

## Happy New Year and Welcome Back!

We all hope that you and your families had a wonderful Christmas break.

Miss Downs and I would like to say a huge **thank you** for all of the generous gifts and lovely Christmas cards! Also, thank you to all parents for your help and contributions towards the Christmas production, Christmas party and on trips at the end of last term; it was very much appreciated!

### Notices and Dates

**Thursday 4th January** - First day back to school

**Friday 5th January - Christmas Show and Tell**

**Friday 9th February 3.00pm** - End of unit work share- Parents invited.

**Sunday 18th February (during half term)**–

Chinese new year lion dances and celebrations in WestQuay shopping centre, Southampton-links with our Topic and might be of interest.

**Please remember to check the noticeboard just inside the classroom door for other notices and reminders.** If you have any questions or concerns, please just catch me in the morning or after school. If you wish to contact me by email, my school address is [C.Pidduck@wellow.hants.sch.uk](mailto:C.Pidduck@wellow.hants.sch.uk). Replies will be made during working hours.



**Our next integrated learning unit** will involve us following Elmer's travels around the world. Today he arrived in the classroom with some souvenirs from London which we looked at and discussed. Each week, Elmer will bring back photos and souvenirs from a different place for us to learn about and we will also think about places that are special to us.



The six places that we will be learning about are **London, Africa (Kenya), France (and anywhere else in Europe that the children have holidayed), USA, India and China.** **If you have any photos, souvenirs or information** from these places that you would be willing for us to share with the children, please let me know!

We will be looking at the food, dances, music, art, religion, clothes and culture from these countries and will talk about the similarities and differences between them. The unit will end with a work share on the final day of term at 3.00pm, when parents will be invited into class for children to share their work and details of Elmer's adventures with you.

**Please could your child bring in** a picture (photo or drawing) of a place that is special to them, any where in the world. We will then share these pictures with each other and add them to a display. Alternatively, please share a photo on Tapestry.

## Year R Curriculum News

### Elmer Travels The World!



#### How Parents Can Help At Home

- Read your child's school reading book with them and record any reading in reading diaries (even if they can only manage reading a page or two). **Books will be changed twice a week, usually Monday and Friday.**
- Set one sounds - Continue to practice writing the letters, saying the sound and thinking of words that have the sounds in. (Set two sounds will be coming later this term).
- Find ways that your child can write regularly at home. Perhaps they can add things to your shopping list each week.
- Continue to support your child to hold a pencil correctly, writing their full name, with the correct letter cases, and writing digits 1-20.
- Encourage your child to solve simple number problems (such as doubling, halving, sharing) of numbers 1-10, then 1-20, around the home.



#### **During this half term we will also:**

- Add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer. Use mathematical names for 3D shapes.
- Continue to revise set one sounds, learn new red words and start to learn set two sounds.
- Continue to learn to blend and segment sounds to read and write words and short sentences through adult-led activities and play.
- Continue to practice writing full names with all letters formed correctly and in the correct case.
- Continue to develop communication and language and personal, social and emotional areas of learning through play and adult led language groups and circle times.

