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Reception Newsletter **w/c 11th December 2023**

Dear RGM and RB families,

It has been a busy couple of weeks, we apologise for the late newsletter this week. We cannot believe that we have already arrived at the end of the Autumn term! We are all so proud of how every child has settled and made progress in all areas of their learning. We hope that you are all able to enjoy a restful Christmas break with your families and look forward to working alongside you again in the Spring term.

Reading Books

Please return any outstanding book packs and library books before the holidays. New book packs will be distributed in January.

Home learning

It is an expectation that all children should be able to write their names independently next term. We would really appreciate your support with this at home. Remind them that there should be a capital letter at the beginning only.

Please keep practising phonics at home, especially those sounds that children are struggling to remember. In particular, we are working on recognising the digraphs (2 letters that make 1 sound), *nk, ng, ch, sh and th*.

Maths: If you would like any further information on Maths at Saxon, please refer to the Saxon Maths website: <https://saxonmaths.weebly.com/>

In particular there is a video called Early Number Sense on the following link (scroll down the page) which is very useful for understanding the importance of number in the Early Years.

<https://saxonmaths.weebly.com/parents.html>

Learning:

Next term our topic is Travel and Transport.

We would really appreciate donations of toys or books linked to this theme, for example, transport playsets, cars, planes, boats, road playmats etc. Thank you very much.

Communication, Language & Literacy:

- This week we have focused on different Christmas stories and discuss Christmas traditions.
- We discussed the pictures in the story and the characters in the books.
- We discussed how to write and send letters and Christmas cards.

Next term

-We will recap previously taught **tricky words** (that cannot be sounded out using phonics) including go, and, has, his, her, the. Please practice reading these over the holidays to support reading fluency.

- We will continue to practise sounding out CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) and CVCC words when reading and writing (CVC examples - cat, dog, sat, pan, duck and CVCC examples – hunt, milk, pots, cups and lids)

- We will continue to practice our writing names, initial sounds in our writing and we will begin to write short words.

Maths:

This week we have continued to discuss shapes and we will revisit previous number activities.

- We discussed the names of the 2D shapes

- We used shape words to describe the shapes

- We continued to count forwards and backwards to 20. Keep up the practice with this at home please! In particular ensure children emphasise the 'n' sound at the end of the teens numbers.

Other Areas of Learning:

- UW (Understanding the World) – We are learning about the Christian celebration of Christmas.

- PSED (Personal, social and emotional development)- "Celebrating difference" –We will talk about special celebrations.

- EAD (Expressive arts and design) – We are creating Christmas cards using a range of materials.

- PD (Physical development)- This term the children are learning about balance and space.

Notices/Reminders:

- We would like to say a huge thank you to parents and carers for all of the thought and time put into the children's fantastic Nativity costumes and for helping them to rehearse their lines/songs. Both Christmas shows were fantastic!
- Friday 15th the SSA are organising a Christmas Party for the children. This will take place during the day.
- **Please note that tomorrow (Friday 15th) the children can wear their Christmas Party Clothes to school, in exchange for a £1 donation. Thank you.**
- Please be reminded that on the last day of term (Tuesday 19th December) Reception children and their siblings will finish the school day at **1.45pm.**

Please do not hesitate to email or call the school if you have any questions. Class teachers can be contacted via info.saxon@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk

Kind Regards,

Reception Team

Mrs Morley, Miss Glaves and Mrs Bright