

Year 1 Newsletter

Friday 18th December 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

What a fun, festive week we have had! We started the week off with our Christmas party. We played games, danced and enjoyed an ice cream. On Tuesday, we wrote about our cheeky elves Cookie and Buddy. They have been causing mischief all week! On Wednesday, we practised our collage skills and created moveable Christmas cards. We enjoyed a whole class assembly on Thursday, where we listened to the Christmas story – we have really gotten into the Christmas spirit!



The children have also been busy creating a special Christmas video for you to enjoy. Please go onto the school website and click on the “**News**” section to find the clip or click on the link attached (<https://www.woodhouse.calderdale.sch.uk/news/video-year-1-at-christmas/>). We hope you enjoy watching it as much as we enjoyed doing it!

On Thursday, the children were sent home with a “Y1 English Booklet”. This booklet will provide you with information and strategies for supporting your child at home with reading and spelling. Usually, we would invite you for a face to face meeting but due to the current restrictions we have made a video to go alongside the booklet that can be found on the school website. You can find this on the “Curriculum” section by scrolling down to “**Year 1 and Beyond**” or by clicking on the following link. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=lmdv7CBaTxA&feature=youtu.be>)

Thank you to all the parents that we were able to speak to during the Parent Teacher Consultations; It was lovely to speak to you all. As discussed during your phone call, we have sent home two phonic sound mats:

1. A Phase 3 mat (purple) - to help your child become over familiar with the sounds taught in Reception
2. A Phase 5 mat (pink) - to support the learning of the new alternative vowel sounds we have started to introduce.

Both these mats will be useful for your child when completing activities set for homework and for when they are spelling unfamiliar words in their writing. We have also sent home a copy of the common exception words that your child is currently working on. If you would like to support your child at home with spelling these words, please practise the ones that have a dot next to them.

Just a reminder, on Thursday 7th January we will be launching our ‘Day and Night’ topic. On the day, children will need to come in normal uniform but we invite them to bring their pyjamas to change into at school. During the course of the day, we will discuss examples of light sources, as well as reflecting upon ways in which light is used as a symbol within many faiths. We will also begin our learning about nocturnal and diurnal animals.

Finally, we would like to thank you for your continued support this year and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday 4th January.

Many Thanks
Miss Vine and Miss Hepworth

