

Ivy Bank Primary School

Valley Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 8PB

Telephone 01625 448014

www.ivybank.cheshire.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER Mrs S J Gill



Dear Parents/Carers,

We can't quite believe how this term is flying by! We have been getting into the Christmas spirit with Elf cams, Elf on the shelf, decorating Christmas trees and preparing for our Christmas Cracker singing concert.

What have we been up to?

Our topic this half term has been 'Where my wellies take me' and 'The Polar Express.' The children have been enjoying our Santa's workshop and Christmas cafe role play areas.

This week we have been dressing the year one tree at the top of the field as part of tree dressing day, which is based on many old customs from all over the world and at different times of the year. Thank you for all your 'green' tree decoration donations.



In phonics, we have been revisiting our phase 3 phonics sounds (sh, ch, th, ng, ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure and er) and moving onto phase 4. In Phase 4, no new sounds are introduced. The main aim of this phase is to consolidate the children's knowledge and to help them learn to read and spell words which have adjacent consonants, such as **trap**, **string** and **milk**. Please use the middle of your child's reading record book to practise the phase 3 sounds.

In English, we have had a strong focus on extending our sentences using 'and' and 'because' as well as using adjectives to make our sentences sound more exciting. Alongside this we have been practising adding suffixes to words such as -un (unhappy), -est (tallest) and -ed (jumped) and what effect this has on the meaning of the words.

In Maths, we have been learning our 2d and 3d shapes, addition and subtraction within ten and place value within 20 with a strong focus on understanding the value of each number. E.g. 13 is made up of 1 ten and 3 ones.

In Science, we have been recognising seasonal change, looking at features of the different seasons throughout the year.

The New Year

After Christmas our topic will be 'The Birdie Song' where we will be going to the Gauntlet Birds of Prey Centre, designing and making their own bird feeder. We will also be taking part in the big schools bird watch with the RSPB. In Science, we will be identifying and classifying different animals with a focus on pets. Please find more information about what we will be learning on the year one page on the school website.

There is no homework for over the Christmas holidays, however, please continue to access Bug Club, practise letter and number formation and have a good rest!

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YEAR 1 DATES AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS CRACKER CONCERT

Mrs Hayhurst's class concert will be on **Tuesday 18th December** and **Mrs Barber's** class concert will take place on **Wednesday 19th December**. Both concerts will start at 3.30pm in the school hall and will finish at approximately 4.00pm. On the day of your child's concert you will not need to collect your child at 3.30pm, instead you will need to go straight to the hall for the concert. You will be invited back into the classroom after the concert to have a biscuit and catch up! If your child cannot attend the concert please let their class teacher know.

THURSDAY 20TH DECEMBER – YEAR 1 CHRISTMAS PARTY & LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Christmas Jumpers– Children can come to school wearing a Christmas jumper. No money is needed.

Christmas Party - Year 1 are having a Polar Express themed afternoon. We would like all children to bring in a pair of pyjamas in a named bag to get changed into for the afternoon. We will be serving hot chocolate, marshmallows, ice lollies and popcorn whilst watching the Polar Express.

Please speak to your child's class teacher if your child CANNOT have hot chocolate, ice lollies, marshmallows or popcorn.

TUESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY – TRIP TO GAUNTLET BIRDS OF PREY (Letter to follow in the New Year)

Have a fantastic Christmas!

The Year One Team

Mrs Hayhurst, Mrs Broomhead, Mrs Barber, Miss Prest and Mrs Brown