



*Holy Family Catholic Primary School*

*Hall Lane, Cronton, Cheshire WA8 5DW*

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*Headteacher: Mrs J Cook-Hannah*

*We pray together. We play together. We learn together.*

# Reception Newsletter

Week beginning 28.11.16

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's December, which means Christmas is truly upon us. We are so excited to share our Nativity Play with you on Tuesday and share a mince pie or two!

## Christmas Play

As per the letter given out this week please can all children bring their school PE pumps in to school on Monday for our dress rehearsal. Please ensure these are labelled and in a carrier bag.

Children will also be let in from the playground at 8.45am on Monday and Tuesday morning so we can get them dressed in their costumes. Many thanks.

## Literacy

In our lessons this week we have been talking about the book *Coming Home* by Michael Morpurgo. There is an advert on the television at the moment for Waitrose which tells a story of a robin making the long journey home to his robin friends in a garden on Christmas Day. We have loved talking about the meaning of coming home, especially at Christmas when so many others don't have loving homes to go to. We wrote a story map about the robin's journey, talking about the feelings that the robin would have had going through all the struggles that he went through to get there.

At the end of the week we talked about other people around the world who have had to leave their homes because of dangerous situations. We learnt that a refugee is someone who leaves their home because of war and they will find somewhere new and safe to live where they can make new friends. The children showed great compassion in talking about this subject and showed a good understanding of how we could make people feel welcome in our communities and school if they have left their homes to come to a safe place. It made us all realise how lucky we are to live in a country that is safe from war.

## Maths

This week we have been exploring all of the knowledge that we have of numbers 1 - 9. At the beginning of the week we learnt the days of the week as we reminded ourselves about the number 7. We continued to use mathematical language as we explore one more than 9, 10! The children noticed it is a two digit number and we sang

lots of songs with 10 in to practice counting up to 10 from 1 and back from 10 to 1 again.

### Letters and Sounds

This week we have practiced all the sounds we have learnt so far. We have been playing games using these sounds, reading sentences and have also been looking at some interactive books on the whiteboard and talking about different aspects of reading a book for example, finding the title, reading the blurb on the back and using the pictures for clues to the text and any tricky words. We have been playing games to check children's current understanding of the sounds we have learnt so far.

### Come and See

This week we have been talking about Jesus' birthday and reading lots of Nativity stories to help us understand the story of his birth. Lots of things we have read have reminded us of some parts of our Nativity play. We read a beautiful story called On Angel's Wings about a little shepherd boy going to see Jesus for the first time in that dusty stable.

### 2Simple Learning Stories

Learning Stories will be sent out the last week of the Autumn term (weekend of 21st December). Thank you.

### School Newsletter

In addition to this class Newsletter, the office produces a School Newsletter each week. This will keep you informed of dates and events so **please read this every week to take note of these.**

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Mitchell, Ms Connolly and Miss Hindley

Xxx