

# d'Auvergne Weekly Update

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Head Teacher's Comments**

At the end of an eventful week, I should like to express how wonderfully the children have responded – particularly those who have participated in our KS1 Nativity and KS2 Church Service. You have all been magnificent children.

Parents / carers, your continued support and generous offers have been incredible; we really do appreciate it. I hope your children haven't noticed anything of significant difference in school, other than a lingering smell of smoke and fresh paint.

## **Carols Around the Tree**

A reminder that our now traditional 'Carols Around the Tree' event, supported by Waitrose, takes place on Monday at 5.30pm – 6.15pm.

Please bring your finest Christmas hat / jumper / decoration and YOUR LOUDEST VOICES for a great blast of a few carols and Christmas tunes.

Hot Chocolates and mince pies galore!

## **International Mother Language Day will be celebrated in d'Auvergne for the fifth time at the end of February 2024**

This year we will focus on one language and culture mainly (our choice will be announced soon), but all pupils are encouraged to come to school on this special language day in traditional costumes (or at least wearing some traditional accessories) from the home countries or the countries of their friends. The costumes could be purchased, or hand made. If you would like to buy your children a red string of beads, embroidered shirt or any element of a traditional costume if you are visiting your family for Christmas, we thought we should let you know about this important language celebration now, before you travel.

Many thanks!

Have a great weekend everyone.

Kind regards,

Mr Cooper

## **Year Group Updates**

### **Futures 1**

The festive spirit has really taken a hold in Futures 1. Not only did we have the world premiere of The Christmas Story, written and performed by Futures 1 and 2 – and soon to be available on the school's website – but we have also enjoyed watching the KS1 Nativity dress rehearsal and practised our fine motor skills with Christmas bead threading and cinnamon scented Play-Doh.

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In the new term we look forward to our new topic, 'People Who Help Us'. We will be focusing on all those professionals that are a big part of our lives: dentists, hairdressers, opticians and doctors. We aim to get out and about and visit some of these professionals over the coming term.

Enjoy your weekend,  
Mrs Mason & The Futures 1 Team

### **Futures 2**

Exciting news! Our Christmas Story has premiered and should soon be available to watch on the school's website! It's worth remembering that every Futures 2 learner contributed narration and acted in multiple roles. We are all incredibly proud and we are looking forward to making more movies in the future.

Speaking of which, our topic in the Spring term will be, '*Our Future Selves*', guided by the text, '*What Jobs Could You Do?*' by Catharine Barr and Ana Gomez. We will be exploring what jobs actually exist before trying a few on for size...

Merry Christmas / Nadoleg Llawen / Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!  
Futures 2 Team

### **Nursery**

What a week in Nursery!

The children have coped so well with a change in routine - a credit to you all.

This week, we have been reading 'Dear Santa' and thinking about what gifts we would like to receive over Christmas.

We have been working hard practising our songs and can't wait to share them with you on Monday at 9am. Please remember Tuesday is our party, the children do not need lunch on this day as we will be providing 'party' food. The children can come to school wearing party clothes and/or a Christmas jumper.

Have a lovely weekend,

Nursery

### **Reception**

This week in Reception we have read the Christmas Story and have been learning about the birth of baby Jesus. We took our ideas to 'Drawing Club' and drew our own interpretations of the story. The progress in our drawing club sessions since September has been fantastic and the children are really thinking about detail in their drawings. They're also writing words to accompany their masterpieces.

We have been preparing for our Christmas singing which takes place on

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**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 10:30am.** On the day, they children can wear a Christmas jumper with their uniform (PE kit or normal uniform is fine) or a tinsel headdress to look a little festive. You're in for a treat.

Thank you for all your kind words of support this week, you'll be pleased to know that the children have responded positively to the change in timetabling and have been as enthusiastic as always about their learning in Reception.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and we'll see you in the New Year.

Mrs Rachel Lutkin-Clarke and Miss Jodi Shurey (The Reception Dream Team)

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### **Year 1**

The children have enjoyed their last full week at school before the Christmas break!

We have enjoyed some pretty big events this week! We started off with our funfilled trip to the Ice-Skating rink! Everyone had a lovely time! A huge thanks to all of the adult helpers that supported with this trip!

The biggest event this week was our KSI Nativity! The children have worked so hard and gave two fantastic performances this Friday. We are so proud of how hard they have worked. Well done! Thank you to all adults that attended the Nativity.

The children have also enjoyed making some festive stars this week for the background of the Nativity.

In Maths we have continued our learning on subtraction. The children have been working on subtracting using number bonds and subtracting by counting back. Children would benefit from consolidation with this at home.

In RE we have been speaking about baptism in the Christian religion and how Christians celebrate new life. We had discussions around what the children remember about being a baby and whether they were christened or have been to a christening.

We hope that you and your families have a wonderful Christmas break!

Thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Andre-Brown and Miss Aubert.

### **Year 2**

Year 2 have all been stars in their nativity performance this week! It is clear all of their hard work paid off for not one, but two performances (I'm sure they're as tired as we are!).

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Since we have been in the festive mood all week we have also enjoyed doing art, where we followed along to draw pop up Santas, and Christmas racoons. They used their great listening skills to follow step-by-step instructions.

It was so lovely to have so many parent helpers to support our ice skating on Monday. The children's smiles spoke for themselves and we had a fantastic morning!

You will have received a separate email regarding our Christmas Party on Monday – we look forward to celebrating with your children after the brilliant term we've had.

