



# The Shaftesbury Park News

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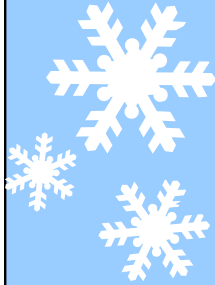


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## Children are back to school on Tuesday 6th January

### A Message from Mrs Richards



Our end of term Christmas performances were a fitting end to an exciting and busy term! They said so much about the children's development in self confidence, communication and understanding of teamwork. Even our very youngest children showed that they were able to listen carefully and meet deadlines! The children are now well established in their new classes and are working hard. I hope you found parents' evening informative and are pleased with the progress your child is making. I am delighted with the work of the Friends of Shaftesbury Park and I am looking forward to finalising the programme of yearly events that will do the important job of bringing together our community as well as raising funds.

We wish Ms Hancock and Ms McKenzie good luck as they leave Shaftesbury Park at the end of term. We will miss them! We will welcome Ms Sheahan (Interim Deputy Headteacher) and Ms Pulman (maternity cover teacher for Starfish class) to our school in the new year. They have already spent time in school getting to know the children and are very much looking forward to taking up their new responsibilities.

I am really looking forward to the year ahead and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!

### Attendance

**Congratulations to our attendance superstars! The following children have been in school everyday for the last two half terms and will each receive a bronze star badge for this excellent achievement.**

<u>Zebras</u>	<u>Tigers</u>	<u>Leopards</u>	<u>Hedge-</u> <u>hogs</u>	<u>Badgers</u>	<u>Foxes</u>	<u>Owls</u>	<u>Starfish</u>	<u>Sharks</u>	<u>Turtles</u>	<u>Dol-</u> <u>phins</u>
Malaak	Sherianne	Bahja	Archie	Mya	Anaiya	Willow	Aiya	Noah	Ria	Alex
Riley	Sella	Louis	Leon	Kaitlin	Charlie	Jamilah	Njay	Amber	Tyrell	Sophie
Dylan	Levi	Annabell	Nyran	Jaliyah	Marija	Kayda		Adam	Ayman	
Ciara		Clara	Kysen	Elodie	Siddiga	Shiqi		Connor	Carolina	
Tyler		Mehdi	Kayson	Niyah	Jamil	Monae		Ismael	Sally	
				Xinyi	Moses				Scarlett	
				Lucien	Nyla				Romell	
				Shiyao					Myia	
				Malia						
				Javen						

### Some dates for next term

- Tues 6th January - children return to school
- Fri 16th January - Sharks sharing assembly
- Fri 30th January - Hedgehogs sharing assembly
- Thu 5th February - Kids Company coffee morning on behaviour 9am
- Fri 6th February - Foxes sharing Assembly
- Fri 6th February - KS2 disco
- Fri 13th February - Last day of the Spring 1 half-term

### Dolphins



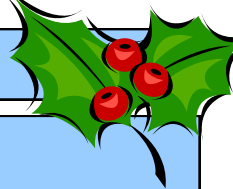
It has been a jam packed half term for the Dolphins. Our IPC topic, 'Out of Africa', has kept us busy. We all enjoyed visiting the Natural History museum and researching dinosaurs in ICT. We have made our own dinosaur fossils in class and investigated how life came out of the sea. In Literacy, we analysed different adverts and the methods advertisers use to persuade us to buy. We used these techniques when we designed our own chocolate bar and wrote our own persuasive text. We finished this unit of work off by filming our own adverts! We have been continuing to work hard in maths, focusing on our mental maths skills, decimal numbers and fractions. Dolphins have now had their last swimming lesson and look forward to our dance lessons starting on Tuesday 13th January. Have a wonderful and restful break!

### Turtles



The Turtles have had a half term discovering more about our 'Wonderful World.' We enjoyed making models of the earth, 2015 Planet Earth calendars and collages about different geographical features such as glaciers and coral reefs. Everyone has been working together to learn their multiplication facts off by heart as well as getting to grips with the bus stop method to divide larger numbers. In literacy we have focused on information writing and the importance of sub headings, technical language and conjunctions to help the reader understand the information. The children then wrote information pages about tectonic plates and natural disasters. Turtles will start their swimming lessons in the new year on Wednesday afternoons. Enjoy the holidays with family and friends.





## Zebras

The Zebras have had a very busy half term! We started our topic 'Let's Pretend' with our favourite story The Three Little Pigs. All the children enjoyed being little pigs or the big bad wolf! We have been very busy learning the songs and dances for our nativity show and put on a fantastic performance this week. We thoroughly enjoyed our theatre trip to watch 'Antarctica' where we met an owlbear! We are very excited that we now have our new safety surface and blue road in the playground. We will be able to role play crossing the road safely in the New Year.

