



Friday 4 December 2015

## Dear Parents/Carers

*The children can tell you that we are celebrating Advent, which means that we have entered a time of preparation. Indeed we have! This week, the children have enjoyed visiting the Christmas Market and the Peacocks and Robins children enjoyed having a guest to lunch. It doesn't seem possible that there are only two weeks left in school until we finish for the Christmas Break. I look forward to preparing for Christmas at Hartlip School with your children.*

## This week...

As mentioned, this week the children have enjoyed attending the Christmas Market to choose and wrap presents for family and pets. I am grateful to the PTFA for organising this event and for all their hard work. There is much pleasure in the giving of gifts and your children have certainly enjoyed playing their part in this.



Wednesday was a very busy day! Eagles Class went to The Planetarium. They had an amazing day and learnt so much. Mrs Hunt made me tingle when she recalled the lights going down low and the starry sky appearing in the presentation. The gasp from the children is something that you want to bottle and keep forever. On Thursday morning, the children were still full of stories about their experience. Such trips take much hard work and planning. I am grateful to Mrs Hunt for facilitating such hands on learning and the team she managed: Mrs Burrows, Mrs Herbert, Mrs Harley and Miss Fields. Everyone was a little tired Thursday morning!

Meanwhile, Robins and Peacocks had an invited guest to Christmas Roast Dinner. The tables were decorated with Christmas tablecloths and serviettes. Mrs Stewart and her team did an amazing job cooking and serving roasts to delight children and guests alike. Thank you for all your positive feedback. Next week is the turn of Blackbirds and Eagles. We look forward to it.

Today 37 children enjoyed breakfast in school and Christmas Activities.

The letter regarding ticket requests for seat allocations at the School Nativity has been circulated. Please return by Monday. Likewise costume requests have also been issued. Thank you for your support. We look forward to sharing The Magical Christmas Jigsaw Puzzle with you. I am grateful to Mrs Harley and Mrs Clements for working hard on the props. A project safe in their hands!



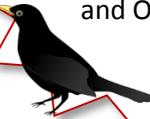
Term 2 clubs finished this week. I am grateful to staff for their hard work and facilitating a varied programme. Thank you too to Mrs Clements. Mrs Sheikh and Mrs Harley for supporting at the clubs. We do appreciate your skill and expertise in providing the children with so much enjoyment. Thank you. Look out for details for clubs on offer in term 3. Mrs Ridge will be in touch soon and I thank her for coordinating the Extra Curricular Programme.

**We celebrate the achievements of:**

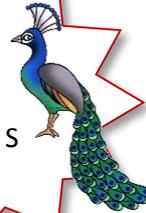
Cherish and Zachary



Imogen, Oliver and Olivia



Meghan and Harry S



Ben, Izzy, Adam, Nikita, Anna May, Luke, Esther, Ryan and Joey



**Birthdays:** Matthew



**Out of School achievements:**

**Imogen:** for her update on the fox she helped rescue. Joe was released back in to the wild fit and well last weekend

**Rebecca:** for sharing her Christmas Poem book received at Kingsquad

**Games Crew:** Shernade, Jess, Izzy and Harriet

**Tree team points:**

Highlighted = winning team of week

House	Wk 1	Wk 2	Wk 3	Wk 4	Wk 5
CHESTNUT	446	197	204	208	201
SYCAMORE	446	217	222	210	208
OAK	434	217	206	185	175
BEECH	464	229	224	197	198

Two weeks in a row sycamore! Well done! Can you win the term? Can all teams manage points over 200 next week?

**Cumulative Totals**

Highlighted = overall totals, winning team

House	T1 total	Wk 1*	Wk 2	Wk 3	Wk 4	Wk 5
CHESTNUT	1140	446	643	847	1055	1256
SYCAMORE	1376	446	663	885	1095	1303
OAK	1173	434	651	857	1042	1217
BEECH	1383	464	693	917	1114	1312

**Other bits...**

**Office Opening Hours:** Please be advised that the office will not open on a Wednesday morning until **9.30am**. Answer phone messages will be retrieved after this time. Should you require any assistance at school drop off time, please speak to the senior leader on gate duty or email/DoJo message. We are looking to source a lockable posting box for dinner money. On a Wednesday morning, please give monies/letters to your child's class teacher via your child. Thank you.

