



DIGGLE STARS

- ★ **Lillie Smith** – for being so kind and helpful with other children this week.
- ★ **Abi Bird** – for giving 100% effort in R.E. this term and consistently producing excellent work.
- ★ **All of Class R** – for a fantastic first term at Diggle School!
- ★ **Edward Russell** – for staying focussed and behaving responsibly during the run up to Christmas
- ★ **Charlotte Hughes** – for super teamwork when making her diorama and being kind during our class party.



HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS



This edition of the Diggle Star is filled with festive fun Covid style. I am so pleased that we have still managed to make this last week for the children exciting and magical. I would like to thank FODS for their kindness in purchasing the Pantomime which has gone down a storm. Also, all the staff in school who worked so hard along with the children to make their Christmas video's for Facebook which I am sure you will all agree have spread a little of the magic of Christmas this last week. Also thank you to the children who have made everything so enjoyable with their exuberance and enjoyment.

I cannot express how sorry I am that we did not quite make it to the end of term without losing a bubble, but the forbearance and humour that has been shown by our year 5 families on being told the news today was incredible.

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and hopefully and a much better 2021.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Friday 18th December - Finish for Christmas

Tues 5th Jan 2021 - Back to School



Class R

This week, Class R have definitely been celebrating Christmas! We created Christmas cards for our families and made some yummy coconut bauble truffles. On Tuesday, we had our Christmas party, where we played lots of party games like; Pass the Parcel, Musical Statues and Don't Wake Santa! Class R also got a special Zoom call from Santa Claus, in the North Pole!! They were really excited to tell him what they wanted for Christmas and ask him questions about his Reindeer. Santa also dropped off some early Christmas presents for Class R. Finally, we all really enjoyed the Pantomime; Cinderella, and our Christmas dinners. Phew! A busy week but well done to Class R for completing your first term at Diggle School.

Class 1

This week has been lots of fun in Class 1! We had a great time on Tuesday watching the virtual Pantomime - Cinderella - in the morning and enjoying our party in the afternoon. We had a surprise Zoom call from Santa Claus, played lots of games and danced to the Christmas music. In theme this week we have completed our Polar Dioramas and they look fantastic - take a look on Facebook for some photos of them. We made some tasty festive treats on Thursday and enjoyed a Christmas packed lunch. We have really enjoyed our Christmasy non-uniform day too!

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

Class 2

We have had a fun time this week with lots of Christmas activities. We enjoyed our party on Tuesday where we had a party lunch, played lots of games, did a treasure hunt outside and played musical statues. We had a lovely afternoon on Wednesday watching the Cinderella pantomime with sweets and popcorn during the interval. We ate a delicious Christmas packed lunch with lots of yummy treats on Thursday. Then we made Christmas crispy cakes..phew..what a busy week!!



I will post through my letter box

A lovely soft blanket with snowflakes on it,
Six mice pies to keep me warm in the winter,
A lovely warm hot chocolate with cookies to dip,
Long icicles, cold and smooth,
A woolly hat, spotty and soft,
A sunny snowman with a long pointy nose.



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

Class 3

This week we have had fun making Christmas 3D crafts in maths. We have made a cone angel, Christmas cube and a cylinder cracker. We have learnt all about the number of faces, edges and vertices of common 3D shapes and looked for examples around the classroom. In science/ICT we went on Purple Mash to write about different rock types. In theme, we looked at mummies and the afterlife and the goddess Ammet, before creating some similar gods of our own that would eat you if you didn't make it to the afterlife. We completed our final robot lesson on Monday with City in the Community; enjoying more fun and programming. Wednesday was Class 3's Christmas party then pantomime in the afternoon thanks to FODS. We had lots of fun with the conga, games and of course lots of party food (Oh yes, we did!) The children have had a lovely week and we hope you like the Christmas cards that they worked on so hard. May I say thank you for all the cards, presents and good wishes from the children and wish you all a 'Merry Christmas'!

Class 4

We created some wonderful Christmas cards on Monday this week which have been taken home to our loved ones. On Wednesday we finished our Science experiment by observing the changes that had occurred to our white eggs. We noticed that the eggs which were submerged in the milk and water had not changed colour, but all of the others had. We noted down, and then drew our findings. We enjoyed the pantomime on Thursday afternoon and loved the popcorn and sweets provided by FODS. We also had a blast at our Christmas party on Tuesday playing all sorts of fun games.



Here are the watercolour pictures created by year 5.

Class 5

This week in English we have looked at Modal verbs; identifying them and writing them in our own sentences. In Maths we have consolidated our knowledge on addition and also start to do the same with subtraction questions. In Theme, we have finished off our pictures of Spitfires and Hawker Hurricanes, all the children have worked extremely hard on these and the final results are absolutely amazing. We also had a fantastic time at our Christmas Party playing games and learning new dances.

Class 6

This week in Class 6, we have had a lovely last week in school for the build up to Christmas. We enjoyed the virtual pantomime on Monday afternoon where we were treated by FODS to popcorn and sweets. We completed some watercolour artwork on Wednesday. We used a grid to help us to get the details of WWII aircraft and then used watercolour paints to add colour to them. We have also created some handmade Christmas cards. On Thursday, we enjoyed our Christmas party, playing games such as 'corners', musical statues and 'poo the potato'. We also had a quiz - in this we had a music round, a 'close up' round, name the celebrity and many more. Class 6 have had an amazing start to the year. I am really proud of them all. I'd like to wish you all a very 'Merry Christmas'



Goodbye, Mrs Jackson!

