



RYE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER TERM TWO



Dear Families,

Firstly, thank you for all of your support in attending our various Christmas events held so far. Your children really do love seeing you at events and as staff, we very much appreciate it too! In this same spirit, we hope to see you all this afternoon at our annual school Christmas Fair! All of the children have made something in class, which they would love for you to come and buy at the fair. Everything is very reasonably priced and we know it will be a very enjoyable experience, with a special surprise visitor also making an appearance!

This Christmas, please do remember though that it is not about the “presents” it’s about the “PRESENCE”. Your presence with your children and with your families is far more important than the presents you buy. When your children grow up– they will not remember all the presents you bought them, but they will remember the presence they felt when you were making memories with them. Christians also remember the presence of “Emmanuel” - God with us! The present that God gave mankind was his physical presence in the gift of his son Jesus, who came to earth as a baby, to live with us as ‘God with us’. What a gift! The poet Josie Whitehead encapsulates this wonderfully below– those of you who are ‘eagle eyed’ may remember that this is the poem that the Children’s leadership team, performed so beautifully at the Key stage 2 Christmas Carol service.

Let’s remember Christ in Christmas

As we celebrate his birth.

We’ll think about the life he led

In his days upon this earth.

He was born, not as a rich man,

Or in a palace like a king,

Yet, for his welcome to our world

God’s angels came to sing.

His goals were not as ours are -

To pass exams at school.

He never owned a house in fact,

And never came to rule.

His parents both were poor folk.

His father worked with wood

And Jesus was a carpenter,

A trade considered good.

He never travelled far from home

As people do today.

He spoke of love and caring,

And he taught us how to pray.

These words which Jesus taught us,

That should fill our human minds

Are: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself

And care for all mankind.’

Best Wishes,

Miss Martin

Headteacher





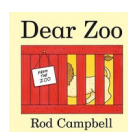
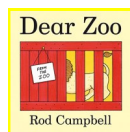
STARFISH



This term in Starfish the children have been learning all about wild animals. Children have enjoyed making their own giraffe headbands and lion pictures. We have learnt the story 'Dear Zoo' and 'Handa's Surprise'. Children really enjoyed tasting all the fruits from Handa's Surprise and being animal explorers.

Our children also had a wonderful day dressing up for 'One World Day' and experienced tasting foods from around the world.

The Starfish children have been focussing on Christmas crafts for the last few weeks and look forward to sharing their creations with you.



MINNOWS



Minnows have enjoyed a wonderful term learning about and celebrating all the differences that there are in the world. This term's highlights include: creating big Kandinsky inspired art at Forest School, 'One World Celebration' day where we tried new foods, listened to music and learnt dances from around the world. We have also just returned from a wonderful trip to Lamb House to experience what Christmas was like in the past.





CLOWNFISH



What a busy Autumn Term 2! We started the term with a fantastic visit from the planetarium which the children enjoyed. In English we wrote an account of our experiences.

The children have enjoyed learning about some 'Intrepid Explorers' such as Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus. We held our first Clownfish class sharing assembly, where the children read facts about the solar system and sang a song about the planets. They did such an amazing job and were very confident. We were very proud!

We have been busy learning songs and getting ready for 'The Big Little Nativity!' We have really enjoyed getting ready for the show and have loved learning the catchy songs.

In math's we have completed our unit on addition and subtraction and 2-D and 3-D shapes. We have been counting up in 2's and exploring the 100's square and finding patterns. We are looking forward to Spring Term 1 in January.



SEA TURTLES

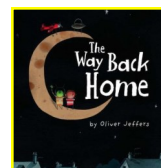
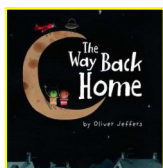


Sea Turtles have thoroughly enjoyed their, 'Intrepid Explorers' topic. The children especially enjoyed their planetarium experience with the astronomers from the Observatory Science Centre, Herstmonceux. In English this term, we have been reading 'The Way Back Home', by Oliver Jeffers. Sea Turtles have written their own stories based on this book.

In Science, we have been learning about the uses of everyday materials. Sea Turtles have identified and compared the suitability of a range of everyday materials. They also learnt how the shapes of objects made from some materials can be changed.

In Design Technology we have designed and made our own alien puppets.

In History, we have been learning about Neil Armstrong and the first moon landing.





