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### WEEKLY PARENT Information NEWSLETTER – Reception 8 December 2014

- **Christmas Play – Tuesday 9 December 9.15am Stage One.** Please come and watch the children in their play 'Ralph the Reindeer'. They have been working so hard and are very excited about showing it to you .
- **Christmas Lunch and Party- Thursday 11 December.** Room parents will have been in contact with you to arrange the Christmas party this year. Thank you to everyone who has planned, prepared and volunteered their time to make it really special. On the day children can come to school in their party clothes. These clothes should be suitable and practical for a day in school – for both indoor and outdoor play.

#### Learning Theme; Christmas – It's Christmas!

The week begins with our dress rehearsal on Monday and our final performance on Tuesday. The children are so excited and proud of what they have done. When the play is finished we will celebrate and get ready for our Christmas Party! We will open our advent calendar every day and start to talk about what we are each doing over the holidays. Please talk to your child about your holiday plans so that they can share them with their friends.

Our Big Question will be ;

### “What are you doing for Christmas?”



#### Development Outcomes

- *Enjoys joining in with family customs and routines.*
- *Uses talk to organise, sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and events.*

**Vocabulary:** Christmas, holiday, family, plans, celebration

**Literacy** – As well and lots of speaking, listening and performing, we will be writing our own Christmas cards, gift tags and labels. We will be thinking carefully about using letters that we know to write the sounds we can hear in a word. We will try to form our letters properly so that the tags can be read.

**Vocabulary:** letter, gift tag, write, word

#### Development Outcomes

- *Maintains attention, concentrates and sits quietly during appropriate activity.*
- *Writes own name and other things such as labels, captions.*
- *Uses a pencil and holds it effectively to form recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.*

#### Phonics

All the phonics groups will be consolidating the work they have done this term, practising the sounds, blending and segmenting for reading and writing and playing lots of phonics games and having fun with phonics challenges!

#### Mathematics

We will continue to count in sequence, especially pronouncing the tricky teen words! The children will be working on strategies to find one more and one less than a given number. They will be practising *explaining how* they are finding one more or one less as well as just giving an answer. They may need to write their answers too and we will support the children to use the correct stroke sequence when writing their numbers.

**Vocabulary:** add, take away, count, more and less.

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Puxi, Shanghai

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## *Development outcomes*

- *Finds one more or one less from a group of up to five objects, then ten objects.*
- *In practical activities and discussion, beginning to use the vocabulary involved in adding and subtracting.*

## **Understanding the World: People and Communities**

As the children share their excitement about Christmas and the holidays they will be thinking about family traditions that are important and meaningful to them and comparing the things they do with their friends. We will be supporting the children to understand that we all celebrate in different ways and we should respect those differences.

**Vocabulary:** Celebrate, Christmas, special, tradition,

## *Development outcomes*

- *Enjoys joining in with family customs and routines.*

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.  
Many thanks again.

**The Reception Team.**