



# Diptford Diary



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017

All your up to date news about our classes!

## NEWS THIS WEEK!



Hawks working on the new school values

### Dipper News:

This week Dippers class have been continuing with their writing sequence based on the book "How to Catch Santa". They have been working on using adjectives to best effect to describe items they would give the escaped reindeer Blitzen once he was safely back in his stable. Some of the children went on to invent their own piece of writing using the same structure as "How to Catch Santa" but with their own ideas. How to Catch an Elf, a Snowman, a Runaway Present and a Snowflake are just a few of their ideas. Some of the children have also been writing up their stories on Microsoft Word.

In Maths we had great fun playing Bingo! Year 2s were generating numbers with place value dice and Year 1s were practicing their number recognition to tick the numbers off. We have been continuing with our star challenges in counting and everyone has been showing off their counting skills so far. Year 2 have also been completing number sentence challenges using < > and = signs.

In Spelling and Phonics both Year 1 and Year 2 have been learning about the suffixes ed, ing, er and est. We have been looking at how ed and ing change the meaning of verbs and how er and est change the meaning of adjectives.

Year 1s have also been investigating the /ai/ phoneme. They have learned that the best bet for spelling the /ai/ sound in the middle of a word is the split digraph 'a\_e' or the digraph 'ai'. The best bet if the /ai/ sound is at the end of a word is the digraph 'ay'. All of these investigations will really help their spelling when they come to write a word they do not know. See if they can spot 'a\_e', 'ai' or 'ay' in their reading books.

**Achiever this week: Lara** for her excellent progress in her reading

### Kingfisher News:

What a busy week we have had this week in Kingfishers class!

We have been busy consolidating our learning for the half term and reflecting back at what we have been learning about.

We have written and perfected our journey poems and have used lots of amazing vocabulary and grammatical techniques to show off our superb writing. We have used adverbial and prepositional phrases to develop our complex sentences, and exclamations and questions to make our simple sentences more interesting! We would love it if you came in and read our poems with us!

In Maths, we have finished exploring our 3D shapes and angles and have been looking at mental maths. We were surprised at how much we use mental maths in the real-world without even realising! There are lots of different strategies that we have experimented using to help us work accurately and quickly when tackling mental maths calculations. This has also been helped by our improvement in learning our multiplication tables as they have enabled us to solve simple calculations faster. Hopefully we can continue to work hard on learning and remembering our multiplication tables as this helped us across all of our maths learning.

Our Mama Mia song has been progressing well and we are now bringing our musical learning together to create our whole class ensemble. We have lots of different instruments from recorders to the flute and there are even some people who are playing their instrument and singing at the same time! Singing tennis has also been a favourite of ours which has helped us learn the lines to the song well.

We have now read an amazing 2,042,896 words! We exceeded our target of 90% pass rate last week and are hoping we can continue to keep this super work up!

**Achiever this week is for Ruben** for his amazing progress in accelerated reader.

### Hawks News:

This week in maths, Hawks class have been learning long multiplication and division methods. Maths expert Mrs Palmer and Mr Butt from Stoke Gabriel, came in for the second time to help us with the long multiplication. On Thursday we finished off our sequence with an assessment with Mrs French.

In English we have been looking at poetry, we have based it on a poem called The Sea. We wrote our own poems using a metaphor that ran throughout the poem. We have also been looking at personification to help us in the poem, we have been spotting rhyme and alliteration. As well as that, we have been doing reading comprehension on poetry, writing and explaining our answers.

This week in Dance we have been dancing to mission impossible and making motifs and in the motifs we have been learning about cannon and synchronisation with a partner. We have also been learning about tension and facial expression. And we have been trying to put all of threes together to make a sequence.

This week in science we have been investigating what happens when you shine three different colours on to different colours surfaces and seeing what colour it produces to find the suspect of the crime we have been investigating. We learnt that you can't make yellow with a blue light.

In P.E. we have been doing basketball and trying to shoot the ball properly into the net. We all tried to shoot into different types of basketball hoops and we enjoyed DABING!!!

By Maeve, Caden & Zach

**Achiever this week is for Tom** for great work in Maths and showing a good understanding of multiplication and division



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### Little Dipper & Preschool News

Little Dippers you are an absolute credit to Diptford School!

Yesterday, we visited the residents of Bascombe Court Care Home and we could not have been any more proud of our Little Dippers. They began by telling the story of 'The Gingerbread Man' using actions and clear, confident voices and then they helped to serve gingerbread biscuits to everyone. They were delicious and enjoyed by all! After this, the children sang three songs; Five Mince Pies, Jingle Bells and We Wish you a Merry Christmas. We were really impressed with their beautiful voices. Well done, everyone! You all joined in very well.

After the singing, the children and the residents joined in with a variety of activities, including; colouring in, play dough play and puzzle making. I can't describe how amazing it was to watch such young children confidently and enthusiastically interacting with the older members of our community. It was incredibly heart warming and it was such a privilege to witness it. It is clear that we have very caring and tolerant children in Little Dippers and I am a very, VERY proud teacher. Thank you, boys and girls! You have made a lot of people extremely happy.

After our visit to Bascombe Court we had another visit to make. This time to Trago Mills to see... Santa! We boarded the Santa Express and took the train ride through the woods to the magical winter tunnel where we were greeted by Santa. The fun didn't end there though. Santa helped us off the train and then we visited his Grotto and each child received an amazing gift. It was so exciting!

We really did have the most fantastic day and it was the perfect start to our Christmas celebrations.

On behalf of the Little Dippers and staff, I would like to say a huge thank you to Sally Dean, Cheryl Knight and Amy Lethbridge for their amazing help throughout the trip. It was greatly appreciated.

**Achiever of the week: Little Dippers** for being an amazing bunch of children!

#### **Important dates for the week ahead:**

Wed 13 Dec - Christmas Carol Concert 6.00pm

Thurs 14 DEC - FODS Christmas Crafts Day and School Christmas Lunch

Friday 15 Dec – Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children

**Friday 15 DEC – Last day of Term, School finishes at 2.30 PM**

#### **Correspondence out this week:**

After School Club – letter and information via email