



## Foundation Stage Newsletter – Issue 9

On Monday we introduced the children to the theme of Christmas. We shared the Nativity story and explained to the children that Christians believe this is the story of the First Christmas. We have looked at the similarities and differences between the story and how we celebrate Christmas today, giving gifts like the Kings and introduced new vocabulary such as “manger” and “inn”.

The children have now watched an EHPS Christmas performance DVD to help them understand what a “show” means and soon they will be allocated a part in this year's production of 'The Nativity'. Please rest assured that we will be providing all the costumes, all the children need is a plain white t-shirt and black shorts (their PE kit) to wear underneath. We will issue 2 tickets per child nearer the time, no payment is required for these tickets.

On Wednesday we started our new Learning Challenge and began the morning with a wonderful winter wow! We explored ice, dressed up in warm winter clothes, shared winter stories, created paintings and pictures using cold colours, looked at globes and atlases to find cold countries and even watched polar bears on the whiteboard! Following our wow, we shared the story of Cuddly Dudley and used 2D shapes to create penguins, used the computer to find out facts about penguins, turned our wigwams into igloos and worked together to find ways of freeing toys which had been frozen in blocks of ice.

### READING

A great start has been made by the children with remembering their first set of sight words and sound cards. When you practise these at home with your children, little and often, it really can make a huge impact on their reading skills. If you are having trouble supporting your child with their reading books, sounds and sight words at home for any reason, please do speak to your child's class teacher.

### NEXT WEEK

Our winter focus question will be, *where do the animals go in winter?* We will be introducing the children to the term 'hibernation' and would therefore like the children to bring a bear to school on Monday that will be placed in our cave in the classroom and go into hibernation for the week! Please do not send a special bear, as they will be sent home on the following Friday.

Have a lovely weekend!