



Clawton Primary School Newsletter | 13th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have really started to feel the festive spirit at Clawton over the past two weeks!

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the Christmas Craft fair. The children used their creativity character virtue to create the lovely decorations and Christmas treats to sell.

The first Reading Café at Clawton was a great success and it was brilliant to see so many of you come and join us for a cup of tea or coffee and to share a book. We are already looking forward to the next one and will send out details in the new year.

Thank you to all of the staff who helped to organise and put on the Christmas Pyjama evening. It added to the Christmas spirit around the school!

With one last week left of school, we are looking forward to our Christmas dinner, Carol Service and our Mulled Wine and Mince Pies (for parents!). I am extremely grateful for the Clawton Staff Team and the PTA for their dedication to putting on exciting events for our community.

Attached to this letter is our Fridge Poster with useful reminders about uniform, attendance (and how to report this), times of the day and how to book dinners etc. as a gentle reminder.

Kind regards,

Mrs Steyn



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Key dates:

18th December – Christmas lunch and

Festive jumpers or colours day

19th December – Carol Service 2pm in
the Church

20th December – Mulled Wine and
Mince Pies (2.30pm)

LAST DAY OF TERM

6th January – FIRST DAY BACK

Focus virtue this week:

Service

Owls Class - *Where Do I Live?*

Academic: This week Owls have been looking at what made their homes special. As our Talk for Writing text was about 'A Wonderful World' Owls have been looking at where we live and what makes it a wonderful place to live in. Looking at space, the Earth, the UK, Devon, Clawton and then finally their own homes. We had answers such as their family is wonderful, trees, rainbows and flowers. We then looked at Christmas and had a discussion about what makes Christmas wonderful for them. Owls made a group collage and stuck all their favourite things about Christmas.

So, Christmas has arrived in preschool, letters to Santa and snow play have been the focus this week. Owls have been busy cutting out pictures of some toys and items they would like for Christmas and then posting their letters in the post box.

In Maths, hot chocolate was on the menu! Well, marshmallows mainly. They have been counting their marshmallows that go in their hot chocolate pictures. The best part of this activity was actually getting to eat the marshmallows at the end of the activity.



Character: This first term has flown by and the children have been excellent at displaying many character virtues. Hot chocolate rewards are coming in thick and fast with the whole Owl class to receive one from Mrs Steyn next week for their courage and critical thinking.

The children had completed a group poster of all the things that make Christmas wonderful for them, and wanted to show some of the teachers and big children.

This week Herbie & Rex enjoyed their hot chocolate reward for displaying the character virtue of HELPFULNESS. Both owls are always offering a helping hand when needed, and have done some super tidying up! Well done boys!



Community: Owls are all super excited for Christmas this year! We had a Christmas Tree kindly donated to us from Mole Valley Farmers and the children enjoyed decorating the tree with tinsel and baubles. They enjoyed making a star too! To say thank you, Owls made Mole Valley Farmers a thank you card.

Owls enjoyed having a special visitor in this week from Badger class, Oscar Barriball came in and played a stringed instrument called a Dulcimer. The Dulcimer is a fretted string instrument of the Zither family, typically with three or four strings.



This week, we have also enjoyed our Christmas craft fayre. It was lovely to see the children's creations. We made some Christmas apple chutney, magical reindeer food and bags of Christmas sweets. We also have a reindeer who needs a name! This is still ongoing as we have a few names left. So if you want to have a guess or another go, please pop into preschool before or after school to choose your name! We will be announcing the winning name next week before we break up!



Digital and Innovation: Through their exploration about how houses are made - Owls have loved the story 'The Three Little Pigs' They have been re-enacting the story building their own houses. They have used different resources and loved using the plastic bricks and building walls. They had a box as a cooking pot where the wolf fell in and burnt his bottom! We had a discussion about what their own houses looked like and what they were made from.



Hedgehogs and Squirrels

Academic:

The year 2 children have made a fantastic start on writing their own versions of 'The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse.' They are bringing all of their previous learning together and using their plans to ensure they incorporate expanded noun phrases, adverbs, past tense verbs, third person pronouns and time conjunctions into their stories. They will now respond to feedback and edit their work ready for display.