## Next week

We will be busy putting together The Nativity to present to you the following week. Please remember to have costumes in school by Thursday. Thank you

**On Wednesday**, Blackbirds and Eagles look forward to bringing an invited guest to Christmas Roast Lunch. See you there!

**On Friday**, it is our Christmas Fair. The PTFA have been working very hard to organise this for your child's and family enjoyment. We will be rehearsing in Church on Friday afternoon. We will bring your child back to the playground to meet you, then please come and enjoy all the delights of the Fair. Look forward to seeing you there! There is a flyer attached to this newsletter for your information

## Looking ahead...

On **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**, children we will be having Christmas Celebrations in school. For a donation, children can wear a Christmas Jumper to enjoy the festivities. A hat too if they wish! We look forward to this special day.

On **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December**, St Michaels Church Hartlip hosts a Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Following our pride of the choir's last appearance, we hope that they will also participate in this event. The choir have received a letter with full details. Thank you for your responses. The school community are of course all invited. The Service is at 5pm and it is hoped that our Choir will perform the final song from our Christmas Nativity.

Term 2 Staff Development Day Friday 18 December	Mon 2 November	Thurs 17 December
Mon 7 – Fri 11 Dec	Rehearsals for Christmas Plays	
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y1/2 Flu vaccines (this will be in the form of a nasal spray)	
Weds 9 Dec	Christmas Roast with your child – Blackbirds and Eagles	
Fri 11 Dec	Termly Open Forum for parents	
Mon 14 Dec	Christmas Performance – 2pm	
Tues 15 Dec	Christmas Performance – 2pm	
Weds 16 Dec	Christmas Performance – 6pm Children are expected to attend the evening performance in lieu of Thursday afternoon 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec – see dismissal time.	
Weds 16 Dec	Christmas Lunch for Children	
Thurs 17 Dec	Nativity and Carol Service am, children dismissed at 12pm Christmas Lunch for Governors, Staff and Invited Guests	
Thurs 17 Dec	End of Term 2: Children dismissed at 12noon	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Staff Development Day: school closed to children	
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols	
Christmas Break	21 December 2015 1 January 2016	

## FEEDBACK FORM

Please use this form to feedback to us anything that is concerning you or you would like to bring to our attention:

*Feedback forms can be placed anonymously in the feedback box in the lobby*

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## Robins



Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, thank you for helping your child with their Christmas creations; all the children were very proud of them and loved telling us all about how they made them.

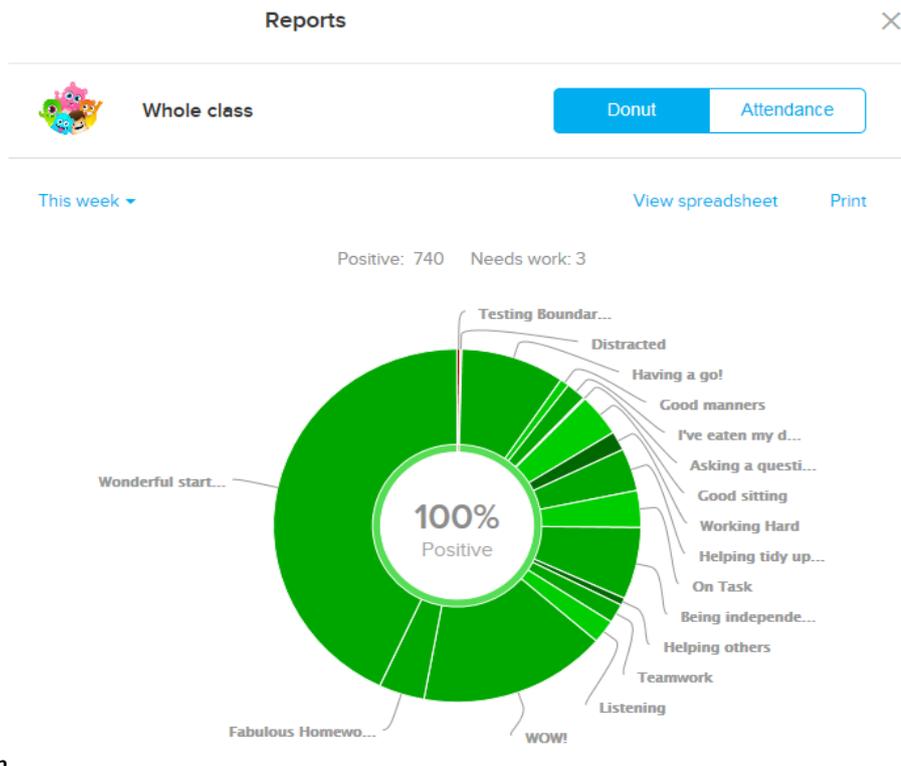
This week in RE we have been learning about the Angel Gabriel visiting Mary and talking about the period of Advent and preparing for Christmas.