We said a fond farewell to Mrs Jackson today as she retires at the end of the year. Mrs Jackson has been a permanent member of staff at Diggle School since 2001, however worked for several years prior to this on a temporary arrangement, so she has been part of the Diggle School family for almost 30 years. She has seen many children grow and flourish over the years, and as well as being a class room TA, she has helped shape the IT curriculum – supporting staff and students alike in making better use of computer resources, she has filmed and edited all of the school productions, and she has played a significant role in many children's lives by providing pastoral support – she has been the "go to" person for so many children over the years, and has been there for many parents too through times of crisis. Mrs Jackson is an all-round good egg, who will be remembered fondly by many pupils and their families, past and present.

Her last day in school was never going to be able to be marked as we would have usually done, with a celebration assembly to say a huge thankyou for everything she has done for the school over the years, however we were hoping to give her a covid-safe send off Unfortunately, these plans were scuppered after the y5 bubble went down at the 11th hour ... So, Mrs Jackson's last day in school was spent with her feet up at home reading, the cards the each of the classes had made her. She got a head start of retirement life!

Goodbye Mrs Jackson – we all wish you a relaxing but fun-filled retirement, with lots of laughter with friends and family, and we hope that you can still come and visit us now and again.



We will miss you

Countdown to Christmas

Every class in school chose and practiced a Christmas song which was then recorded to share with you in a *Countdown to Christmas* on Facebook.

A new video has been released everyday since last Thursday, and they have been truly AMAZING!! We hope you have enjoyed watching them – if you haven't seen them yet, head to our Facebook page. 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.

Well done to everyone – children and staff – for helping spread a little Christmas Cheer!!



Notices

Parent Pay

We appreciate this is a costly time of year, and after the year we have had, money is tight for many families, but please can we ask that you make every effort to clear any dinner money and BASC debts you may have so you can start the new term in credit. Thankyou.

Spare clothes

Please can we ask that any clothes your child has come home in during this term that are not theirs are brought back into school (eg if they've fallen in mud and had a spare pair of trousers). Our supplies of spare clothes are running very low. Equally, if you have any old uniform you no longer want, especially trousers, or any jogging bottoms that no longer fit, please consider donating them to school for the spares box. Thankyou

Princess Trust

Perhaps inspired by Grace in Class 6, Eve Hall in Class 1 has also had her hair cut and has donated her golden locks to the Princess Trust. Well done Eve! Your hair looks beautiful.



← Before

After →



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

After a tense few days of printing delays and delivery delays, and a late night altering the draw date on all the tickets by hand The raffle was finally drawn today!

You have all been amazing at getting the money and stubs back in super quick time. The draw took place this morning and the winners are:

Class R hamper - N Wallace

Class 1 hamper - K Sorenson

Class 2 hamper - L Whitehead

Class 3 hamper - J McLoughlin

Class 4 hamper - O Smith

Class 5 hamper - S Coulson

Class 6 hamper - S Blackburn

Congratulations to all the winners - Enjoy!!

We have raised a massive **£1117** Thankyou to everyone who took part, as well as everyone who donated.



Christmas Message From FODS

Thank you so much for your continued support during this very different way of fundraising this term! Your support with all our activities is greatly appreciated and we have raised a fantastic amount money this term considering we are currently unable to put on any face-to-face events. From a very successful Spooky Trail to Bags2school collections and our wonderful hamper raffle we have run hugely successful events and we would like to say a massive thank you to the wonderful FODS committee also who work so tirelessly to make these events a success! All that's left to say Merry Christmas we hope you have a wonderful holiday, and we look forward to seeing you in 2021!

Keep safe

Laura Derbyshire & Jennii Chapman

FODS Chairs



@friendsofdiggleschool

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 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** 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!!

A HUGE thankyou to FODS for funding the virtual panto and our tasty panto snacks.



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

Staying Covid-Safe over Christmas and on our return in January

Please can we remind everyone to make sure they are familiar with the covid restrictions for our area, and what to do should you have possible Covid symptoms.

We have a Covid-19 section on the school website with links to the latest Government Guidance.

For example, if you or anyone in your household has symptoms, the person with symptoms must go for a test and the whole household should isolate until the test result comes back.

If you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive, you must self-isolate for the whole duration of the isolation period.

The isolation rules changed mid December:



While the restrictions have been lifted to allow Christmas festivities, there are very clear and stark messages from the scientific and medical communities that while things are legally allowed, they may not be the most sensible action - the analogy has been drawn with driving at 70pmh on the motorway in snow ... 70 is the legal limit on the road, but in snow, just because it is legal doesn't make it sensible.

Oldham Council's message is as follows:

Between 23rd and 27th December people can form an exclusive, fixed 'Christmas bubble' composed of people from no more than three households. The three households must be the same households over the whole period and can meet up in private homes and gardens, places of worship and outdoor public spaces. Although you can do this, our advice is to continue to be cautious and continue to reduce your risks of COVID over the festive period. You can meet up with a maximum of two other households but, if possible, please reduce the numbers of individuals you meet with over this period. In addition, if you can, meet outdoors rather than indoors. If you can't then increase ventilation by keeping windows open is a good idea. We want to ensure that we reduce the likelihood of spreading COVID in our communities.

Please think carefully about mixing indoors with anyone outside of your normal household, and have a safe and happy christmas and new year.







We had a wonderful time this week at our Christmas Parties ... Santa even came to visit Classes R, 1 & 2 via Zoom!!



MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!



For more pictures see Diggle School Facebook Page.