



# Stogursey C of E Primary & Pre-School

Tower Hill, Stogursey, Somerset TA5 1PR

Tel: 01278 732389

www.stogurseyprimaryschool.co.uk

Head Teacher – Mr G Tucker, BA (Hons) NPQH



**Weekly Newsletter No 49**

**08.12.2023**

The theme of my message in this week's newsletter is 'a strong finish'. As we get to the final week, I would like to highlight the importance of attendance in the final week of the term. Christmas may be close by and there is so much fun to be had by all at school. For a start, there are plenty of Christmas crafts and activities going on in the final week as well as learning about the Christmas story itself. We have the nativity coming up on Thursday, Christmas Dinner on Tuesday as well as our service at church this time next week. Rev Alison will be popping in to deliver the materials for children to make Christingles the day before and so as you can see, a lot is going on before school closes for the break. I talk about attendance a lot and our overall percentage has held at or above our 95% target for most of the term but now has slipped to 93% recently. This is disappointing and whilst I appreciate that it is the time of year for illnesses, it is important to attend during the final week as this is such a special part of the school year and a sociable part that children need to experience. It is also a chance for the community to be involved and so I look forward to seeing how it all goes!

*G Tucker*

Gary Tucker  
Headteacher

## **Beacon**

Beacon Class had a fantastic time on Wednesday afternoon celebrating their achievement of six class stars with a Christmas movie and snacks! Pupils covered the tables in paper to doodle whilst they watched - fun was had by all. Beacon Class are rounding up their Maths topic of the four operations and will be moving onto fractions in the new year. Their English stories are almost written and artwork is nearly complete, ready to welcome you to view next week - we are all really looking forward to it!

## **Alfoxton**

This week in RE the children worked in groups creating a presentation about either Diwali or Hanukkah. Miss Mold was the pupil and the children needed to teach her about these celebrations. The children really enjoyed standing at the front of the class to deliver their presentations. We discovered that rice or chalk is used to make intricate 'Rangoli' patterns as well as the tradition of lighting candles during Diwali. Candles are also lit during Hanukkah, there are eight candles to represent the eight days of celebration and a taller ninth candle is used to light all the others.



**Chair of Governors: Mr B Maskell/Mrs J Burghes**

**'Grow in the Grace and Knowledge.'**



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## Triscombe

Triscombe Class have been very busy this week learning their Christmas songs. We have also reflected on what makes Christmas a special time of the year. In RE we talked about the similarities and differences between Christmas and the Harvest Festival, and why it is important to celebrate these special times. Luca said it's important to celebrate harvest "because people give out food". Bea added that "some people don't have homes. We can give food to other people". Amelia thought Christmas is special "because Jesus was born at Christmas", and Charlie commented that "babies are special". We all agreed with Elodie that Christmas and Harvest "are both really special".

In maths, KS1 have come to the end of their current topics and are ready to begin learning all about shape.

Reception have made excellent progress in their mastering number programme. They have been spending some time this week consolidating their learning with maths-based games, activities and play.

In English, we continue reading *Winter Sleep: A Hibernation Story*. As part of this work, the children have been learning about dormice. They used this learning to write an informative fact file about dormice. The children in Triscombe always enjoy learning and writing about animals!



## Wraparound

The children have enjoyed some baking this week and made mince pies and other creative, craft gifts that they will be taking home next week for Christmas. On Tuesday evening the children had fun playing board games followed by a movie.



## Preschool

It is with great pleasure we welcome Mrs Julie Gallimore to our pre-school team. Julie is joining us as pre-school supervisor and we look forward to welcoming Julie to Stogursey. She will be sending an introductory piece about herself early next term for parents of preschool children as well as the school.

## Christmas Dinner

If you would like your child to have a Christmas Dinner on 12<sup>th</sup> December but haven't got a log in, please contact Mrs Nicholls in the school office and she will get this set up for you. We invite children to wear a Christmas jumper, if they wish, on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

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## Important Dates

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December:

Christmas Dinner

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December:

Nativity at the Church 6.00pm-7.00pm (Children to arrive at 5.30pm)

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December:

Christingle at the church 2.00pm

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December:

Last day of term

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January:

Inset Day

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January:

First day back

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