Character:

Last week we enjoyed an environmental workshop from Devon Waste and thought about ways in which we can be carers of our world by recycling or reusing our rubbish. We explored a variety of objects and sorted them according to the materials they were made from. We then listened to ways in which we can take part in recycling at home and enjoyed making a poster to stick on our fridges to help remind us how our rubbish should be sorted. Sally was very impressed with how creative and resourceful we are when reusing our rubbish for junk modelling!



Community:

We had a great time at our film night this week. The children were amazing and it was so lovely to get cosy and snuggle up to watch Arthur Christmas! We are definitely feeling more festive now! Thank you so much for supporting this fundraiser and helping to raise money to put towards activities to enhance our curriculum.



Digital and Innovation:

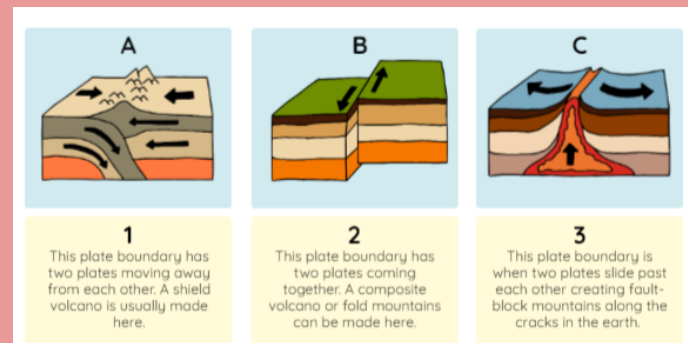
The children have continued to use maps as a stimulus for different forms of artwork and have moved on to create stained glass effect maps. They used a viewfinder to select a part of their initial designs and then glued shapes cut from tissue paper and coloured cellophane onto a sheet of acetate. We think they look really effective in the window!



Fox Class

Academic:

Over the last couple of weeks Fox Class have been writing letters to the council about the speed of the cars that drive past our school. This is part of our Formal Letter writing unit. The children have written some fantastic letters and have been resilient and motivated to continue. In Maths this week we have been continuing our Multiplication and division unit looking at Sharing and grouping and recognising the difference between the two. In Geography the children have been looking at earthquakes and Tsunamis. In Science the children have been looking at the properties of rocks and the difference between different kinds of rocks.



Character:

This week the children have completed assessments. The children have demonstrated resilience, patience, caring and determination. These assessments have been challenging as we are using a new system this year on their Chromebooks. But everyone has really tried their best.



Community:

It was lovely to open our Reading Cafe to so many parents and Grandparents this week. The children got to share their stories with you all and engage in a love of reading and reading for pleasure. We are already looking forward to the next one!

Digital and Innovation:

The children in Fox Class have been inspiring Researchers this week. They have been investigating and researching all about Earthquakes and Tsunamis looking at how much destruction these cause. The children each found a number of countries that have been affected by these natural disasters.



Badger Class –What is our world like?

Academic:

As we get to the end of term, we are completing our work on fractions, much to the relief of the children who have not enjoyed this area of learning! We have also completed our balanced arguments, some of which have been more balanced than others depending on how passionate the children have been with their chosen subject! The children have had to investigate the pros and cons of a subject and eloquently put this in writing.

Character:

Our Christmas craft fair was a great success. The children loved making their mini Christmas cakes and were all keen to buy them.



This week we also had the reading café. Once again the children were keen to show their parents how determined they were with their reading and it was great to see parents encouraging their children to be more motivated.

Community:

It was a pleasure to take the Year 6 to Shebbear College for the hockey festival last week. They made new friends with children from several schools, learnt lots of new skills and thoroughly enjoyed eating cookies at the end! They were all very respectful, thanking the minibus driving and the sports leaders for a really fun afternoon.



Digital and Innovation:

Last week we also had a visit from the Devon Waste Plant. We recapped what we had learnt last year on our visit to Plymouth and we also learnt more about infill sites and recycling. We looked at various things which had been made from recycled materials and tried to identify what the original item was. Some of them were obvious such as tyres but others such as chewing gum and babies' nappies!

