



Dale Hall Diaries

DALE HALL COMMUNITY
PRIMARY SCHOOL



A message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have come to the end of this Autumn term and it has been such a busy one as always. December always marks a time of singing and this year it wasn't any different! It has been so lovely to walk through the hall and hear our Christmas plays being rehearsed, carols being practised and Christmas music sounding out from every classroom. The children's Christmas jumpers, festive outfits and decorations are everywhere to be seen. It really has been something to celebrate this year.

On Wednesday we had our Christmas dinner which was so delicious, the children were really well behaved and had a fun time making their Christmas hats. A big thank you to our kitchen staff and midday supervisors for ensuring we were all organised and well fed!

It just remains for me to say I really do hope you manage to have a lovely Christmas, in whatever way you can this year. This term has not been easy for many of us but I am very grateful to you all for your support and understanding when we have had to change things, move things or cancel events. We are looking forward to seeing you all in 2022, in the meantime I hope you have a great Christmas break.

Best wishes,
Mrs J Dedicoat

December 2021



Staff News

As most of you know our lovely Deputy Head Mrs Spalding is starting her maternity leave in January. We will all miss her very much and would like to take this opportunity to wish her all the very best when the new arrival comes!

From January.....

Mrs Morris will be taking on the post of Acting Deputy Head. Mrs Allum will be stepping up to take on the post of Assistant Head for KS2 (Mrs Goodfellow's maternity post) and Mrs Cattermole will step up to take on Assistant head for KS1.



Now we have broken up for the holidays you need to report positive cases via the NHS app. I do so hope everyone stays well over the Christmas period.

DALE HALL COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dale Hall Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 4LX | 01473 251651 | www.dalehall.suffolk.sch.uk

"Learning together to challenge and achieve"



This Month's Highlights

Reception

Reception have been getting into the Christmas spirit from craft activities to practicing the play! They have been putting their segmenting and blending to the test as they read and write Christmas lists for Father Christmas. We have been incorporating singing number songs in Maths to help us use a 5 frame!



Year One



The Year 1 children worked so incredibly hard rehearsing for their Christmas performance 'Snowy Chums' and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements!

As well as preparing for the Christmas play the children have found time to finish their Science learning about animal families focusing on the features of fish and amphibians. The children were then able to confidently identify and classify a variety of animals into their 5 groups according to their features.



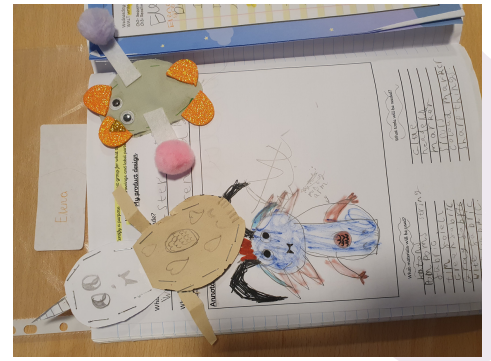
The Autumn term has been a busy one however the children have amazed us with their growth hero attitudes towards their learning. Well done Year 1- now for a well deserved rest!

Year Two

Year 2 have worked so hard this term preparing and performing their Christmas Production Snowy Chums as well as writing poems, letters and diaries. In DT the children planned, designed and made their own worry monster.

The children have even found time to prepare for Christmas by making christingles.

Merry Christmas from the Year 2 team.



Year Three



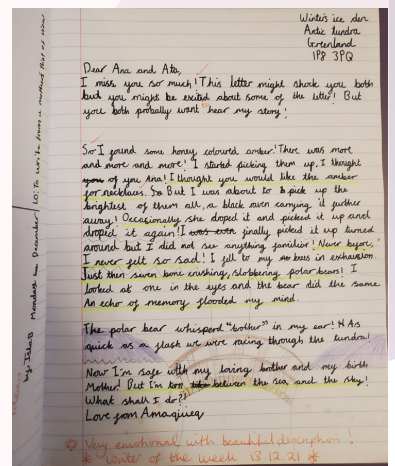
We have moved from addition and subtraction to multiplication and division in our maths lessons and have shown a deep understanding of using arrays. We will be using what we know to create some wonderful Christmas themed maths games. The year 3 Harlem Globetrotters have finished their PE topic of basketball and slam dunked their way through each activity. We're hooping to have the next big basketball star!

All in year 3 would like to wish all at Dale Hall a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

As the festive period approaches, Year 3 have been finalising their PoR book Libba. This has seen us tackle subjects like slavery, segregation and share cropping. Both classes have created some wonderful creative writing as well as some beautiful artwork to portray the the life of Elizabeth 'Libba' Cotten.



Year Four



Year 4 have had a busy end to the term! We had a fantastic trip to the New Wolsey Theatre to watch Jack and the Beanstalk which wasn't very good... Oh yes it was! In Art we have experimented with nail varnish to create a background for the northern lights with a polar bear at the forefront and mountains in the distance. During our English lessons we have written a letter to the lost inuit child's parents explaining their decision to either return to them or stay with the animal family. The children have worked extremely hard this term and should be proud of their achievements.

Year Five

Over the last few weeks in year 5, we have been listening to, investigating and creating our own poetry based on the 5 senses. The children have really had a chance to let their creativity flow and have produced some beautiful images to accompany the TS Eliot poem "Prelude." We discussed the images this poem created in our minds, and then used watercolours to create some fabulous images.



We also wrote our own poems and performed them in front of the class. A Lot of these poems were based on what we see, hear and most importantly taste at Christmas time. They certainly made us get into the festive spirit!



Year Six

We also really enjoyed a festive end to the term, baking and icing ginger biscuits and making Christmas boxes. It was lovely to spend time working in teams and doing something a little bit different.



Year 6 loved working with the Coding Robots this month as part of their ICT. We learnt how to move the Robots via the iPads, we also managed to programme them to speak, follow instructions and interact with each other. It was great fun!



Well I'm sure I say it every time but I can't quite believe that we are in December and I definitely cannot believe that the end of term is in sight! I hope you are all feeling ready for the Christmas holidays and I am keeping everything crossed that this year we can spend Christmas in the way we choose.

Despite many things not being normal yet, we have seen some glimmers of normality this month. Last week I was lucky enough to watch the wonderful KS1 performance of Snowy Chums, I can't wait to watch the recording of the EYFS nativity this week too and as I have walked around KS2 it has been lovely to hear christmas carol rehearsals too. Last week I did some staff training on Growth Mindset and it has been fantastic to revisit why this is so important to us at Dale Hall. We have delved deeper into how this looks day to day in the classroom and I was really pleased to see teachers excited to share the growth mindset behaviours they already see in the classroom. Mrs Allum will be taking a lead on this whilst I am on maternity leave and I really hope our Growth Mindset parent workshops can happen soon as part of this.

My baby is due in January so this will be my last newsletter for a little while. I would like to thank you for all of your kind messages and I will be sure to keep you posted in the New Year.

Merry Christmas
Mrs Spalding

