

# Class Updates - 02.12.2022



## **Butterflies update:**

Butterflies have been practicing singing the songs for the Nativity and have been learning about **Advent and how different countries around the world celebrate** and countdown to Christmas.

The children enjoyed their first visit to **Saffron Walden Library**. The children learnt about getting their own library card and saw just how many amazing books they can borrow for free!

The children then had lots of fun showing of their champion dance moves at the **PTA KS1 Disco**. Photos to come next week!

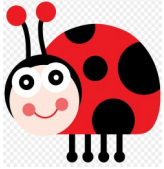
The children have also been enjoying their turn for **Show and Tell** and sharing with the class some of their favourite things. Please check your child's bag for a letter for when it is their turn. Some super items have been shared so far...



Please can you ensure that your child has their **Nativity outfit in school by Wed 7th December** so the children can have a go at getting it on and off, ready for our dress rehearsal on Monday 12th December. We will then send their outfit back home for you to dress your child for the actual **Nativity at 6pm on Tuesday 13th December in St Mary's church**. Any questions, please speak to a member of the EYFS team or send a note on Tapestry.

Reception also have an '**Oral Hygiene**' day on **Friday 9th December**—please send your child in with a small named bag with their toothbrush and toothpaste in. Thank you for your support! Have a lovely weekend,

**Mrs Jewan & EYFS Team**



## Year 1 Ladybirds Update

***Another very busy week in Ladybirds! We started the week with a visit to the library in town. We loved exploring the books and listening to the librarians read us some stories. In English, we have been busy thinking of interesting verbs that we can put in our story and in maths we have been doing lots of reasoning and problem solving! It was mud galore at Forest School this week and in PE we are becoming championing gymnasts! In computing we have been making more digital art based inspired by Matisse. We are all very excited about the disco on Friday! Look out for photos in next week's newsletter.***

***Mrs Nicholson, Mrs Potter & the Year 1 team***



## Year 2 Caterpillars Update



Year 2 have worked extremely hard this week completing their first couple of practice SATs papers as part of their assessment week. Their focus has been fantastic and they have persevered brilliantly. In Maths, we have been looking at shape this week. We have been learning the names of 2D shapes and looking at how many sides and vertices these shapes have. Grasshoppers have been writing fact files about the Christmasaurus (the title character from our class book) in English.

We have been having lots of Nativity practice this week too and the class have done a fantastic job of learning their lines. We can't wait to share all our hard work with you! In RE this week, we learnt about how Christians celebrate Advent and created our own advent wreaths. These are a special set of candles which Christians light every Sunday during advent in the lead up to Christmas.

***Miss Allin & the Year 2 team***





## Year 3 Grasshoppers Update

Grasshoppers,

During this week, we visited the local Library in Saffron Walden. The children had to complete tasks, and they learned how to find books about our topic (Ancient Egypt) in specific areas. We then had a look around the library and all the different areas. I hope this was a beneficial experience for the children and that they will sign up for a Library card if they do not already have one!

In Science, we did our first experiment on light. We made the classroom completely dark and used torches as our light source with paper plates attached. We then selected different surfaces and materials to test the light's reflection. The children came up with fantastic explanations of how we see and what reflection is.

Finally, in PSHE, we looked at a tool kit to use when we in 'red' in the zones of regulation. The children came up with some fantastic ideas of what they can use when they feel this way to help them calm down.

Have a fantastic weekend,

***Mr Brown & the Yr 3 team***





## Year 4 Fireflies Update

This week we have started our letter writing unit in English. We are basing it around a book called 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. In the story the crayons all write letters to their owner Duncan giving reasons why they have quit being his crayons. The class have used this as inspiration, to first write a diary entry imagining they are the crayon and what they would do once they quit, and then they will use it to write their own letters to Duncan.

The class have been working hard on their Autumn term assessments this week, completing an arithmetic, one reasoning (maths) and the spelling, punctuation and grammar papers. Next week, they will finish off with the second reasoning (maths) and the reading paper.

In science, the class conducted the experiments they had planned last week, recording their results and a conclusion of what they discovered. I was most impressed with their independence during this task.

Next week (every afternoon) we will be having a 'design and technology' week where the class will be designing and making their own toys. They will be linking in their science by including an electrical element in their design.

***Please can I ask parents/carers if they could begin collecting any junk modelling materials you may have at home, such as: cardboard tubes/boxes, plastic bottles, tubs etc... and send in anything you have collected by Wednesday next week. Myself and Mrs Smith have been collecting so we will have lots spare if needed. Thank you in advance.***

***Mr Pike & the Yr4 team***





## Year 5 Busybees Update

December is here and our Bees have been doing a good job of learning the Christmas Story in British Sign Language, ready for the carol service later this month. We have also been very impressed with their organisation and practical skills both in Science and in DT. Our experiment into the effects of air resistance on different materials was really interesting—the paper and plastic parachutes were voted the best as they floated down to the ground slower than the cotton parachutes. The plans for the Christmas toys in DT are going well and the children showed off their sewing skills this week, getting ready for the real thing with the felt next week! Passing and tagging was the focus during tag rugby this week—the children especially liked our game Mice and Monsters where they had to tag their opponent. We will practise this more next week ready for the inter-house competition at the end of term.



Lastly, we spent some time really thinking about how we feel when we're in a good mood and a bad mood, what helps us to get out of our bad moods and how we can communicate our feelings in a positive way. We are very proud of all of the ideas that the children put in their toolbox so remember to use them the next time you are feeling down! Also remember to get that homework finished and keep reading with adults at home—we can really see the children improving so well done.

*Mrs McInnes, Mr Powlesland and Miss Driscoll*





## Year 6 Dragonflies Update

This week, the Dragonflies class were faced with their first round of assessments... However, they all gave them their best shot and I have been really impressed with the workings and diligence shown by all of Year 6 in the tests (particularly in maths, where the children really applied the skills we've been practising!).

Having said this, we did still manage to squeeze in some other subjects too! The children learnt to create hyperlinks in their computing lesson, and some of the children were able to create a loop between their homepage and their other webpage! They showed fantastic debugging skills and their problem solving has come on leaps and bounds.

We also had time to summon a plague doctor to give us an overview of Medieval Medicine! He was a bit creepy looking, but there was actually a reason for the bird-looking get-up—ask your child to see if they can remember why plague doctors wore such frightening masks!

The class burned off some energy with a ball-catching challenge too—a big thanks to Ms Driscoll for organising it and for helping us score so highly!

**Mr Clarke and Mrs Norman**

