



# Monthly Newsletter

December  
2017

**Christmas Performance** Our Christmas production was a wonderful event that was a joyous expression of music, laughter and in some cases tears! Many of you left amazing comments for the children to read. Everyone had a part to play and it was a real effort of co-operation that illustrated teamwork across the school. Many thanks for your support, the children were wonderful and I am sure we can identify many budding stars for the future.

## Eagles and Toucans - London Science Museum

Toucans and Eagles had the pleasure of visiting the London Science Museum on Monday. The children represented the school brilliantly and we all learned so much. We would like to say a huge thank you to the volunteers who gave up their time on a long day, but we believe that all those who experienced the trip will have some wonderful memories as a result.

## December in School

**Puffins** In puffin class we have been learning about the traditions of Christmas through making Santa faces, repeating pattern painted Christmas lights, salt dough decorations and Christmas cards. We have looked at different counties and explored what they do for Christmas as it is different from our traditions. The children have been practising for their performance on Friday and have learned lots of songs. We have also chosen our new topic for next half term, which is Under the Sea. We have been watching a few clips about fish and the children have gotten very excited about it.

**Owls** This month the Owls have been expressing their creativity and developing their senses as they have created their own invention stories based on our class text - The Magic Porridge Pot. The Owls took their knowledge of inventions through their study of Louis Braille, and developed their own inventions that might help other people (like the giant teeth brushing machine).. or just be extremely cool (like a pool that floats through outer space). We then used our inventions to come back to fictional story writing to develop a story with a beginning (showing who, what, when, where, and why), a middle (building up and describing a problem within the story), and an ending (during which the problem is solved and a resolution found). In Maths, we have been looking at equal groups - and exploring the different ways that we can represent equal groups of objects and pictures by organising them into arrays. In addition to the excitement of our holiday extravaganzas, we held a wedding at Saint Walston Church to enhance our study of belonging within the religion of Christianity. During our science lessons, our Owls have been immersing themselves in all things animals, looking at different types of animal classifications that can be found living on land, under the sea, and up in the air. A well-earned holiday should be enjoyed by all!

**Eagles** In Eagles we have been working hard on our Christmas song - Hark the Herald Angels sing. The pupils have put in a tremendous effort and have come a long way with their singing. We continue to work hard on our calculation methods and mental fluency in mathematics. In Literacy, the children have been working so hard to meet specific targets and objectives in their creative writing. The children also showed great diligence and tenacity in their recent series of tests. Finally, I would like to thank Eagles for continuing to come into school with real enthusiasm, despite some fun but tiring events that we have recently attended.

**Flamingos** have worked incredibly hard this last half term. They have enjoyed thinking about their stories based on 'The Magic Porridge Pot' and we have had some wonderful inventive results! One story had a magic pot that whizzed us away with a jet pack! The words, 'fly pot, fly!' made us all smile. Maths lessons have seen the children busy making links across the different areas and resilience has developed alongside their ever growing enthusiasm for their endeavours. In science the children have been investigating different animals recapping on habitats and then identifying different groups, particularly mammals. Music lessons have rung with seasonal good cheer and our classroom has truly been a happy, seasonal place to work in. Well done Flamingos. Make sure you have a good rest and come back to see me, happy and safe in the new year.

**Toucans** Beyond our fraction work and news writing, Toucans have done a bit of time travelling. In History, they have been looking at what children did at playtime in the 1950s. The class got a chance to play hopscotch and throwing discs closest to the wall. We also had fun playing skipping and chanting games, (something of a lost art!) where the children used a large rope and saw how many could skip and chant at the same time. It was excellent to see how much enjoyment they got from something that wasn't electronic and needed a screen. I wonder if any will try some of these games this weekend!

**Trip to St. Mary and St. Walstan Church** On Monday 4th December 2017 year 1 and year 2 visited the local church as part of their belonging topic. They took part in a mock wedding. The children took on the roles of a wedding party and dressed up for the occasion in very smart suits and dresses. After the service they celebrated with a three-tier wedding cake and juice. On leaving the church the children made a guard of honour and threw confetti over the bride and groom. Their behaviour was exemplary and a credit to the school. Well done Flamingos and owls.

**Trip to the Norwich Archives** On the 10th November 2017 children from the Eagles and Toucans visited the Norwich Archives. They viewed an exhibition of paintings and drawings of Norfolk churches dating back to Medieval times, then had the opportunity to work with two local artists. The children produced some very impressive artwork. The staff of the Archives commented on how well behaved the children were. Well done Eagles and Toucans.

**Sportshall Athletics** Mr Johnston was delighted with the Year 5/6 sportshall athletics team of Maddi Allison, Ella Cheng, Abram Draper, Nazar Hladkykh, Chloe Hodgson, Jessica Leach, Jack Macare-Cook, Marley Reynolds, Riyo Arai, Annabel Blake, Freddie Brooks and Eva Dewey who he took with him to the UEA. The boys and girls from Toucans performed brilliantly in a range of field events and running races, culminating in the boys' team reaching the county finals in the New Year. Well done and we forward to the next chance for them to compete.

**Bedtime Stories** A very big thank you to everyone who attended the Bedtime Stories event and provided us with such lovely feedback. We are glad that you and your children enjoyed it. Many thanks to all the staff who worked so hard to make it happen. A special thank you to Mrs Holgate for arranging this event.

**House Reward Winners - Kett** - Freddie Brooks, Phoebe Crowhurst, Samuel Parkings, Marley Reynolds, Lewis Spurdin, Alfie Burtenshaw, Julie Johnstone, Leo Mondal, Eleanor Anthony, Benjamin Ashworth, Ashton Applegate, Evelyn Brooks, Imogen Buckley, Max Crowhurst, Ellison Edwards, Ilyas Lofts, Miracle Norman, Thomas Van Dop, Kitty Denny, Dylan Green, Oliver Jakeman, Jude Jarmy and Fern Sibley. Congratulations to you all. An activity is being planned for you all in the New Year.

**Manor Lake Residential** Please note that payments can be made at anytime for the residential trip. However, full and final payment will need to be made by 30<sup>th</sup> April. Please ensure that any monies are placed in a named envelope. Thank you.

**Congratulations** to Annabel Blake who won the most improved golfer 2017 at the Royal Norwich Golf Club junior scholarship awards ceremony. Well done Annabel.



**A Merry Christmas to you all**

The Staff and I hope you have a wonderful Christmas holiday with your children and wish you all the very best for 2018. Thank you for all your support in 2017.



**Dates for January**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January - School Opens**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January - Bags2School Collection**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January - Humanities Day**