We have been learning some new sounds in phonics: 'ck', 'e', 'u' and 'r'.

In maths we have been learning about "one less", counting, number formation and making 2D and 3D shapes.

Homework will be sent via Dojo as usual.

Have a wonderful weekend.



*The Robins Team*

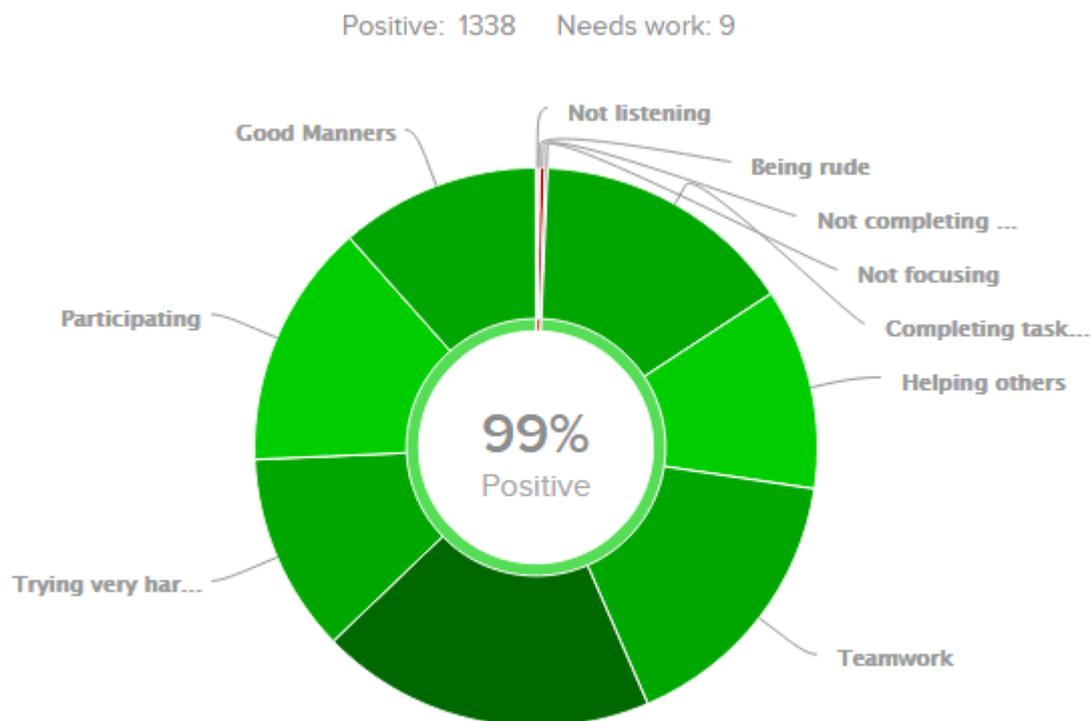
## Blackbirds

Dear Parents/Carers,

In English we have started focusing on instructions. We have followed some by making a rocket to link in with our transport topic. We are also identifying nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs as often as possible! Ask us to tell you some!

