

# Learning is exciting at Wheatfields Primary!

**Reception** This week in EYFS the Christmas magic has been ramped up a notch! We have been busy making and writing cards for friends and family, creating decorations and we were visited by some very cheeky, dancing reindeers! The children LOVED seeing the reindeer dancing in their classroom and it sparked great excitement – we made lists, wrote about their antics, role played as reindeer and made our own antlers. We have learnt all of the phase 2 sounds now and so have been focusing on consolidating recognition and our blending skills. Thank you for supporting your child at home with this, we really can see their confidence growing as they practise more. We also introduced numberblock 9 and thought about different ways to represent him. We were also using counters and objects to combine and add amounts.

**Year 1** We have carried out not one but TWO science investigations this week! We focused on 'sight' and 'touch' and this means that we have covered the '5 senses'. In English, children have been planning and writing a letter to the Jolly Christmas Postman. They have been adding exclamation marks to their writing, using the pronoun 'I' and using the word 'and' to join ideas together. In Maths, we have been investigating numbers 11-20 and exploring tens and ones. The Phonic sounds that we have taught this week are: **ey** and the split vowel digraphs **e\_e**, **o\_e** and **u\_e**. What better way to end the week than with a little bit of Christmas decoration-making! We have one more week to go and lots of excited Year 1s! J

**Year 2 This week** In English, we have been reading different kinds of texts (information, poetry and stories) and answering questions to show what we understand. We have been developing our inference skills as well as our understanding of vocabulary. We have written letters to Father Christmas and in our spellings, we have added –ed to words to create words in the past tense. **In Maths** we have been getting ready to add in columns by partitioning 2 digit numbers using Diens equipment.

**In History** we have been comparing life in a castle with our lives today. We have also been busy making Christmas cards, Christmas decorations and magnificent crowns for our banquet (Christmas dinner) next week. **Next week** in English, we will be writing letters from a young knight back home to his mum and dad. We will be reading information about life in a castle and answering questions. In our spellings, we have been learning about the prefix un- and the –dz sound. We also hope to hear back from Father Christmas! **In Maths** we will be looking at number bonds to 100. We will also be finishing our Christmas goodies and creating some castle themed art work.

**Year 3** It's been great fun in year 3 this week. We have been doing some more of our maths. We have got much more confident with adding single digits onto three digit numbers. Our topic this week has been all about the United Kingdom. We started off by locating the four parts of the U.K. and learning about the capital cities. We have looked at a variety of different maps in the atlas and talked about what the maps tell us. It was fun looking at the atlas and developing our map reading skills. We have used our new skills to help us find big cities in the United Kingdom as well as mountains and rivers. We are still working hard with all of our curriculum work but..... It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

**Year 4** Another busy week as we count down to Christmas. The children have all worked very hard completing their end of term assessments in reading, SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and maths. They've all done a great job. Class 9 have finished filming their Christmas Cracker performance and can't wait for you to watch it. We are also busy writing our first-person diary recounts as Jub from the Lost Happy Endings and have started our new RE topic about Christmas around the world. We will be investigating heating and cooling in science and have been improving our tackling skills in football.

**Year 5** What a week in Year 5! It's been full of festive cheer and creativity. This week we have been making decorations and writing letters and poems for a local care home; we hope we can put a smile on people's faces with our words and heartfelt well wishes. Year 5 have been creative this week and had a go at making a Lego robot! We have used our knowledge of coding and debugging to instruct the robot to move forwards and backwards, carrying presents for Santa! Also this week, we finished our festive video ready for you to enjoy at home.

**Year 6** This week has been a 'testing' week for Year Six, especially as they have been completing their practice tests ready for the SATs in May. They have also been perfecting their Christmas Carol chapter writing; some children have written PAGE UPON PAGE, which will certainly take many hours to mark! We think everyone is ready to begin the countdown to Christmas. Mr Streeter is even about to put up a Christmas tree with lights, so it must be time!

**Music** The word of the week is 'harmony' which is when 2 or more sounds are heard at the same time. We normally expect harmony to sound 'pleasing' but sometimes chords which are more of a clash are used to produce a certain effect. It also comes down to personal preference! In Y6 we continued learning about Victorian music by listening to 'Down at the Old Bull and Bush'. We noticed how many beats were in a bar and identified the instruments in the band. We used adjectives to describe the mood of the music. We also used skills to brush up on the more difficult parts of Jingle Bells before playing the tune together as an ensemble. In Y5 we continued learning about Glenn Miller by listening to Little Brown Jug. We followed the structure and noticed that it was written as a Theme and Variations. We had some time to listen to some of our favourite Christmas songs and used our 'non-singing' techniques for joining in! In Y3 and 4 we listened to the overture to the Nutcracker ballet and noticed how it sets the scene for the story to come. We also listened to and identified features in the dances of the Chinese Dolls and the Reed Flutes.