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10th December 2021

We are coming to the end of a busy and jam packed term and the children are starting to tire more easily. Despite that they have been doing some lovely work on our topics. They have explored the different jobs and housing belonging to people living during the Shang Dynasty in China and thought about the impact of the Yellow River on their lives. This has been a great topic with lots of scope this term for exploring geography as well as history.

In Design Technology the children have made their 'mechanical posters' around switch off fortnight and looking after the environment.



In RE the older children have been thinking about the Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and creating stained glass windows incorporating symbols related the Trinity in the context of the nativity. The younger children are exploring the Christmas story.

In between this, we have continued to film our Christmas production: The Big Little Nativity when we can. We hope to get this finished by the end of term and will email the link to you when it is ready.

Curriculum news for next term

Next term our new school theme will be the English Queens (focusing on Elizabeth I and Elizabeth II). We will be looking at how being a Queen has changed between the two monarchs and more generally about their lives and changes between those times. In geography we will look at how settlements and world travel have changed over time (from Elizabethan to modern day). We will be exploring (royal) portrait painting and sculpture in art.

In French we will be starting a new topic on animals and in music we will be exploring lots of different types of music including baroque, Latin, folk, funk and R&B. In PSHE we will be looking at Living in the Wider World. In computing we will be looking at ways to manage and present data as well as beginning algorithms. In PE the children will be doing gymnastics, balance and dance.

More detailed information about all of our curriculum is available on the curriculum information pages of our website: https://www.lowickholysislandschools.org.uk/website/lowick_holy_island_long_term_curriculum_planning/324083

Our link with Suffolk

This week we received an exciting package from Snape Primary with lots of lovely messages from the children in Suffolk. Our children have also been creating films and writing messages about themselves and our two schools to share with Snape Primary in response.

Progress reports for the Autumn term

Our termly reports will be coming out at the beginning of next week. We will email you on the day the hard copies go out so that you know to look out for them.

Last week of term

Next week will be a little more relaxing with Christmas crafts, our party on Tuesday afternoon (children can wear their own clothes on the party day) and our church service will be on Wednesday afternoon. We are currently awaiting guidance from the Diocese and the Local Authority about whether parents can come to the church service or whether we will film it. As restrictions are tightening up, I imagine it will be likely that we will be filming it. We will email you early next week to confirm either way. We will be having a Christmas film afternoon on Thursday and we will watch a virtual panto next week to make up for not visiting the Maltings.

Christmas dinner

Christmas dinner will be on Thursday next week (16th Dec). Please see the email from school with information about this. If you would like your child to have a Christmas dinner (vegetarian options available) then **Becki needs to know numbers by Monday (13th Dec) at the latest** as we need to let the cooks at Prior Park know ahead of time. Please note that there will be no grab and go on that date.



Spellings

Year 1: **Adding the ending 'ed'**

Eg hunted, jumped, buzzing

Year 2: **Adding 'est' to a word ending in 'y'**

Eg driest, cloudiest, funniest

Year 3: **when 'ation' is added to words**

Eg information, adoration, sensation

Year 4: **homophones - same sound, different spelling and meaning**

Eg main-mane meat-meet plane-plain

Eco-Club

This week the children loved making their own wrapping paper from kraft paper. We talked about the fact that it is brown because it has not been bleached with chemicals like white paper. They all made different Christmas designs using paint and will be bringing it home to wrap at least one present with! Also, this week, Mrs Waddington brought in the hedgehog she is looking after, and we talked about how and why we care for animals. If you didn't get the chance to participate in the Shoebox Appeal, it's not too late; if you want to pack a shoebox online, just visit the Samaritans Purse website. Next week at Eco-Schools club, we will be making some natural candles!

Miss Easten



Dates for your Diary



Tuesday 14th December

Christmas Party Day— Non Uniform

Wednesday 15th December

Christmas Church Service

No Swimming

Thursday 16th December

Christmas Dinner and Film afternoon

Friday 17th December

Break up for Christmas Holidays

Wednesday 5th January

Return to School