



## DIGGLE STARS

- ★ **Sam Marland** – for great reading and showing more resilience with tricky words.
- ★ **Poppy Stevenson** – for more independent learning in maths and spelling.
- ★ **All of Class 4** – For an amazing effort in their spelling test. What an improvement!
- ★ **Cole Calverley** – for excellent work in Maths this week.
- ★ **Jacob McGlashan** – for great reading and showing more resilience with tricky words.
- ★ **Daisy Lees** – for great reading and showing more resilience with tricky words.
- ★ **Joshua Broadbent** – Joshua has been trying hard to get more involved in whole class activities. He has also shown really great stable order counting.
- ★ **Grace Wallace** – for always following the 6Rs and setting a good example.



## HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS



Hopefully, you will all have seen the letter that was emailed out to you yesterday regarding Track and Trace over Christmas. As we enter this last week can I ask that you all continue to observe the social distancing rules when dropping off or collecting your child. Please stay 2 meters away from other parents and children and exit the school grounds as soon as you have collected your child. I would like to think that it has been the careful observance of our Covid Risk assessment by staff, children and parents that has kept our numbers of cases low this half term and it would be wonderful to get to the end of term with all bubbles intact. If we continue to work together as a team then we have a better chance of achieving this aim.

On a happier note, yesterday saw the first of our *Countdown to Christmas* video's making their appearance on Facebook. We are hoping that you really enjoy them, please feel free to share these with friends and family on Facebook.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

w/c 14<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Parties (see below)

Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Dinner Day

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December - own clothes day with a Christmas Theme for £1 (contribution paid via Parent Pay).

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Finish for Christmas

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021 - Back to School



## Class Parties

Class R , 1 and 2 - Tues 15<sup>th</sup>

Class 3 – Wed 16<sup>th</sup>

Class 4 – Tues 15<sup>th</sup>

Class 5 and 6 – Thurs 17<sup>th</sup>

Children are welcome to come to school in their party clothes on party day, but please remember they will still be playing out, so need to be able to wrap up warm, and they will be doing lots of normal activities in school – so no strappy tops or heeled shoes please!!

## Class R

This week, Class R have sung and sung and sung some more. We have been recording our Christmas showcase and the children had lots of fun dressing in their festive hats and costumes. We listened to Christmas stories from our Class 6 Buddies on Zoom and we were happy they liked the cards we made. We were even happier when they sent us some Christmas cards back. In the classroom, the children have enjoyed the Christmassy activities, making presents, decorating the tree and reading to Snowy and Edward - our Class Elves. In SMSC the children learnt about the Christian Christmas story and why Christians celebrate Christmas. In Phonics, we have been revising our Set 1 sounds and practicing our blending and segmenting. In Maths, we have continued our work with 3D shapes and have also been playing different number recognition games.

## Class 1

This week in English we have read more of our story Lost and Found. We have been thinking about how the boy and the penguin felt about reaching the South Pole giving reasons for our answers. In Phonics we have learnt the sounds ew, ire and ear. In Maths we have been working on finding a half and a quarter of shapes and numbers. In Science this week we have been learning to name and recognise common garden birds and we made bird feeders to hang in the playground. Our class Elf Ben has been bust this week- he even made himself some chips in the Diggle Chippy role-play area.

This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page.

## Class 2

This week we have had a great time making Christmas cards, wooden reindeer in Forest school and recording our Christmas song for our Facebook page. In our English learning this week we took a 'virtual' trip around Santa's workshop and wrote some super pieces of descriptive writing. We have worked hard with our maths learning, with more practice to use an empty number line to add and subtract. We have also been exploring to find out more about the countries in the Arctic circle. We had a vote to see whether we would like to live there or not. Fun in the snow and snowball fights proved a popular reason to live there (but not the well below freezing temperatures...!!).







Waffle found the first aid kit in Class 4!  
Timmy in Class 3 tried to make himself into a mummy!



This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page.

### Class 3

This week we have been learning about mummification in theme. We wrote instructions on 'How to make a Mummy' using our time conjunctions then even made someone into a mummy by following the instructions! Timmy the Elf even had a go at making himself into a mummy overnight. Tutankhamun was one of the most famous mummies discovered and we learnt about Howard Carter before writing a class newspaper article and a diary extract in role as Howard carter. In Maths, we have been looking at 3D shapes and had fun making a Christmas cube and cylinder cracker using a net. We have also been learning how to do column addition and assessed prior learning. On Wednesday, we enjoyed Experience Christmas when the people from the church delivered it via a video. It was lovely to learn about the events leading up to the birth of Jesus from the Christian bible. We had great time with the robots in ICT, programming them and even played football.

