

# d'Auvergne Weekly Update

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## **My Thanks to the Team at d'Auvergne**

Keeping every class or year group open; covering every lunch duty; maintaining After School Clubs and so forth has been quite a challenge – particularly this week. I should like to express my public appreciation for the extra efforts – above and beyond – that d'Auvergne colleagues have gone to in order to maintain a stable learning environment for all our children. The challenges have only been increasing as the term has gone on and staff have responded incredibly.

We've come really very close to having to close classes and year groups over the last month due to staff shortages, but by colleagues taking on extra responsibilities this has been avoided. We really know how very inconvenient this would be to parents who would have to take time off work if this were the situation. My thanks to a great team.

## **Attendance**

Following recent advice from our Education Minister, there will be a "flexible approach to attendance" next week.

If you make the decision to keep your child off school for a reason related to COVID, such as anxiety, this absence will be authorised. You **MUST contact** the school if this is the situation please.

It is your decision as parents / carers to choose whether you feel your family needs to shield based on your personal circumstances, or whether they can continue to access normal school lessons during this last week of term.

## **Grosnez Christmas Jumper Parade**

School looked great on Friday! Thank you so much to all the children and adults for getting into the spirit of things! Particular thanks to Tosia and Aidan (Grosnez House and Vice-House Captains) for your assistance and to Mr Henderson for organising.

Our winners – each receiving a great trophy from the PTA (thank you) – were Aurelia K., Oliver G., and Sirena W.

Well done to everyone!

## **Christmas Production**

Thursday is the big night! Letters explaining the event came home on Friday or will be on Monday. £3 / family will get you access to the only show in town! (Literally, the **only** show in town!!!) I've seen a preview – it's absolutely fabulous! Parents, you'll love! Get the popcorn ready!

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### **Letter Boxes**

A reminder that we now have 2 letter boxes situated at the front door, to receive your school 'post'. We have even provided envelopes, in case you've forgotten to pop the contents into one. Using the letter boxes will reduce traffic at the office window. Thanks for your help with this.

### **Reception Parents**

Just a request to Reception parents as you drop-off or pick up. This is potentially the most congested spot at these times, so please maintain your 2m physical distancing and remember to wear your mask. Thanks so much.

Take care all,  
Mr Cooper.

## **Year Group Updates**

### **Nursery**

This week the children in Nursery have continued to enjoy letter writing. Please over the weekend write a letter to a family member or friend with your child and walk to a post box for them to see where the letter goes. We read the story 'The Jolly Christmas Postman' click on the link below to watch Santa himself reading his favourite part!

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=2jQkDsoPFJE>

Next week we look forward to writing letters to Santa, enjoying some Christmas dancing and doing more festive craft activities.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Knight

### **Reception**

Another busy week in Reception! We have been busy discussing traditions in our family related to the holiday season, making cards and writing messages.

As mathematicians, children have been counting objects up to 10 and ordering numerals 1 to 10. You can support this at home by pointing out numbers you see when out and about and playing games that involve numbers.

Rainy days are becoming more frequent, but here at d'Auvergne we learn outside in all weathers. We are running rather low on socks, so please send in spares when possible. Similarly, as the

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weather becomes colder please remember to name accessories such as hats, scarves and gloves!

This week your child will be coming home with a pack of materials so that you can support them with their learning. The pack includes: the Set 1 sound mat (we have been learning these this term), a 2D shape mat and some Christmas themed counting.

### **Year 1**

This week, we have been completing RWInc. assessments and are so pleased and proud with how well the children are progressing. Thank you so much for all the work you are doing at home with your child, please keep going, its all paying off!

On the subject of reading, we are sending home a copy of the 100 high frequency words that your child should be able to read and spell by the end of the year. These are the words that we have been sending home for spellings each week so the children should be familiar with lots of them.

Please could your child practice reading and spelling them over the holiday as we do also assess on these. They are separated into 3 groups, from easier to harder.

Our topic next term is 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers' (based on animals) and we will be sending home a sheet with lots of words relating to this topic. Please could you read these with your child and make sure that they understand them.

You will receive a letter today about watching the nativity that we performed. Get the popcorn ready, we are so excited to share this with you!

You will notice that this week the children do not have regular spellings in their home learning diaries but instead there is a number line from 1-20. We have highlighted multiples of 2. Please could you help your child to count in 2's from 2 to 20.

