



**WEEKLY PARENT INFORMATION NEWSLETTER – Year 1**

**For week beginning 9 December 2013**

**Messages**

- **Thank you to all of our parents who helped to prepare the activities and food for the Christmas Party. Thanks to our volunteers on the day, who helped to make the event a huge success. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves! Please look at the Year 1 Moodle page for some photographs from the day.**
- On Friday 14 December school will close at **normal time**, 3.30pm.
- Please return or renew all library books before the holidays. Children may borrow books from the library over the holiday period this year. Lost or damaged books will be charged as per the library loans policy.
- **Uniform Reminder:**  
It is expected that all students wear the formal BISS school uniform. In winter this includes a school sweater or cardigan, with fleeces available for PE and outside play. Boys should wear long school trousers and girls should wear school skirts with black or grey tights or long socks. Students should wear a dark coat and black shoes should be worn by all; **boots are not permitted.**

**Literacy**

This week we will be writing letters to Santa, Christmas lists and Christmas cards. We will also practise writing addresses on envelopes. We will revise our work on adjectives and be thinking of lots of words to describe the things we would like for Christmas.

**Phonics**

This week we will be incorporating our phonics in our class Literacy lessons. The children will be reviewing the sounds and words they have learnt over the past term. Please continue to practice the sounds your child has learnt in their daily reading at home.

**Maths**

In Maths this week we will be doing lots of activities with a Christmas theme. We will recap topics that we have covered this term. We will solve some mathematical problems related to our party.

**Themed Learning**

Themed Learning covers our Science, Humanities and Art sessions. Teachers will be adopting a themed learning approach on a weekly or biweekly basis to allow for a more creative, cross-curricular approach to learning. Teachers may highlight specific Science, Humanities and Art skills being covered each week, but generally will provide an overview for the learning block.

**Light and Dark**

This term we will be learning about light and dark. The children will learn about light sources and will identify different light sources around the school. They will learn that the sun is the sources of light for life on Earth. They will begin to understand the process of night and day and the relationship between the Earth and the Sun. The children will make observations about different light sources and will learn about levels of brightness. We will investigate the difference between light sources and reflections. We will discuss the importance of sun safety and understand how shadows are made. The children will finish this unit by learning about space. They will study non-fiction books and create a fact file about some of the planets in our solar system.



### **The World Around Us**

Our Humanities focus will continue to be the world around us. We will look at how to use simple maps and globes and learn about ordinance points on a compass. We will learn about simple picture keys and create our own maps of the places Barnaby Bear travels to and learn the names of the different continents. We will use secondary sources and artifacts to find out about different places in the world and begin to observe and comment on the similarities and differences of the different countries that we investigate. Barnaby Bear will highlight famous landmarks, traditional dresses, national cuisine, some customs and traditions in each country he visits.

### **Art - Art from Around the World**

This term we are going to look at art from all the places that Barnaby Bear visits on his travels around the world. In particular we will focus on the Aboriginal art from Australia and draw animals found on Safari in parts of Africa.

### **PSHCE**

This term the children will continue to look at how to build and maintain positive friendships. In addition to this, later in the term the children will learn about good personal hygiene. They will learn how about the importance of washing their hands properly and brushing their teeth.

### **Vocabulary**

**Literacy** – Christmas, cards, letter, address, envelope, Dear/To ..., From..., describing words

**Maths** – Review of all vocabulary from the past term

### **Themed Learning**

**Science** – light source, reflections, Sun, Earth, shadow, light, dark, night, day, bright, dull

**Humanities** – Landmark, country, custom, traditions, traditional dress, national cuisine, continent, North and South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Oceania, map, globe, North East, South, West, key, artifacts, similarities, differences,

### **Mandarin Y1 MNF**

本周我们将复习本学期所学的内容。

### **Dutch**

Deze week waren we nog steeds in de ban van Sinterklaas. Op aanraden van de Sint hebben we dan ook onze schoen geknutseld. We waren vrijdag super benieuwd of er iets in ons schoentje lag. En ja hoor... Sinterklaas was de jongens en meisjes van year 1 niet vergeten. Hij heeft nog wat snoepgoed achtergelaten vooraleer hij terug naar Spanje vertrok.

De sleutelwoorden van de klanken /e/ en /ee/ werden nog verder schriftelijk ingeoeft.

We lazen het boek "De baard van Sinterklaas" van Koos Meinderts.