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Headteacher: Mr. C. Gibson

13<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope that you have all had a pleasant week as we move towards the end of the first term of the school year with a range of work and festivities to be enjoyed in the coming seven days or so.

#### Reception Nativity

Top billing on this week's letter simply has to go to our Reception children for their magnificent Nativity production which they performed three times this week to three different audiences. I know that many of you came to watch and support yesterday and I am pretty sure that you loved it as much as I, and indeed everybody else in the school who viewed it, did. As I tend to say each year, the children have only been in 'full time school' since September which is just three and a half months and already the confidence they are showing is remarkable! We are obviously both incredibly impressed and hugely proud of their achievements so well done to them all; another 'proud Headteacher moment!' Thanks also to FoB who provided refreshments and, of course, all the staff in Reception for supporting the children.

#### Christmas Lunch

A close second on the billing has to be the brilliant work by our kitchen team, led by Mrs Watson, for their slightly different production, that being the preparation and serving of the Christmas Lunches on Tuesday. Our team in the kitchen work tirelessly all year, not just on Christmas Lunch days, so a massive thanks to them all. It was terrific to see the children looking festive in their Christmas attire too which really helped create the mood.

#### Nursery Craft Day

Many thanks to everybody who attended Nursery's craft morning and afternoon on Monday. I know that the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves (and judging by some of the comments we received, lots of the parents and carers did too!).

#### Year One Excursion

Our Year One children seemed to thoroughly enjoy their visit to the Captain Cook museum to support them in their studies of the great explorer and adventurer, deepening their knowledge and understating of Mr Cook's various endeavours (no pun intended; if you know, you know!). I have little doubt that the children would have arrived home, regaling parents, carers and other family members with a wealth of knowledge gained during the day and also deepening their awareness of how historians gather their facts. A very useful transferable skill.

#### Next Week

Next week we seem to be stepping up a bit more in terms of festivities. Firstly there are class parties which you will have been informed about which will be occurring on different days through the week, all meticulously coordinated across the school!

On Tuesday at 5pm there is the annual 'Christmas Singalong' to which everybody is invited. For those who missed the information sent out earlier in the week, it will held on the 'top playground' and children have been learning the songs. However, words have also been sent out to you all so no excuses not to join in (but they may not necessarily be in the right order!)! I too may engage in a spot of 'crooning', also having no excuses! FoB will also be on hand to serve refreshments. The event usually lasts for around forty five minutes.

Thursday sees our annual sponsored 'Reindeer Run' happening across the school to support the wonderful work of Teesside Hospice which relies heavily on charitable donations to be able to offer the outstanding service it provides so many families. We obviously invite children to wear non-uniform on this day, being as festive as they wish to be! It will certainly appear like a herd of reindeer as the children will be provided antlers and a red-nose for full authenticity!

And Finally...

Wishing you all a pleasant weekend and hopefully one which is slightly less windy than a week ago!

Yours Sincerely

*C. Gibson*

Mr C Gibson