In Maths, we have been using our blank number lines again! This time we have been subtracting. Some of us need to be careful when counting backwards as we tend to miss out some numbers. Maybe we can practise at home? Some of the year twos have also been looking at how to solve arithmetic sums using our different strategies.

There is no homework this week. Instead, we need to learn our songs for the Christmas Play. We can find the words on KLZ.



*The Blackbirds Team*

## Peacocks

Dear Parents/Carers,

In literacy this week we have been continuing with our Information leaflets. We have used our notes and turned these in to paragraphs of information, including technical words and advice for the reader. We have enjoyed reading further along in 'Ice Palace.'

In maths we have been looking at multiplication and division. We have practised the grid method further and then looked at dividing by sharing. We also had a go at dividing bigger numbers using our knowledge of tens to help us. E.g. for  $240 \div 6$  we looked at  $24 \div 6 = 4$  and made the numbers 10x bigger!

This week Mrs Jerome auditioned for the Christmas Performance. The allocated roles were shared on Wednesday. Peacocks' class have the roles of the boy, the girl, the mum, Mary, Joseph, the innkeeper, the innkeeper's wife, the three Kings, the Roman soldiers and the carol signers. Some parts are speaking parts and we will all be singing! Unfortunately, not everyone who wants a speaking part can have one. Sorry if you missed out this year but we have class assemblies booked for next year that you will be able to shine in!

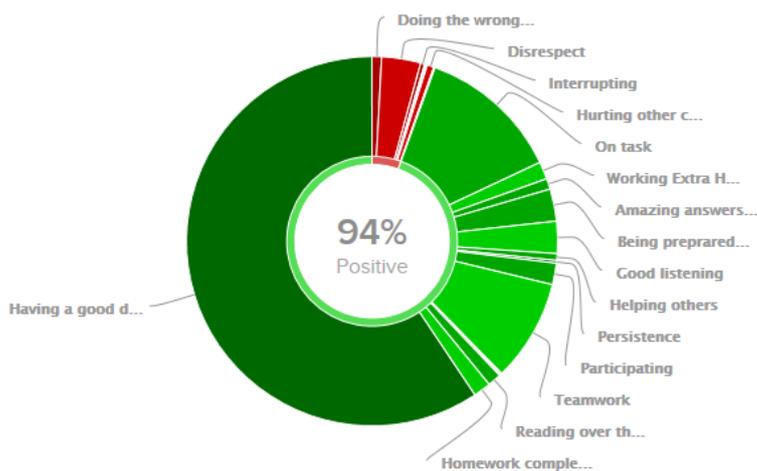
### Homework

*Remember we will now be issuing green and red Dojo points for homework. The due in day will now be THURSDAY, instead of Wednesday.*

Art/DT – Make Christmas decorations for our classroom. (You can take them home again when we break up!)

One week Project – Prepare work to present on the true meaning of Christmas. As always, this can be a poster, leaflet, writing, information booklet, model, powerpoint etc. Any format is fine. This should be ready to share by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

Here is this week's Class DoJo report:



Have a lovely weekend.

