EMSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Enjoy, Persevere, Succeed

NEWSLETTER: Friday 6th December 2024



Welcome to this week's newsletter. This week has been very busy with lots of exciting things happening in school. The Christmas trees and decorations have gone up and, after the Christmas Light turn-on in Emsworth last Friday night, everyone is feeling very festive. We were so proud of the children at the Christmas light turn-on last Friday, they sang their songs beautifully! A big thank you to all the adults within school who came down to support the children, this is my third year of attending this event and I am always very grateful for the staff who give up their time to come with us to this event. Thank you in particular to Mrs Toghill and Mrs Dorn for organising and leading the singing.

This week, our Year 3 children have had their residential visits to Minstead, they have had a wonderful time and if you follow us on Facebook, you will have seen regular updates with pictures so you can see what the children have been getting up to when they have been away.

Also this week, we have had our KS1 nativity performance for the older children and then the first of the performances for the parents. We are very proud of what the children have achieved, learning that amount of lines and songs is not easy and they were fantastic!

Year 5 have made their natural decorations with the team from Brooke Meadow this week and, weather permitting, will be taking them down to Brooke Meadow to hang them in the trees and sing some Christmas carols with the Lord Mayor on Thursday 12th December, please do join us if you can.

Next week is an equally busy week with the last KS1 nativity for parents and then our two Year R nativity performances for parents. And don't forget, next Friday, the 13th December, is our Christmas market day, run by EPSA. This is one of the most anticipated events for the children so we are really looking forward to this. More information can be found on the poster at the bottom of this newsletter.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter, we hope you all have a lovely weekend. See you bright and early on Monday morning.

Best wishes,
Rebecca Mitchell
Headteacher

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Celebrating the Children

Our Stars of the Week this week are:

Class	Name	Reason
Badgers	Buddy Walker-Richards	Buddy, you are an amazing member of the class! You always work so hard and you are an excellent role model for the rest of your peers to look up to. Well done!
Hedgehogs	Rory Mitchell	Rory, you have grown in confidence and are really showing us all that you can do now, especially in your writing. Well done!
Squirrels	Finley Pritchard	Finley, you are a little ray of sunshine! You try your best in everything you do and are so kind in helping others around you. Well done!
Rabbits	Zara Pascoe	Zara, what a shining star you are! You impressed everyone with your wonderful singing and clear speaking in the nativity, we are so proud of you!
Puffins	Teddy Babb	Teddy, you always work hard and try your best! You have demonstrated great concentration in maths this week - keep it up!
Penguins	Ruben Wood	Ruben, we are so proud of the conscious effort you have put into your learning this term, particularly with reading. Well done!
Lions	Due to Year 3 being on their residential at Minstead, their stars of the week will return soon.	
Tigers		
Kangaroos	Erin Lichfield	Erin, you are such a hardworking and conscientious member of the class and we are so happy that you continue to develop the confidence to contribute to class discussions, well done!
Koalas	Alex Murray	Alex, you have worked so hard and been an all-around superstar in class—your amazing effort has truly shone through, well done!
Owls	Emilia Mawer	Emilia, your maturity, kindness and consideration for others is so admired and appreciated. You always put others first and are an exemplary pupil at Emsworth Primary, thank you!
Otters	Lillie-Rose Wood	Lillie-Rose, we were very impressed with your perseverance when converting improper fractions. Keep up the good work!
Flamingos	Sam Nicholas	Sam, we are so proud of the progress you have made this year. You are trying your best in every subject and bring a great sense of humour to the class, thank you!
Toucans	Ava Celik	Ava, you are such a hardworking member of the class. Thank you for persevering with your learning and for having such a positive attitude. Well done!

Award	Child or Class Receiving the Award	Reason
Headteacher's Award	Esmae Butt	Esmae is receiving the headteacher's award this week because she consistently demonstrates the school values. She has been taking part in forest school and has been a real credit to the school; she even led one of the whole-group meditation sessions in one of the most recent sessions. The forest school leaders are very impressed with Esmae's approach and attitude, just as we are in school. Well done Esmae, what a star!
Attendance Award	Toucans	99.29%
Winning House	Hayling	All the children in this house worked hard with their learning and following the school rules this week and earnt more house points than any other house, well done everyone!

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Early Years (EYFS)

Aliens Love Underpants

Space Exploration

Following on from our aliens last week, we have been finding out about Space, astronauts and rockets this week.

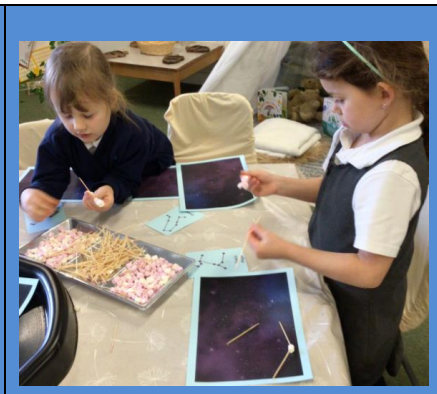
As usual at this time of year, we have also been singing our Christmas songs and been on the stage for rehearsals. All of the children are singing really well and we can't wait for you to see the show next week!