### Class 4

We have finished the last of this term's assessment's this week. We looked at 2D shape and perimeter for our maths tests and we tried all 108 words of the class 3 and 4 spelling test. Every single child made an improvement from their score in September, some by more than 40 words. Well done to all of you, especially those who have been working so hard on your spellings at home as well as in school. We carried out an experiment in science by placing duck eggs into a variety of different drinks to see if they would discolour. We find out the results next week. We also found time to finish off any pieces of work from our science and theme books that hadn't quite been finished. It was a good opportunity to reflect on all of our learning in this autumn term and try to go over some of our new knowledge in the hope that it sticks. Well done for a productive week Class 4.



This week in photos. More information, videos and pictures found on our Facebook page.

### **Class 5**

This week in Maths we have been looking at the difference between area and perimeter; once the children remembered the difference with working these out, they all worked extremely hard and showed great progress. In English they have focussed on writing a descriptive paragraph based on a sequence of pictures which they ordered; concentrating on including emotive language. They have also learnt about relative clauses and have started to use them in their own writing. In Science we have started out new topic areas- forces and we have explored some of the forces we already know and the impact they can have. The children really impressed me this week in the PE session this week when we learnt some moves from the 1940's dances; the Charleston and the Lindy hop. Although many of us didn't find this easy (Mrs Hazlehurst included) we all gave it our best shot and had lots of good fun along the way!

### **Class 6**

This week in English, we looked at the 'Inner Child' video (McDonald's 2020 Christmas advert). From this, we analysed the feelings of both characters in the video and discussed why each character behaved in the way they do. We then wrote a narrative from the point of view of either the child or the parent. In maths, we tried really hard to improve our show-not-tell techniques. In maths, we have continued our work on angles. This week, our focus has been on angles on a full turn as well as angles in quadrilaterals. We have been using our reasoning skills to find opposite angles. We have also begun work on estimating and using this to reason whether or not our estimations are sensible. In science, we have completed our topic on Earth and Space by researching the phases of the moon - we created a zig-zag book to record this information.



## Countdown to Christmas

Every class in school has been practicing a Christmas song of their choice which has been recorded to share with you in a *Countdown to Christmas* on Facebook.

Class 1 kicked us off yesterday (Thursday) with a gorgeous version of *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*.

Class 6 added theirs today with a fabulous rendition of *I Wish it could be Christmas Everyday* accompanied by a music video worth of MTV.

Well done everyone!

A new video will be released everyday next week. We hope you enjoy watching them. You don't need a Facebook account to view the videos just search 'Diggle School Facebook' in Google and click "not now" when asked to log in.



## Oldham Library Christmas events

Please see the attached flyer for full details of the Oldham Library Services' Christmas events – from online panto to quizzes, from Christmas craft to story time, there is lots on offer. Enjoy!

## Christmas Cards

This year we doing Christmas cards a bit differently ... Should children want to bring in Christmas Cards for their friends, they can only bring cards for others in their own class. Please do not bring cards for anyone outside of their class.

The last day to bring in cards is Monday where they will be put in a designated bag in quarantine until Thursday, when they will be given out by the teacher. This will help minimise any risk of passing on the Covid virus from household to household.

Also please remember that should you wish to bring something in for the staff in your child's class, you must do so by Tuesday of the last week at the latest so it can be left in quarantine in school for 3 days before being taken home. As said in last week's head teachers' comment, there is no absolutely no expectation of gifts, but some parents have asked what the arrangements are.

We announced a few weeks ago that FODS have been accepted into the Amazon SMILE programme. This gives us a donation direct to FODS of 0.5% on any eligible purchases.

This is a great way to support FODS and school.

To register FODS as your chosen charity you will need to do the following:

1. Visit [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) via your web browser
2. After logging in using your usual Amazon password, choose *Friends of Diggle School* as your chosen charity
3. Open your app and visit "settings" and "Amazon Smile", and the follow the steps to activate.
4. You'll need to renew the charity choice every 6 months, so we'll send our regular reminders.

The app will do it automatically, but if you usually shop on Amazon through the web, then start using [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) instead of Amazon.

FODS hope that this will be a great way for us to raise money at no extra cost to you. We'll provide quarterly updates on how much we are raising. Happy Shopping!!