BARRACUDAS



This term in Barracudas we have been learning the story of 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes and written our own monster stories and poems based on it. In science we've learnt about magnets and forces and made our own magnetic games. In DT we have found out about 'pneumatics' and made our own monsters with a pneumatic device to open the mouth. This was really tricky so thank goodness we had lots of parent helpers. What a busy term we've had!



ORCAS



Orcas have been looking at 'The Iron man' By Ted Hughes. We have studied written styles and structures within the book. We then used similar techniques to write our own short story. Next, we looked at the poem 'The coming of the Iron Man' By Brenda Williams. We studied the poetic devices used throughout the poem and created our very own poems. Our last task in English was to write a book review. We looked at the key features of a book review and then wrote our own about 'The Iron Man' By Ted Hughes.

In maths we finished our learning of addition and subtraction, with multiple exchanges, using the column method. We then went on to develop our multiplication and division skills, focusing on 6, 9, 7, 11 and 12-times tables.

In science we have been learning about forces. We have experimented with push and pull forces, looking at different surfaces that cause friction. We went on to learn about magnets; experimenting with different materials (to find out which materials are magnetic) and how magnets repel and attract





SHARKS



What a term it has been! We have learnt so much about space in our Science work, English Writing and Book Talk.

We have had so much fun learning 'Rocking around the Christmas Tree' in Music using the ukulele and spent time pronouncing and writing French words and phrases for different animals and our family.

In Computing, we have been designing our own webpages and learning about Internet safety. Some of the pupil's designs were really creative and they really tried hard.

Maths this term has mainly focused on fractions. Most pupils have made real progress here and hopefully feel happier tackling these in upcoming mocks.

Thank you to everyone that managed to come to our parents' afternoon too. We had a great time creating some amazing art work in the style of Peter Thorp.

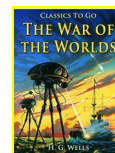
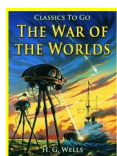
It was a great success and who knew so many of you were secret artists? Finally, may myself and Mrs Borthwick wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



MARLIN



3,2,1...Blast off! This term we've loved our Space topic which has inspired our learning across the curriculum; it has also brought up some amazing questions like 'Does Mars have layers like Earth?' 'Did God create all of the planets?' and so, so many more. In English, we've written some tension filled stories based on 'War of the Worlds' as well as written and performed some Mars transmissions, inspired by the film 'The Martian.' In Art, we studied abstract artist Peter Thorpe and created some beautifully colourful space pictures with the help of parents during our Share and Learn session. Our Science has been looking at the more scientific aspects of Earth, space and all of the planets. We've also enjoyed getting ready for Christmas with some singing, crafting and ukelele playing!





DOLPHINS



In Dolphins this term, we have been focusing on 'Earth and Space'. The children have been so engaged with this topic and we've had great discussions about our solar system - this includes writing a transmission from Mars! Our class also thoroughly enjoyed recreating Peter Thorpe's art style. We've also definitely worked out that we much prefer to learn through songs, you should try asking one of us to sing a science or French song! Merry Christmas everyone.



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Children's Integrated Therapy Services



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we care





Attendance News



New Year– New Start

We are excited to share with you our 'Fresh Start' approach to attendance.

Starting in January we are increasing the whole school's responsibility and awareness for improving attendance. Whole school responsibility not only includes all staff members but also all pupils and parents/carers.

Fresh Start **RAG**-Rated Emails

In a slight change to the termly **RAG**-Rated emails, we will now be sending 'Fresh Start' emails at the beginning of each term. These emails will still be **RAG**-Rated but this time the colouring will reflect the attendance of the previous term only. This will give families a fresh start each term and an opportunity to 'Go Green!' the following term. We will include your child's Termly attendance as well as the yearly figure, along with the number of sessions they may have missed (a session is a morning or afternoon).

'Fresh Start' texts will also be sent on a Friday afternoon to parents of any children that have been absent during that week. We know some children find it difficult returning after having time off so we want them to know that it's a new week and a fresh start on Monday.



Celebrate 100% Attendance!

We will be celebrating, in class each week, the children achieving 100% attendance. Parents will receive a notification via text and the children will receive 20 Dojo points and a well done from their class.



**We look forward to
welcoming you back in
school on Wednesday
3rd January 2024**