Wednesday 11th December – 2:15pm

Thursday 12th December – 2:15pm

The Early Years Team






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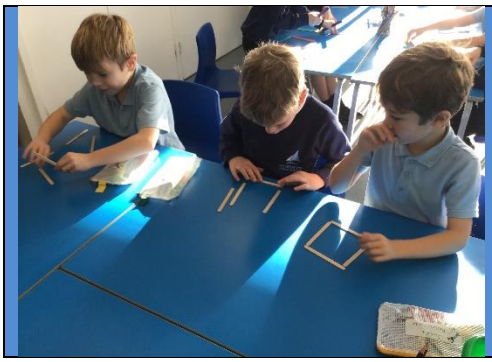


Years 1 and 2 (Key Stage One)

This week in KS1, the children have been straightening their halos and fetching their crooks for their last few dress rehearsals! They have worked so hard, and we are so glad we got to share their wonderful performances with some of you this week. If you haven't seen the nativity yet, then you are in for such a treat on Monday!

On Tuesday 10th December it is Year 1 Fairy-tale Day, so the children can come into school dressed as a character from a fairy-tale (Jack and the Beanstalk, Hansel and Gretel, The Gingerbread man etc). We can't wait to have all kinds of story fun with the children.

This week in Year 2, we have also started a new learning journey in English by reading the story 'Field Trip to the Moon' by John Hare. In maths this week, we have been reinforcing our recognition of 2D and 3D shapes. The children have been making and manipulating shapes and counting their sides and vertices. We finished the week by learning to draw 2D shapes; this was also great opportunity for the children to develop their ruler skills.





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Years 3 and 4 (Key Stage Two)

Year 3 have had a fantastic week at Minstead Study Centre. They have represented the school beautifully and have taken part in a wide range of activities from stream dipping, to traffic surveys, to orienteering and campfires. It is such a lovely experience for the children and they really enjoyed themselves. They have all come home with their Minstead name on their wooden necklaces, along with the beads they earnt for different reasons including good teamwork. Once they have caught up on sleep, they should be able to explain their names and the beads to you.

This week Year 4 have been working like super troopers in all areas of the curriculum. In science, we learnt about the water cycle and how water is continually recycled -we even have our very own miniature water cycle on display in the classroom so we can monitor evaporation, condensation and precipitation. In English, the children are enjoying our text 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. This week they wrote instructions on how to make a firework! And today, the Kangaroos and Koalas loved the Santa dash this morning - especially Mr McKay who skipped for half an hour straight!





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Years 5 and 6 (Key Stage Two)

It's been another busy week for the Owls and Otters. On Tuesday morning, we welcomed a lovely team of volunteers from Brook Meadow. The children spent the morning creating natural tree decorations using willow, ivy, wooden discs, pinecones, raffia and wool. Their creativity and willingness to help and support one another was inspiring – well done Year 5! We will be dressing the trees at Brook Meadow (the main meadow next to the stream) on Thursday 12th December at 1:40pm and would like to invite you to join us for a Christmas carol or two, chocolate brownies and a visit from the Mayor!

The children have also been consolidating much of their learning this week. In maths, we have moved onto our Fractions unit – we have been impressed with how much the children have retained from last year. In science, the children created informative posters on 'forces'; many of the children were able to articulate how gravity, motion, levers and pulleys work.

Today, we welcomed Christmas into the classroom and an energetic bunch of Santas and elves took to the school grounds for our 'Santa Dash'. We have also set up our Christmas post box and begun decorating our classroom doors. Next week will be our last swimming session. Please ensure your child has working goggles (!) as they will be assessed and given their certificate of length achievement. Have a lovely weekend.

This week, Year 6 participated in a workshop with the MHST (Mental Health Support Team) focused on CARE: Coping and Resilience Education. The aim of the session was to help the children understand that negative emotions are normal and serve an important role in keeping us safe. After discussing the concept of mental health, Gaby made sure the children understood the meanings of "coping" and "resilience." She then introduced the five core emotions: happy, calm, angry, worried, and sad. Gaby invited the children to share how they feel when they experience anger, worry, or sadness. She explained that these emotions are the body's natural responses to stress, and that physical symptoms like stomach aches, butterflies in the stomach, or headaches are completely normal, even though they may feel unsettling. Gaby emphasized the importance of these emotions and shared strategies to help cope with them. The children discussed the "Happy Breathing" technique they practice in class, and Gaby highlighted how effective this can be. She also demonstrated "butterfly hugs" (where you hug yourself and take four slow breaths in and out), explaining that this simple exercise releases oxytocin, which helps to calm the body. Gaby was fantastic at explaining some tricky concepts very clearly. The workshop was both informative and engaging, and the children found it helpful. We were impressed by how much they had remembered from our My Happy Mind lessons and it was great to see it all link together!

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