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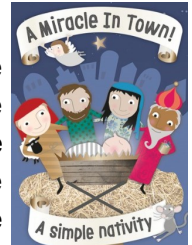
Be Adventurous Be Ambitious Be Curious Be Kind

Date: 8th December 2023

# Newsletter

Dear Families,

Term 2 has nearly come to an end and this will be our final newsletter this term. We hope that parents of children in our Reception classes have enjoyed watching the children's performance of "A Miracle in Town". A big thank you to all the staff who have worked so hard to teach the children the words and songs and a big thank you to the help you have given at home practising songs and providing the costumes. But the biggest thank you of all to the children for being so confident and making us proud!



Just a reminder that there is a Christmas singalong in the playground next Monday & Tuesday starting at 2.15 pm for parents of children in years 1 –4. Please come along and support your children who have been perfecting their songs over the last week (wrap up warm!).

We also look forward to seeing you from 2.30pm (or 11am/3pm for Nursery) next Thursday at our Open House session; this is a chance for you to come into your child's classroom to view their books and class displays.

We saw an amazing array of Christmas jumpers yesterday. Thank you to everyone who has donated on the Just Giving page—we have only raised £138 so far for the Save the Children charity but there is still like to donate, please click on this link: <https://christmas.savethechildren.org.uk/fundraising/CJD230033389>



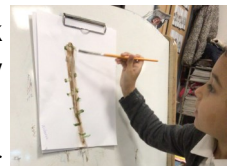
Don't forget to come to Christmas Fair **this Sunday, 1pm-4pm**. Friends of Badbury Primary have been working hard to make this a huge success and have organised many stalls, games, delicious bakes and even a visit from Father Christmas. I hope to see you all there.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break and look forward to welcoming you back on 4th January—we are excited to see what 2024 brings for Badbury Park Primary School. Keep healthy and safe and enjoy this special time with your loved ones and family.



Mrs Dance

**Nursery** This week we have been looking at one of our favourite stories – Stick Man! We learnt how to use the watercolours to carefully paint Stick Man's family tree. We were so proud of our artwork!



Outside, we explored different ways to make numbers using our Numicon and matching shapes. We became explorers and looked at pictures of familiar locations around Swindon. The children were keen to share the places we recognised like Coate Water and Kids About!



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## Reception :

What a busy week we have had! We are so proud of all of the children in Ash Tree and Oak Tree class. Standing on a stage, in front of grown ups and all of the children at Badbury Park can be quite daunting but they all sang beautifully, tried their best and most importantly had fun! We have been decorating our classrooms, putting up the Christmas trees and creating our own decorations to hang.

Oak Tree and Ash Tree have been practising all of the sounds we have been learning in phonics and have had some Christmas writing challenges to try.

One more week of fun and excitement before a well deserved break!



**KS1** Year 1 have had a fantastic week writing to Santa about our wonderful growth mindsets! We wrote about all the lovely things we have achieved this year and everything we hope to achieve soon! In maths we explored shapes and patterns and have had an amazing term using the laptops in computing. We are so excited to see what else they will learn next year, the year 1 teachers couldn't be more proud of them.

Year 2 have enjoyed lots of outdoor Maths this week. We explored 'equal' and 'unequal' groups and talked about adding repeated groups of objects. We will move onto multiplication next. We went for a short walk out of the school gates to survey the land in Geography. Afterwards, we used our findings to draw simple sketch maps of the area around the school. The children also had a very special forest school session with a camp fire and hot chocolate- what a treat! When we weren't singing around a camp fire, we were making creatures from clay and building habitats and homes for them to live in. The children thought carefully about how they could insulate the homes using grass and leaves. We finished it all off with a tug of war- a great morning had by all!



**KS2** This week, Year 3 have been learning about multiplication and have already begun learning our 3, 4 and 8 times tables. In English, we have loved reading Flat Stanley's The Great Egyptian Grave Robbery and have written our own next chapter. Over the Christmas holidays, we will also have a lovely library book to bring home and share with our families at home. Happy holidays! Year 4 have had the privilege to have guests in to talk about world religions and in particular the Hindu faith. This visit enriched our learning earlier in the year as we revisited knowledge of Dharma and some of the major Hindu festivals. Our thanks go out to our friends at the Hindu Community Centre. Year 4 also had one of the most exciting geography lessons this week as our learning about the Water Cycle culminated in a lesson on clouds and we managed to make it rain in a jar!



Today we made rain clouds



Alongside some fantastic technical vocabulary the children clearly enjoyed their learning.

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- ↳ Sports clubs for term 3 are available to book on the MCAS app
- ↳ Our new gardening club for Year 2-4 has just gone live on MCAS. This is a 5 week club from 10th January-7th February 2024, 3.15pm-4.15pm
- ↳ Over the Christmas break, please would you check all uniform is named (some names may have faded). Please wash, check and name PE kits too.