We really thank you for all that you are doing during these difficult times.

Miss Fage and Mrs Prothero x

### **Year 2**

Year 2 have been busy writing letters to Santa and the Tooth Fairy this week. We have been focusing on using commas in a list, bossy verbs in command sentences and time openers for chronology. This was an unaided piece, so the children had to be independent and show stamina to write at length, as well as reading and checking what they had written made sense. This is a very tricky skill and so we would encourage you to do the same at home.

Read Write Inc assessments have been happening this week, so the children won't have brought home specific books for their coloured groups, however, they are still able to choose their own books from our boxes outside the classrooms.

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Thank you to all those parents who have signed up to our google classrooms, we really need all the children to be on board by then end of term so they can access their home learning.

Next Wednesday (16th December), we are having our party to celebrate all the hard work the children have put in this term. They can come to school in their own clothes but must remember a warm, waterproof coat and sensible shoes. They will still need their book bags, snack, and lunch as normal, but we are happy for you to include an extra treat in their lunch box.

Thank you so much for your continued support this term. If you have any questions or concerns, please email us.

Mrs Lutkin-Clarke and Mrs Andre Brown

### **Year 3**

This week the children have been enjoying using their instruction writing skills and have been explaining how to turn themselves into an elf. The children have produced some great writing and we certainly have many creative minds in year 3!

We are looking forward to our well-being day next **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**. Please may all children come into school in full school uniform but may they all bring in a onesie or pyjamas and slippers or warm socks.

On **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December** we will be having a little year 3 party in the afternoon so if children would like to bring their normal packed lunch but with a party theme, they are very welcome to do so. Children may wear their own clothes on this day.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Miss Banks, Miss Dunn and Mr du Feu

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### **Year 4**

This week in Year 4, we have enjoyed watching and learning about more Viking Sagas! We have used summarising skills to re-tell the stories and very much enjoyed learning more about the Viking Gods and Goddesses. Mr Livesey has worked with Year 4 this week on developing their Viking Kodu worlds further. The children are learning fantastic coding skills, whilst linking to the knowledge they have gained through their topic. Keep up the hard and creative work Year 4!

We also enjoyed creating beautiful pieces of Christmas art work to share positive Christmas messages to the community and loved ones. This required great patience and precision, resulting

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in wonderfully detailed pieces. Well done team! We look forward to some of these being shared on the d'Auvergne Christmas sing song.

### **Year 5**

This week we have been writing our newspaper article about the Terrible Disaster of The Titanic. Ask the children to tell you all the facts we have learnt about the Titanic in the last few weeks.

In maths, we have started learning about long multiplication and different ways of working out the answer using concrete, pictorial and abstract methods, which method does your child prefer?

It was our last swimming session on Thursday, the children have loved swimming this term and are all super swimmers!

We have loved seeing the children in their Christmas jumpers today, they all looked great!

Next week, on Wednesday afternoon we are having a Christmas afternoon, this will include Christmas art, a film and games.

This weeks achievers:

5KL: Sonny for working so hard to complete his independent work. Sonny has been listening carefully to given instructions and then completing his work on his own. We are so proud of you Sonny. Keep up this hard work!

5H: Jayden for his effort, attitude and all-round politeness in the classroom. Jayden never fails to give everything his all and try his very best. With the work ethic Jayden has, University will not be far off. Keep it up, super proud teacher!

5L: Elliot for his fantastic newspaper report on the Titanic. The drama and catchy headline will bode him well for a career with The Sun newspaper!

### **Year 6**

Well done Year 6, on your display of perseverance, responsibility and resilience, this week, in doing your assessments!

In French, they've been learning how to talk about which parish they live in, and in what type of house.

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We've also been continuing our formal writing, drafting our persuasive letters to Queen Victoria imploring her to abolish abhorrent, uncivilised and despicable workhouses! Watch out parents - Year 6 are getting rather good at using persuasive techniques to get what they want!

Achievers this week, are David in 6AW, who has the most incredible grasp and progress with place value. Well done David you dapper Dienes director!

Well done your hard work is paying off 😊

In 6W, lovely Lilly is our well-deserved achiever, for always giving 110% to everything that she does. She always displays the d'Auvergne standard, from the presentation of herself and her work, the way she walks quietly and calmly around the school, to her contributions in class, as well as her home learning! Keep up the fantastic work!

Stay safe and have a lovely weekend.

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