



Stuart Road Primary Academy Newsletter

As the end of the autumn term approaches we are sure that you are all looking forward to the Christmas holidays and a well-earned break. We would like to say a huge thank you to all the children, Parents and Carers for your patience and support throughout the term. We wish you a very Happy Christmas from all the staff at Stuart Road.

Message from Mr Frame

Dear parents/carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during these difficult times. I know that it has not always been easy as we work to ensure the safety of the children. But, as ever, you have worked alongside the school to make the new systems work.

The children have been wonderful in adapting to our new ways of working and I know that they deserve a well-earned rest.

I hope that you are all able to have a relaxing time with family and friends over the festive season.

Best wishes

Mitch Frame

Dates for your Diary

- Return to school after the Christmas holidays: Wednesday 6th January 2021 (see notices for details).

Christmas Jumper Day and Plymouth Food Bank

It was so lovely to see the children in their Christmas jumpers on 11th December and we are so grateful for the donations for the Plymouth Food Bank.

Plymouth Food Bank are a community project working to serve the community and fight poverty, the Plymouth Foodbank is helping people who are in financial crisis by providing them with much needed food and also a listening ear and useful advice. Over 90% of the food distributed by foodbanks is donated by the public - that's why the food you have donated has been vital to the Plymouth Food Bank to give those in need a balanced and nutritious supply of food. Thank you everyone for your kindness.



Foundation (EYFS)

Foundation Class have been working hard whilst also getting very excited about the prospect of Christmas fast approaching! The children have been using their phonic knowledge to help write Christmas cards to loved ones, making and decorating Calendars and made their own Advent calendar- you will at some point leading up to the final day of term see your child bring home a Christmas stocking decoration with a chocolate on the back! The children have also been singing Christmas songs beautifully in their Christmas jumpers. Christmas lunch and the Christmas party were also highlights of a very busy term. Miss. Kane and I would like to wish you all a safe and peaceful Christmas and thank you all for your continuing support. Roll on 2021!

Year 1

This week the children of year 1 have been engaging with a new topic area - The Snowman. We have spent our time in English writing descriptive sentences and explaining what we think the snowman may have seen on his adventure. During the afternoons we have drawn pictures of our favourite page from the story as well as create Santa cards. In maths we have continued our work on shapes and begun working on numbers up to 20. Finally, here is a picture of the children during our latest dance lesson in PE.



Year 2

Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about The Polar Express and discovering lots of new winter vocabulary. The children have produced creative setting descriptions and shape poems that showcase the beautiful winter language they have learnt.



Year 3

Year 3 are currently immersed in our mini mission The Snow Queen! The children have been producing some excellent descriptive writing about the characters and the setting leading up to writing their own section of the story. In art in the afternoons, we have been looking at shading and our currently drawing and painting a setting for our part of the story in The Snow Queen. With Christmas quickly approaching I would just like to take this time to thank all of you for your support this term. With all the changes to normality it has been nice to actually have a classroom full of children to teach every day! Have a nice break!

Year 4

We launched our new mini mission with a dance afternoon. It all began when we watched a video clip of The Nutcracker being performed in a theatre. We learnt what a motif is and then we learnt four different motifs: The Russian Twist, Shiny Boots, Oi! And Jump and Clap. Once we had mastered them, we could create our own sequences

Then, an elf appeared amongst our Christmas decorations. He started to get up to mischief in the classroom. We came into the classroom to discover that the elf had half ripped open a Christmas present that was underneath the class Christmas tree! Mrs Hill was extremely surprised.

When she picked up the present, instead of being an empty box, it had something in it.

We opened it!

Imagine our surprise when we saw, inside the box, a nutcracker toy and two versions of the story!

Year 5

The Year 5 classroom has become an arctic wonderland to inspire us with our last mini mission for this term, The Ice Bear. The children have been evaluating how authors use language and convey meaning so they can write their own descriptive narratives for our class book. In Art, they are creating winter collages using a range of media and materials based on illustrations from the book. Take a look at our Year 5 Gallery on the website for photos of our learning. The children have worked exceptionally hard this term and are ready for a well-deserved break. Wishing you all a peaceful, festive season filled with kindness and good will.

Year 6

This has been a really busy term in Year 6! We have been working really hard to improve our writing! The last few weeks our topic has been Narnia. We have had a wonderful time learning all about the story. We have created some watercolour art and also retold the story in PE through Dance! We have had lots of fun and everyone has had a go at dance.

I would like to say thank you to the parents of Year 6 for their continued support with their children's learning particularly with the new homework and using teams!

Have a wonderful Christmas!

Oracy Activity

Here is a simple discussion activity that you can do together as a family. The aim is to get children sharing ideas with their families and developing their vocabulary and imagination.

**What if
plants could
talk?**



- What would plants say to each other?*
- How could plants talk?*
- How would different kinds of plants talk to each other?*
- Why would talking be helpful?*

Goodbye to Mrs Hill



After working at Stuart Road for over 29 years Mrs Hill has finally chosen to retire from teaching and to take life at a much more leisurely pace.

She will now be able to dedicate more time to her amateur dramatics group and her other hobbies.

I hope that Mrs Hill is taking away many fond memories of all the children she has taught and the many lasting friendships that she has formed with colleagues over the years.

She has watched Stuart Road grow over the years and has always enjoyed being part of the life of the school. She will be missed and we wish her all the best for the future.

*Mitch Frame
Headteacher*

Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th December

The children had a lovely Christmas dinner on Wednesday and Thursday this week. We would like to say thank you again to the PTA for funding the table decorations.





Notices

Start of Term January 2021

We have had to cancel a whole school inset day on two occasions due to the current pandemic. We have finally managed to secure this training day for the staff on the 5th January 2021. Therefore, the children will return after the Christmas break on Wednesday 6th January and not Tuesday 5th January as previously stated. This will replace the inset day on 28th May 2021 and therefore the children will now be in school on this day.

STEM Returners Programme

STEM Returners programme for returning STEM professionals with Babcock in Plymouth.

Have you taken a career break from an engineering, scientific or technical sector and wish to return? Are you working below your experience in a different sector? Do you have an engineering, science or technical degree that you aren't using? Do you just wish to transfer sectors but don't have any experience? If so this could be the opportunity for you! After running 2 previous returner programmes where 100% of returners were offered permanent roles with Babcock in Devonport dockyard, we are currently sourcing candidates for their brand new programme starting in April 2021, a 13 week, fully paid and supported return to work programme. All candidates will also have the opportunity to obtain a permanent role at the end of the programme. No career break is too long, register to return to STEM today! For more information please visit www.stemreturners.com or email hello@stemreturners.com.

More information on the programme is also available here:

<https://www.stemreturners.com/2020/12/09/babcock-create-new-engineering-opportunities-in-plymouth-with-award-winning-recruitment-scheme/>