We wish you a wonderful Christmas break with your children and look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year!

Thank you,  
The Year 2 Team

### **Year 3**

What a great week we have had in year 3!

We have been busy practising our Christmas performance over the last few weeks, and we finally got to share it with you all on Wednesday evening at St. Marks Church.

The last few days have been a little challenging but all the children in year 3 showed great resilience and have worked really hard. We are so, so proud of all the children!!

In Maths, we have been learning about Bar Models and how we can use our already learnt skills of column addition and subtraction into practice within Maths problems. The children have continued to show great knowledge and understanding around renaming. Keep up the good work. As mentioned before, we are consolidating our three times tables in preparation for our next Maths unit for next term. Please keep practising these at home, ask the children to share the times table bingo with you.

We have revisited Greek Myths, looking at Mythical Creatures this week and it has been lovely to hear the children speaking so confidently and enthusiastically about the learning they have accomplished this term and put it into practice in the lessons this week.

Please can we ask that you check that you only have one laptop charger at home as we have had a few go home with the wrong child, polite reminder that the chargers must stay at home and not in their laptop bags as this is why the above has happened. If you do have a extra charger please can your child return it to their class teacher, Thank you.

We only have 2 days left of this term and all the children are ready for their holiday! Next Tuesday the children are able to bring into school a party lunchbox (no fizzy drinks) and in the afternoon we will be watching a Christmas film, so we are asking parents permission to watch a PG movie, if you would rather your child did not watch the film, please contact their class teacher.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

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The Year 3 team.

#### **Year 4**

It's been an eventful week!

Year 4 have been feeling very festive. The children performed brilliantly at the KS2 Christmas Service. Year 4 performed 'O Little Town of Bethlehem' wonderfully, the poem 'Scarecrow Christmas' by Pie Corbett, Kaya and Layla read several verses from the Bible and the children participated in several whole key stage songs. A wonderful festive delight, well done all! Thank you for such a brilliant turn out from parents!

Additionally, the children have been editing and reviewing their final pieces of writing for this term. We have been writing diary entries as key characters from the story 'The Demon Dentist' by David Walliams. We have been so impressed with the children's progress with their writing.

Looking ahead to the new year, our new topic will be 'Traiders and Raiders.' To energise the children's learning we will be having a 'Viking Day' on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January. Please can children come to school in a Viking costume on 5<sup>th</sup> January. They will be in for a real treat of immersive history activities – a day to remember for sure!

Thank you to parents for your ongoing support.

Best regards,

Miss Bolton and Mr Worthington

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#### **Year 5**

We have had a busy week in Year 5 at d'Auvergne with some super achievements! A big well done to the children for working so hard in our Carol Service rehearsals and for performing so wonderfully on Wednesday evening. Your effort and passion shone through and we were all very proud of you!

During this week, we have also been editing our Newspaper Independent Writes and creating these online using our laptops to bring our planets to life! This also gave the children a chance to reflect on their writing and purple pen grammar and spellings they thought could be improved.

In Maths we have been looking at multiplying 2 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers by partitioning and will continue to look at this and division after Christmas.

We are nearly at the end of our class book for this term 'COSMIC' well done to the children for their hard work and utilising their oracy skills when reading aloud and questioning areas of the book.

We have also concluded our Year 5 swimming lessons this term and it was wonderful to see the children enjoying the fun session this Thursday!

Next week, we have our Christmas carol singing around the tree on Monday evening at 5.30pm and we hope to see many of you there to enjoy this festive occasion. On Tuesday it is our Grosnez's Annual Christmas Jumper Parade. Children choosing to take part will be coming in with their best Christmas

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jumpers on (over school uniform). There is no monetary donation required for this event and children do not need to take part if they choose not to.

We hope you have a lovely and festive weekend!

Miss Condlyffe    and    Miss Lee

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### **Year 6**

This week in Year 6 has been a very busy one! We have finished our independent writing focusing on ghost narratives; started a new topic in Maths of Fractions (focusing on simplifying); designed Victorian style models in the MakerSpace and completed our Class Text – Oliver Twist.

Of course, this week we had our much-loved Christmas Carol Service, and we were so proud of how our Year 6 children performed. They really showed that practice does pay off!

The Year 6 team would like to thank you for your continued support this term – it is very much appreciated. We hope you have a restful time over the holiday season.

Home Learning (please ensure your child records their home learning in their diary and asks you to initial it. Diaries shall be checked every Friday).

- Reading: Daily for 20mins.
- Spelling: Practice of weekly spelling words (please see the letter handout or Google Classroom for these).
- Maths: (100 points on TT rockstars and 2x goals on Maths Tutor).

### A few gentle reminders for **next term**:

- Please ensure your child brings their library books and homework diaries to and from school every day.
- **Our PE days remain on Wednesday (with Coach Rob) and Friday (with class teacher).**
- Laptops need to be brought in every day fully charged.
- Our new topic for next half term is 'Blood Heart'. Please see the pre-topic handout coming home with your children on the last day of term.
- The new spelling list for this term is on Google Classroom and will also come home with your children on the last day of term.
- We have 'You Matter' on our first full week back, covering Cyberbullying.

**Achievers:**

The achiever in Year 6 this week is EVERYONE. Each and every one of the children absolutely smashed their Christmas Carol Service and have put so much effort in this term. We are so proud of them! Great job to all, keep rested and come back raring to go next term!

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