



# St Philip Westbrook

## C of E Aided Primary School

[www.stphilipwestbrook.co.uk](http://www.stphilipwestbrook.co.uk)

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### Reception Newsletter – 6th December 2019

#### Language

This week saw the beginning of our studies linked to Christmas. On Monday morning the children were surprised to see a news broadcast announcing that Santa crashed his sleigh at the weekend! The children were shocked at this news and were extremely keen to help design him a new vehicle which he could use to deliver his presents. We used this exciting writing task as an opportunity to assess the children's independent writing skills and were very pleased with how keen they were to write. The children are beginning to apply more of their writing targets to their independent work and we thoroughly enjoyed reading their wonderful ideas.

#### Maths

Last week the children participated in a range of mathematical activities to help us assess how well they recognise numbers, count accurately and can solve simple addition and subtraction problems. Please continue to support children in their ordering of numbers and their ability to find the number that is one more and one less.

On Monday of this week we had a delivery to the classroom. Santa sent an elf to each classroom to spend time with the children in the lead up to Christmas. The arrival of the elf led to lots of opportunities for us to practise using positional language to describe where the elf was sitting around the classroom. We have enjoyed following the elf's antics around the school building and have found him hiding 'under', 'behind', 'in between' and 'in front' of lots of pieces of furniture!

#### Phonics

The children are making good progress in their phonics; they are learning new sounds daily and are beginning to apply this knowledge to words when reading and spelling. Over Christmas we would like the children to practise their sight recognition of Phase 2 words. They are able to blend these, however we would like them to practise reading them a little more quickly on sight. Thank you for your continued support with this.

#### Spellings

Our formal spelling assessments will begin next week. We will be testing the children on their ability to spell a collection of ten words (see below). These words have been taught to the children during our phonics sessions over the course of the term but please also practise these at home. If the children are able to spell the words confidently then challenge them to write the words within the context of a sentence. Children's spelling scores will be sent home before the Christmas break.

to, the, no, go, I, into, as, at, it, in

#### A Present for the Baby

Thank you for all of your support and encouragement leading up to our Christmas performance. We are so proud of the children for participating so well. They worked very hard learning lines, singing songs and practising dance routines and I am sure you will agree that they were fantastic!

#### Christmas Party

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December we will be having our Reception Christmas Party. On this day the children are invited to come to school wearing their party clothes. Following our Christmas worship, the morning will be spent making decorations and Christmas crafts in preparation for our party in the afternoon. We ask that children bring a small and clearly labelled plate of party food with them to enjoy before they go home. Please note that this food will be in addition to their school lunch so need not be substantial; just a few party treats.

**Thank you for your continued support,**

**The Reception Team**