

Dear Parents and Carers,

*Hello/Hallo*

I hope that all is well and you are not too cold. Please look on our **notice boards** for warm places that can be accessed during the day in Huntingdon. The children haven't certainly enjoyed our snowy start to the week. Lots of snowball fights, some not so pleasant I believe as the snow quickly turned to ice but on the whole good use of the field for creating snowmen.

This week has flown by with teachers looking at data for reading, writing and maths in each year group and organising interventions where necessary for children who are finding some work a challenge and thinking about how to further extend and support the children in forthcoming lessons. We are very lucky to have a wealth of staff who run Tutoring sessions before school each week in the Junior School. Elsewhere in both schools all the children have commenced their festivities with Christmas lunch on Wednesday and the fetes and grotto yesterday.

It was lovely to see some of the Junior School children pop over to see the Lil Elf after school on Thursday. A **HUGE** thank you to our PATHS team for creating the grotto in the infant school especially to Mrs Lecointe and Mrs Sellors. Mrs Orledge and Mrs Jarman have been superstars in creating a wealth of festive activities for the children to engage with. So many people have helped behind the scenes creating badges, filling bags and purchasing selection boxes. How lucky we are to have such a dedicated team!

**Elfridges** is open in both schools and we are trying to ensure everyone visits the shops and the presents are wrapped as quickly as possible. Both schools have some lovely displays of the colouring competitions too. I am also reading through the quizzes to see who is going to win the prize in Year 5 and Y6 for the correct answers. The winners will be announced next week on Wednesday.

Best wishes/Besten Wünsche Rae Lee [Headteacher]

It was lovely to be entertained by our **Year 1** children on Tuesday in their Nativity play. I have made a video that I will share with Year 1 parents via our [school YouTube](#) channel this weekend. How exciting!

## *School Council Meeting/Schulratsitzung*

The **Hartford Infant School Council** had their first meeting this week where the children were superb at introducing themselves. They collected their school council badges and were set their first tasks to design a front cover for their folder and brainstorm ideas for next year's World Book Day. The Junior School have their first meeting in January.

## *Elfridges*

Ellie-May and Matthew in Year 6 have been assisting Elfridges in their capacity as 'Head Elfers' this week, helping the Chief Grinch to ensure the customers receive the best shopping experience around! Matthew is ensuring everyone gets to choose a gift, and Ellie-May is a whizz at labelling the correct tag to the correct gift. They have been invaluable in making Elfridges the well-oiled machine that it is!

## *Dates for the Diary/Termine für das Tagebuch*

Christingle Service	All schools	Monday 19th December 5.30pm	All children are invited to make a Christingle after school [infant hall] and then choir children only attend the service at Hartford All Saints Church
Christmas Parties	All Schools	Last week of Term	Children can wear their party clothes on designated party days <b>Monday 19th:</b> Y2, <b>Tuesday 20th:</b> Y1, Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 and <b>Wednesday 21st:</b> YR & Preschool
End of Term	All Schools	Wednesday 21st December	
Spring Term	All Schools	Thursday 5th January 2023	Doors open at 8.45am for children

*Preschool*

This week, **Preschool** children have explored print using Christmas shapes to stamp on paper and commenting on what they have made. This also led to some great maths language, 'I can see 2 more' as well as counting beyond 10 to see how many prints had been made. Fantastic! We used our fine motor skills to have a try at wrapping some presents and enjoyed putting them under the Christmas tree. Again this led to some wonderful language being used such as size and shape. **Next week**, we hope to enjoy our last few days of term together singing the Christmas songs we have learnt and finishing our Christmas crafts.

*Reception*

This week in **Class 1 and 2**, we have been busy making some lovely festive Christmas cards and we also enjoyed making a reindeer hat to wear for our Christmas lunch on Wednesday! In maths we have been exploring length and height and using mathematical language to compare in practical activities. In our R.E sessions we have been learning about religious festivals and sharing the Christmas story, thinking about how Christians celebrate this special time. **Next week**, we are looking forward to our party on Wednesday.

*Year 1*

This week, in **Class 3 and 4**, we were very excited to perform 'Born in a Barn' for our families. We hope you enjoyed it! We reflected on our enquiry work for this half term and in our R.E lessons thought about how celebrations help us to remember something important. We made and wore Christmas tree hats for our Christmas lunch on Wednesday and looked festive in our Christmas jumpers too. **Next week**, we will be doing Christmas themed activities – crafts, quizzes, stories and our Christmas Party on Tuesday.

*Year 2*

This week in **Class 5 and 6**, we have focussed on being able to write up our work neatly in English from the improvements we made. In maths we made number bonds to 10 and used this information to make related facts to 20. Our R.E lessons looked at different religious celebrations and how they might compare. We discussed how Eid is celebrated at the end of Ramadan. We looked at the beautiful Rangoli patterns drawn during Diwali. We made our own advent wreath. **Next week** we will have Christmas themed writing and some craft activities. We are looking forward to the Year 2 Christmas party on Monday.

*Year 3*

This week in **Beech and Chestnut Class**, the children enjoyed their fun-filled week which included snow, Christmas jumper day, Christmas dinner and the fete. In science, we learned about soil and the different types. They were able to participate in an experiment to explore the different types and what happened when water was added to them. In computing the children went around the school to see what devices connected to our network (printers, desktops, ipads) ask your children what you have at home that is part of their network. **Next week**, we will be finishing 'The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe' and the children are looking forward to finding out how it ends. We are very much looking forward to our class parties next Tuesday.

*Year 4*

This week in **Pine and Sycamore Classes**, we have been planning our portal story by adapting our model text, 'Stark Street', using our storyboard to help us. We have had some great ideas involving being transported to a Techworld, mansions and a fire world! In maths we have been using our mathematical vocabulary in word problems to know whether to subtract or add using the column method. Science was great fun, when we inflated a balloon without using our mouths, but instead vinegar and bicarbonate of soda! **Next week**, in addition to our Christmas party on Tuesday, we will be writing up our portal stories applying all the fabulous features we have been learning.

*Year 5*

This week in **Oak and Ash Class**, we have been multiplying and dividing by 10/100 and 1000 as well as continuing to look at factors, multiples, prime numbers, square numbers and cube numbers in maths. After Christmas we will turn our attention to fractions. In English we have been learning about Charles Dickens and enjoying different versions of 'A Christmas Carol', and in science we found out about phases of the moon and eclipses. This was a very exciting topic of discussion! In French we learned about traditions in France at Christmas time and have thoroughly enjoyed all the various festive activities and treats taking place at school...all the while doing our best penguin impersonations in the cold!

*Year 6*

This week in **Willow and Holly Classes**, the children have written their own chapter to continue 'The Secret Garden' story. **Next week**, we will be finishing our science topic on Evolution and Inheritance with a double page spread about an interesting living thing. The children will also be producing a piece of artwork in the style of their chosen artist.



