





## Dear Families

Thank you to all the families who came and supported the PTA Christmas Social on Tuesday evening. This truly was a wonderful evening and demonstrated the impact of the Brookhurst BIG Family. It was lovely to see families coming together and sharing some Christmas cheer! A massive thank you to the PTA for organising such an enjoyable evening. Once the PTA have the finalised account, we will share the amount raised.

With the colder weather, we all appreciated our Christmas Jumpers yesterday. We raised £154.11 and this will be shared between Save the Children and Alder Hey – Thank you

This week we have seen a significant decline in children being absent from school due to illness. We are monitoring the absence and liaising with the Health Protection Team.

School Attendance Matters-We aim for 100% our target is 98%. Foundation 2 = 97%, Year 1 = 89%, Year 2 = 93%, Year 3 = 96%, Year 4 = 97%, Year 5 = 69%, Year 6 = 76%. Overall school attendance 88%.

## REMEMBER #EVERYDAYCOUNTS.

**Reading for Pleasure at Home:** We have recently set up some wonderful reading at home resources. Every week a child in each class is chosen to take home one of our reading bags or boxes. They are to be enjoyed over the weekend and returned by Wednesday. We have...

- Story bags containing a book, a blanket and sachet of hot chocolate;
- Knowledge Boxes containing a non-fiction book, coloured pencils and paper;
- Poetry Boxes containing a poetry book, sketch pad and watercolour paints;
- Play Script Bag containing a script, scrapbook, paper and glue.
- These resources have proved very popular with the children and we have loved looking at the photos of them being enjoyed at home.

**ECO Club:** Well done to all of our active children walking, scooting and cycling to school. This week 150 children have received their November badges.

We have also begun to receive the first of our batteries for the Big Battery Hunt. Please keep hold of any used batteries and send them into school so that we can recycle them for you. They can come into school in any box or container, counted or not counted. There are some fantastic individual prizes and school prizes available for the school and child who recycles the most batteries. Please do ask any friends or family members for their used batteries and help us reduce the amount of rubbish going to landfill!







## 'Magic Moments'

F2 – This week F2 have been using their knowledge of 2D shapes to create their Christmas cards and calendars

Year 1 – This week Year 1 have concluded their work on George Stephenson by looking closely at the development of train technology. The children learned more about four trains throughout history and how technological advances changed the way in which the trains were powered. Year 1 were particularly fascinated by the Maglev train as it floats above the track when moving!

Year 2 – This week the children read a poem about a Winter tree. We went outside and looked at what was happening to the trees now and linked it to our learning in Science. They then wrote some wonderful poems of their own which we are going to display in our classroom.

**Year 3** – This week Year 3 have learnt more about mountains. They have also become very skilled at column subtraction.

Year 4 – This week we have been immersed in poetry, exploring narrative and rhyming structures.

**Year 5** – This week we have been exploring the book 'Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens' in our Steps to Read lessons. We have been focusing on how the author has used very descriptive language to build specific atmospheres when Scrooge encounters the different characters. We had to identify which vocabulary he had used and how effective this was. In Thursday's lesson we were thinking about the transformation of the main character from the start of the book to the end. Our class copy of the text has already been snapped up by someone in Year 5, with more waiting to read the whole book!

**Year 6** – Despite having had a week of assessments, Year 6 have enjoyed using their craft skills to produce snowflakes of different sizes.

Please can I kindly request that if you are walking to school with your dog, that you keep a distance from the children's entrance and exit. A parent has informed me that their child can be very anxious when there are dogs by the gate.

Kind regards

S. Williams

Steve Williams

AND FINALLY...... Having seen the dress rehearsal today, I can assure you that you are in for a treat on Monday and Tuesday. Please can you be in the school hall by 9:55am for the Infants and 1:55pm for the Junior Performance. Each performance lasts approximately 35 minutes. At the end of the Junior Performance you can take your child/ren home. If you have younger children you can collect them earlier from the external classroom door. Children in Years 5 and 6 can only leave earlier if accompanied by an adult.