- ↳ **Children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020:** you need to apply for your child's primary school place by 15th January 2024 on the Swindon Borough Council website-[https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20071/school\\_places\\_and\\_admissions/427/primary\\_school\\_places\\_and\\_admissions](https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20071/school_places_and_admissions/427/primary_school_places_and_admissions). Please note that **all** children need to apply even if they already have a nursery place here.
- ↳ **Wednesday 13th December** : final reminder that next Wednesday is Christmas lunch and party day. Children may come to school in party clothes but will still need suitable footwear and a coat.
- ↳ **Thursday 14th December:** pocket money pop-up shop during school hours. Children to bring maximum £5 to buy presents for their family, friends or dog/cat. Please bring a list of up to 5 names, items will be £1 per item.



## "Good to be me" club

Mr Hanks will be running a new club from 11th January—8th February (3.15pm-4pm). The club aims to help children develop knowledge, understanding and skills in self-awareness, managing feelings and empathy and to help to realise that it really is 'Good to be me'. The first term will be for Years 3 and 4 for a maximum of 6 children but will be offered to other year groups later in the year. If you think your child would benefit from attending the club, please sign up on the My Child at School app next week.

## Online safety and Disney+:

With the Christmas festivities just around the corner, children are looking forward to receiving gifts. For many, this may be devices that allow access to the internet.

Even with the best intentions, many parents have a false sense of how to keep their child secure, or think their child is more secure than they actually are.

Please go to: <https://safetynet.skipseducational.org/> for a parent's guide on how to keep your child safe online.

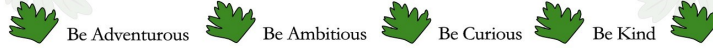
Many parents will be turning to Disney+ for family film nights over the festive season – but how free from online risks is the streaming service?

← This parent guide gives advice on how to avoid them

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## Attendance reminders

Attendance has a direct link to attainment. Achieving at school builds a child's self-esteem, as well as enhancing their prospects. Attending school and being part of the school's community gives a child a sense of belonging and promotes their social development and if a child is not in school regularly, they are not fully accessing the curriculum and learning opportunities available to them. Our school attendance levels are reported every week to the Trust and Swindon Borough Council and are very carefully monitored. As a school we are always striving to meet or exceed the national average of 96%

The average attendance percentage per class for the first two terms is:

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Apple Tree  | 91% |
| Ash Tree    | 93% |
| Oak Tree    | 96% |
| Beech Tree  | 96% |
| Pine Tree   | 95% |
| Yew Tree    | 96% |
| Maple Tree  | 97% |
| Hazel Tree  | 95% |
| Willow Tree | 98% |



You will be informed of your child's individual attendance as part of the Pupil update Cards and letters will be sent out where there is concern. Please note we do not authorise holidays or leave during term time; several families have already received a fixed penalty notice from Swindon Borough Council as a result of unauthorised holiday

**There are only 190 school days each year which leaves 175 days not at school for shopping and holidays !**

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# Newsletter

## Festive Crafts

OLD TOWN &  
BADBURY PARK  
LIBRARIES



**OLD TOWN LIBRARY**

**Mon. 18th Dec. at 11am-12pm**

**£1 per  
child**

**BADBURY PARK LIBRARY**

**Weds. 20th Dec. at 11am-12pm**

Children to be supervised by an adult at all times

Email your child's/children's library card number  
to the library you wish to book a space.








oldtownlibrary@southswindon-pc.gov.uk

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# School Diary

## October 2023

6th: School tours for parents with children starting Reception in 2024 from 4pm-5pm  
17th & 18th : Parent/Teacher consultation evenings  
20th: last day of term 1  
23rd-27th : school holiday  
30th : TD day—school closed to children  
31st: Children return to school to start term 2

## November 2023

1st: Individual school photos  
1st: Friends of Badbury Park—AGM 6-7.30pm  
2nd: Parent reading workshop at 2.30pm  
13th—17th: anti-bullying week  
13th: Odd socks day  
16th: Nasal flu clinic in school  
17th: Children in Need. Children can wear something spotty for a small donation  
w/c 27th : Christmas jumper collection (bring Christmas jumpers for sale/swap)

## December 2023

4th: Christmas Jumper Sale  
6th at 9.30am: Reception Christmas production to parents  
7th at 1.30pm : Reception Christmas production to parents  
7th: Christmas Jumper day  
10th: Christmas Fair 13:00-16:00  
11th : Christmas singalong in playground (Y1 & Y2—Yew Tree)  
12th : Christmas singalong in playground (Y2-Y4)  
13th: Christmas lunch followed by class Party  
14th: Christmas gift event  
14th : “Open house” parents are welcome to come in to see class and books from 2.30pm or 11.30/3.00 for Nursery)  
15th: Last day of term 2.

## January 2024

4th: Children return to school  
8th: Curriculum meetings for all year groups except Nursery—5pm  
12th: “Donation station” - donate any new unwanted Christmas gifts to PTA

### Teacher Training Days 2023/2024

- ✦ Monday 30th October 2023
- ✦ Wednesday 3rd January 2024
- ✦ Monday 3rd June 2024
- ✦ Monday 8th July 2024