldn't be possible without the ongoing support of our phenomenal Friends of East Whitby and their fund raising efforts, so thank you all so very much for all you do.

We were also visited this week by the Enquire Learning Trust Safeguarding lead, Mrs Cooper, she was blown away by how well the children spoke about the systems in place to keep them safe, who they could talk to and what they would do if they ever needed help at school. Well done to all the children and all the staff for all their work in PHSE, in building relationships and in the personal development work we do too. This place is pretty awesome really!



## Star of the week!



Pixies	The whole class 😊
Sprites	The whole class 😊
Elves	Oliver 😊
Phoenixes	The whole class 😊
Unicorns	Ellie 😊
Centaurs	The whole class 😊
Griffins	Faye 😊
Dragons	Lola 😊
Pegasus	Freddie 😊
Gnomes	Harry 😊

### Residential visits.

We are a little saddened to see that there are a number of children who expressed an interest in coming to the Y6 and Y4 residential who are now not coming, or who have not paid deposits. As a school we cannot pay for all the children to attend and if there are not enough children going the trips may not be able to go ahead. We appreciate that some children won't be going, and this has been discussed with us at length already. **Any children not attending the residential visits must come to school as normal. These are normal school days, attendance at school is compulsory. Any children not attending school as they are on day trips with family, will go down as unauthorised absence and may lead to fines being issued by NYCC.**

### Attendance this week

Sprites	90%
Elves	88%
Phoenixes	98%
Unicorns	89%
Centaurs	95%
Griffins	96%
Dragons	91%
Pegasus	90%

### Dates

- **18.12.23** Key Stage 1 Nativity
- **20.12.23** 1:30 Carol service at Saint Mary's Church. Please come a long and support this beautiful East Whitby tradition
- **21.12.23:** Non uniform day, Christmas lunch and Parties
- **21.12.23** Hope assembly 9:30 thank you to those who asked to attend we will see you in the school hall at 9:30...bring a tissue or two!
- **21.12.23 @11 am** children singing at Larpool Care home (letters sent to those attending)
- **22.12.23 end of term school closes @2.15.**
- **9.1.24 school reopens to children**

## East Whitby in the Community.

A group of Year 4 and 6 children have been out spreading Christmas joy in the local community, singing at 2 homes for the elderly in the run up to Christmas. They chatted with the residents and treated them to some beautiful Christmas songs too. Well done to everyone who took part.



Panto Fun at East Whitby!

As Christmas fast approaches, we know some people will be popping out to buy the staff gifts, while we really appreciate the generosity and thought behind this, we want to say that this is not something we expect and don't want people to feel pressured to do so. We really enjoy working with your children and a card, picture or just a thank you is all we need! We will always be massively grateful for parent's generosity but please let us reduce the stress a little for you all. 😊



## EARLY YEARS FUNDING CHANGES

A PLACE IN ONE OF OUR TRUST'S NURSERIES COULD SECURE YOUR CHILD A PLACE IN OUR RECEPTION CLASS

the enquire  
learning trust

15/30 HOURS  
FUNDING  
AVAILABLE

Speak to the school office  
for more information

Funding changes from April  
2024

Increased eligibility for  
working parents for 2 year  
olds

SCAN  
BELOW FOR  
FURTHER  
DETAILS



SCAN ME



A huge thank you to the Trattle Knags Trust who have generously thought of some of our families this Christmas. 😊

**merry CHRISTMAS CRAFTS**  
AT WHITBY LIBRARY

JOIN US FOR A FUN SESSION OF MAKING A SNOWMAN HANGER & CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS. WE WILL HAVE STENCILS, HOLE PUNCHES AND INK STAMPS TOO! WE ARE EXCITED TO SEE WHAT YOU CAN CREATE!

**TUESDAY 12TH DEC**  
4.30PM-6PM

**SATURDAY 16TH DEC**  
10:30AM TO 12 PM

AGES 5 - 11 YEARS

£2 PER CHILD

PRE BOOKING ESSENTIAL  
POP INTO THE LIBRARY OR  
CALL ON 01609 534350 OR  
EMAIL whitby.library@northyorks.gov.uk



To everyone on the FOEW and to everyone who attended the Christmas Fair! The final total raised was over £900!

### East Whitby Carol Service.

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> @1:30 is our Carol Service at Saint Mary's and we would love to see you joining us and sharing this really special tradition. Unless previously arranged, all children are to attend as this is an event in school time. We will be back at school for the end of the school day so any children being collected from school rather than church can be collected as normal on that day. The children have worked really hard preparing for this, we can't wait to share it with you all.