

# THE EARLY YEARS ECHO

DISCOVERING OUR WORLD ONE DAY AT A TIME

## Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow...

The children were ecstatic at the sight of snow a couple of weeks ago and were eager to get wrapped up to head outdoors for some fun.

“The snow is cold. It tastes like ice.” Phoebe

“I can see my footprints.” Kenzie

“It’s really slippy.” Charlotte

“Let’s build a snowman.” Felicity

“We need to make a big snowball for his body.”

Ezra

“I wish we had a sledge. I have a sledge at home.” Orla

The children immediately set about making their own sledge using a tuff tray and a rope ladder, before taking turns sliding in the sledge and pulling their friends down the garden path.



## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We can't believe we are at the end of our first full term already, but what a wonderful last month we have had! The children have loved getting into the Christmas spirit over the last few weeks and have made some wonderful memories with their friends, that we are sure they will cherish forever! We kicked off the festivities with the children beautifully decorating our Early Years classrooms, before rehearsals began for our Nativity of 'A King Is Born'. The children worked unbelievably hard to put on their best performance, ensuring they learned all of their lines and remembered the words and actions to all of the songs. Although we were all extremely disappointed not to be able to invite parents/carers into school to watch our Nativity we do hope that you love watching the children on your TVs from the comfort of your own homes and we are sure you will agree they put on an exceptional show. We would also like to say a huge thank you to parents/carers for being so flexible with the last minute changes to our Christmas events. The carols and cocoa morning may not have been what we had originally hoped for or planned, however the children had a fantastic morning all the same and were very excited to finally show off their Nativity songs you all.



Thank you again for your support so far this year and we hope you all have an amazing Christmas, and we look forward to seeing you all in 2021!

*READ ALL ABOUT IT!*

# ***IT'S PARTY TIME!***

## **Christmas Jumper & Christmas Lunch**

The celebrations continued with our Christmas jumper and Christmas lunch day. It was fantastic to see the children in their Christmas jumpers in support of the food bank – thank you for all of your extremely generous donations! The children all looked fabulous in their jumpers and were full of festive cheer! They even got to enjoy a deliciously spread Christmas lunch, which they enjoyed alongside all of their friends, complete with Christmas music and crackers.



## **Christmas Party**

We are so proud of the children's achievements this term and what better way to celebrate and reward them for all of their efforts than a Christmas party! The children looked amazing as always in their beautiful party outfits and enjoyed dancing the afternoon away to their favourite music.

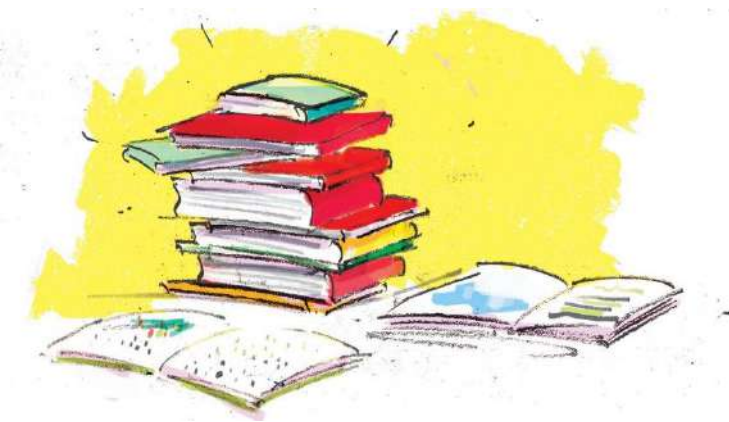
The children enjoyed participating in a range of party games and showing off their fantastic dance moves!





Numbots has been a huge hit with the Reception children this term! Again, we would like to say a massive thank you to parents/carers for your continued support with engaging your child in accessing this platform from home. The benefits of using this learning tool has been evident within the children's Maths progress at school and staff have been blown away by the children's fluency with subitising, recall of number bonds, and solving of addition and subtraction problems. Most importantly, the children have made all of this progress without even realising they have been working hard along the way. Instead the children have loved talking about their Numbots characters in school, how many coins they have won and which levels they have managed to reach. The children have become brilliantly competitive – eager to be crowned 'Numbots Champion' within their classes each week for being the player who has accessed the home learning game the most.

For more information regarding the benefits of Numbots and how to access this home learning platform, please see Showbie. Your child's username and password for both Showbie and Numbots can be found in the front inside cover of your child's reading diary. If you have any queries regarding the accessing of eBooks from home, please do not hesitate to ask a member of the EYFS Team.



## Library

In addition to your child's eBook, your child has also had the opportunity to visit the library once a week this term, where they have been able to choose one or two 'sharing books' for them to share at home with their families. The children have loved being able to choose books for pleasure and are always so excited to visit the library on their allocated day. Please see below for information on which day your child will be visiting the library.

Mrs Whelam-Tate's class – Monday

Mrs Briggs' class – Thursday

Mrs Lee's class – Friday

Please ensure your child's library books are in your child's book bag on relevant day as stated above so that your child can choose two new books to bring home. Unfortunately, if your child's library books are not in their book bags on their allocated library day they will not be able to choose new books to bring home with them.

## Little Wandle

Our new Phonics and Reading scheme, Little Wandle, has been a huge success and we are extremely proud of the phenomenal progress the children have made with regards to their reading and writing so far. We would also like to say a huge thank you to all of our parents/carers for your continued support with regards to your children's reading and Phonics development at home and for all of your wonderful feedback in support of the adoption of eBooks to support your child's reading at home.

- "It was so pleasing to hear my child say, 'I can do it mammy!'"
- "It was lovely to see how confident my child was with their reading book tonight!"
- "I was so impressed to hear my child using expression in their reading!"
- "My child was able to read without my support!"
- "My child was able to recognise all of the words by themselves!"
- "My child read this book fluently!"

As always, we please ask that you continue to read with your child daily, where possible, and leave a comment in your child's reading diary, as this also helps staff to support your child with their reading at school. If you have any queries regarding the accessing of eBooks from home, please do not hesitate to ask a member of the EYFS Team.



## Beach School

We are excited to announce that from Spring Term Beach School will be recommencing for Reception children. A meeting for all Reception parents/carers will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 4pm to provide further information regarding this. Please look out for a Teams Meeting invitation in the new year.