## Christingles

At this time of year, members of the local church community usually come into school to talk about the Christingle and work with the children to make their own, which they are invited to take to the village Christmas lights switch-on. As with many things this year, the usual traditions cannot happen, however Class 1 have enjoyed making Christingles in class with Miss Buckley. The children learned about what each of the different parts represented.



## Diggle Community Brass on tour in Diggle

There are lots of things that will make this Christmas different – for many of us in Saddleworth, whether we are musically inclined or not, the sound of a Brass Band playing carols is one of the things that means it is properly Christmas.

Diggle Community Brass will be helping us on our way to feeling a little more Christmassy with a Covid-restriction-compliant touring small brass ensemble!! Spread the word to your friends and neighbours and listen out when they are near you. Please do donate via text if you can.

**Please remember to stay on your own doorstep to listen to the band – the sound will travel!!**

## DIGGLE COMMUNITY BRASS



Band members from your newly reformed village band will be entertaining you during December playing a selection of Christmas Carols  
*(Weather permitting)*

Following the current Government Covid guidance we would like to encourage people to enjoy the carols from their own homes, so as not to form any crowds outdoors which may break current social distancing rules. Listen out for us on the following dates:-

### FRIDAY 11th DECEMBER

from:- 5.30pm  
DIGGLE CHIPPY  
AMBROSE CRESCENT  
LOWER WRIGLEY GREEN  
MOOR CRESCENT  
RAVENSTONE ESTATE

### WEDNESDAY 16th DECEMBER

from:- 6.30pm  
SUNFIELD ESTATE  
LOWER KNOLL ROAD,  
SLADES VIEW  
TURNPIKE  
BUCKTON CLOSE  
ELDERBERRY  
BROOKHILL

### FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER

from:- 6.30pm  
HEATHER WAY  
SAM ROAD  
CLYDESDALE RISE  
FATHERFORD CLOSE  
HARROP GREEN

### MONDAY 21st DECEMBER

from:- 6.30pm  
(COUNTY ESTATES)  
DORSET AVENUE  
KENT CLOSE  
GLOUCESTER DRIVE  
DEVON DRIVE  
CORNWALL CRESCENT



If he's not too busy at the North Pole,  
Father Christmas might be able to join us!

We are unable to physically collect donations at this  
but the band would be grateful  
if you donate by text:-

Text Brass 2 to 70085 to donate £2

Text Brass 5 to 70085 to donate £5





# Christmas Hamper Raffle

A huge thank you to everyone who has brought in items for the FODS class hampers. These have been made into 7 individual hampers with the items from each class put together, and they look absolutely amazing!!



Unfortunately, there has been a significant delay on the raffle tickets arriving, and due to the strict rules governing raffles, the draw must be done on the day printed on the ticket – which was originally MONDAY.

The FODS helpers have pulled out all the stops to manually alter the date on every ticket over night and the draw date is now FRIDAY 18<sup>th</sup> December.

All children have been given 3 books each today – if you want more there are a few spares – please email or telephone the school office to request them.

*The race is now on – who can sell their tickets and get the money back into school the quickest !!*

The draw will take place in school on Friday morning, and the winners will be contacted to collect their hampers the same day.

PS – PLEASE send stubs and money back to school in a SEALED envelope / foodbag. **DO NOT send in loose change.**



@friendsofdiggleschool

FODS would like to thank everyone who bought Christmas cards and accompanying gifts. All the designs were absolutely fantastic, and we raised **£408!** We hope the children enjoyed doing their own designs and will be looking at doing this going forward.



As a big thankyou for all your support in the events we put on, FODS are bringing the pantomime to school this year! We know how much all the children like going to see the panto at Christmas and as they can't do that this year, we have organised for the virtual interactive pantomime 'Cinderella' to be brought to all the children in their class bubbles. This will be a really fun afternoon for them to enjoy in the run up to Christmas!



FODS will also be providing popcorn and a sweet treat free of charge for your children to enjoy during the performance!

**Thankyou for all your continued support during these challenging times!**

If you have any ideas for fundraising FODS would love to hear from you – please get in touch: [friendsofdiggleschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofdiggleschool@gmail.com)



## Experience Christmas

The children in Year 3 really enjoyed learning about the Christian beliefs when listening to people from the church talking about the events leading up to the original Christmas. This year had to be done via video and the children loved taking home their bag of activities and goodies.