The Zebras will be welcoming some new children into the Zebra class in January. We will also have a 'mini-boost' after school club for you to access with your child (details to follow in the New Year). Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



## Tigers

What a busy term we have had! The Tigers began our topic 'Let's Pretend' as fairytale detectives as we looked at clues from different characters to guess which story they were from. We have learnt about a range of fairytales and traditional tales from around the world. We have loved using our imagination to recreate storylines and roles. We have learnt that 'Every child has the right to be safe' during Anti-bullying week. We can tell you how to be safe when using websites on computers, tablets or smart phones. The whole Foundation Stage have visited an amazing 'Antarctica' show at the BAC. The BAC team will be running a workshop with the children early next term to explore the animals and habitat of Antarctica. This tale has inspired the Tigers to take a lead in their learning and find out more about penguins. The children thought of so many interesting questions which we are still researching the answers to! The Tigers have been working brilliantly as a team this term and have all tried their best. Phew we need a rest! Have a lovely holiday and see you next year!



## Leopards

We have had a busy and exciting half term in the Leopard class. Our topic has been 'Let's Pretend' and we have learnt a lot about traditional tales, storytelling and using our imagination to retell well known stories. Earlier on in the half term we went on our trip to the Cine Lumiere as part of the South Kensington Children's Festival and enjoyed watching a mixture of French, English and silent short films. The following week we enjoyed a workshop from the author Yasmeen Ismail, who came to share her stories with the children. Recently we went on a trip to see the fantastic show 'Antarctica' at Battersea Arts Centre where we learnt all about the animals that live in the Antarctic. Next term we will enjoy a follow up workshop from the Arts Centre and start learning about our new topic 'Food'. A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone!



## Badgers

The Badgers have had another busy term! A particular highlight was our Sharing Assembly, where we told the whole school about our addition learning in Numeracy in both French and English and we also sang "Père Noël Frappe à la Porte" (Father Christmas is Knocking on the Door"), an amusing song that linked to our IPC topic of "Celebrations". We also had a fantastic time at Gulliver's Fun Land, where we tried a variety of rides and visited Santa's Grotto and received a gift from Santa himself! Our performance of "Whoops-a-Daisy Angel" at the Ascension Church was a great success and a fitting end to our term; it really showcased how hard the children had worked to learn all of the words and actions and we were all thoroughly impressed. Well done Year One; have a great Christmas break and I look forward to seeing you in the New Year!



## Hedgehogs

The Hedgehogs class have had a fantastic half term! Our IPC topic 'Celebrations' has kept us very busy and engaged. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about different celebrations around the world. We researched, planned and carried out a wonderful class celebration as our entry point. We have been learning all about Diwali, The Festival of Lights. Pippa, our dance teacher, taught the children some beautiful Indian dancing, we made festival lanterns and created Henna patterns. More recently we have been learning about Christmas and the children have sequenced and written some fantastic Christmas stories. They loved making their salt dough decorations for the fete and our trip to Gulliver's Land was a great success! I am so proud of the children's performance in 'Whoops-A-Daisy Angel' - they worked so hard learning the songs and actions, what stars they were! I wish you a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the new year.



## Foxes

What a busy first term it has been for the Foxes! The children have settled really well into life in Year 2 and have worked hard to show some great progress too. In our last half-term our topic was 'Seeing the Light' and we were investigating and observing all of the different light sources around us. Our visit to Gulliver's Fun Land was a huge success! The children loved the different rides, as well as meeting Santa in his grotto and receiving a special gift. For the Christmas Fete, the Foxes made amazing Christmas Crackers, filled with treats, and thank you for supporting us and buying every single one! I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a great New Year. We are really looking forward to getting back in January with our new targets and our exciting new topic 'Super Humans'!



## Owls

Wow! Another busy half term. All children have worked very hard and made progress with their Autumn term targets. We have been busy learning about light sources and have explored the properties of objects that are easily seen in the dark. Our visit to Gulliver's Fun Land was amazing! The children enjoyed meeting Santa in his grotto and receiving a gift of their choice. Once again a special thank you to all the parents that supported us. Owls also made beautiful Christmas Crackers for our Winter Fete. We are looking forward, to the New Year when we will begin our new targets and IPC topic 'Super Humans'. Can I take the opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a Great New Year!



## Starfish

What busy half term! In Literacy the children have been getting used to editing adventure stories, writing information pages and creating wonderful festive poems. We have begun to learn something very new in Numeracy this term - Roman Numerals! Starfish class know how to write each Roman numeral to 10 and will be moving on to writing up to 20 in the New Year. We have been analysing all sorts of rocks and done well to explore all their different properties. Our topic this term has been Scavengers and Settlers, we have explored the Bronze, Stone and Iron ages, which the children have then created their own information texts about. It has been an absolute pleasure teaching Starfish class this term and I wish them every success for their remaining time in Year 3. I wish you all a simply wonderful Christmas Holiday.



## Sharks

There has been a lot of hard work happening in the Sharks class this half of term! We have enjoyed investigating different properties of rocks and researched information for our Scavengers and Settlers topic. In Literacy we have collaborated together to produce excellent group stories set in this time, applying new grammar concepts we have learnt in class. In Maths we have been learning about different units of measurement and how to tell the time. Thursdays have been a very exciting afternoon with Mr Smith where we have learnt how to read music and made up our own song called 'Block to Stop' about being safe on the internet. We loved making our penguin baubles for Christmas and thank you parents for buying every single one! Please keep reading in the holidays, practice times tables and using Conquer Maths. Have a lovely Christmas!

