

Foundation

Our final week of the Michaelmas term has certainly been an exciting one! For the past few weeks, the children have been busily preparing Christmas cakes, tags and cards for you to enjoy; glitter and sequins are still firmly embedded into our carpets. Dr Larin (mother of Alisa FCH) came in to entertain the children with a puppet show retelling a traditional Russian Christmas story about Father Frost. Crowns were made ready for the Foundation party where we played different games and enjoyed a delicious party tea (make sure you have a look at the photos on the VLE). Christmas lunch was served on Wednesday with Father Christmas keeping a firm eye on who was eating up the delicious food. Today the children attended the Pre Prep Christmas Service; we hope you enjoyed this if you were able to attend.

Over the term, we have been amazed at how quickly the children have settled in to life at St Faith's and how confident they are now with all aspects of school! They have worked hard at learning to read, write and count and we are excited by the thought of watching them progress next term!

During our Music sessions this term the children have been following a programme of Dalcroze Eurhythmics. They have been learning to respond to music through movement and story-telling. They have engaged in all the activities and are responding by listening and following instructions, moving gracefully and purposefully in their own space, whilst showing some self-expression and creative flair. They have been exploring their different voices including talking, whispering, singing and shouting and some have found their singing voice. They have experienced a selection of percussion instruments and have practised sharing, waiting their turn and starting and stopping by watching and listening to the teacher. We have started to use musical language which includes higher and lower, louder and quieter and faster and slower.

We have sent home a Christmas Scrapbook for the children to use when documenting their holiday activities. You may like to include photographs, drawings or writing and these will be shared in the first few days of the new term. This activity focuses upon your child's communication skills; they will be able to practise speaking to an audience about past events and develop their awareness of the listener when talking. There is also our Christmas Challenge for you to compete to help us raise money for charity.

Over the holidays, you may also wish to encourage your child to use their sounds to write thank-you letters, read simple words in any new books received or play games on the VLE. Use phonics books 1 and 2 to keep practising the sounds taught, but please remember to return book 2 for when we resume our sound learning which will be on Monday 14th January.

However, it is also really important that the children have a rest so they can start the next term refreshed.

We look forward to seeing the children back in January and hearing about their holidays. Our topic next half term is 'Superheroes'. A topic overview will be available on the VLE in the Pre Prep parent area. Next term, we will be starting our Spanish lessons and beginning to visit the Wild Place.

We wish we you a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2018.

The Foundation Team