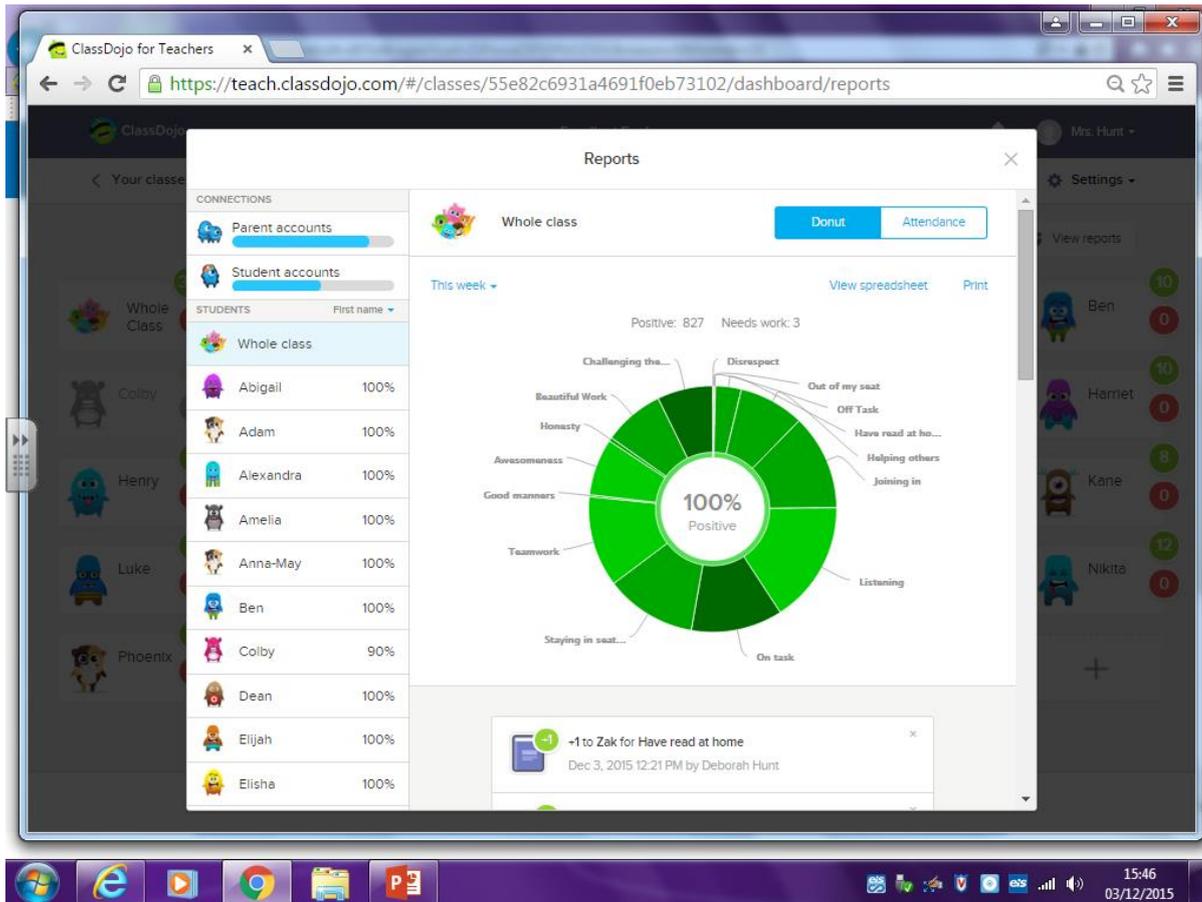
*The Peacocks Team*

## Eagles

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week Eagles were astounded by their awesome, but rather tiring Planetarium visit. We took full advantage of our earlier arrival at Greenwich Park and managed to visit the deer, see the parakeets and walk past the duck pond! All before 10am and even setting eyes on the universe. Many thanks again to Mrs Herbert, Mrs Harley and Miss Fields who ably accompanied us.

For homework, I would like children to sketch an interesting an interesting pattern or design from nature that they find either inside or outside the house. This will be inspiration for our work on William Morris. They can use colouring pencils or pens.



Mrs Hunt and Mrs Burrows

**PE**

I was thrilled to analyse some of the term one results from pupil voice (your children's responses) and 100% all said they like/love PE. The comments were informative and very positive:

- Don't want to stop because I love it
- Absolutely love my PE
- It's so good I want to do more!
- I love the fact we do it weekly
- Do fun games in groups

Fantastic....I look forward to reading responses at the end of this term.

Blackbirds have continued their REAL PE unit social skills journey where they are learning to listen to each other, support one another and give helpful feedback to our peers. They focussed on the seated balance and took part in activities that practised this. They worked on their own individual skills, then worked with a partner to mirror different seated balance positions and finally they had fun in a mini competition in groups against each other; who could pass an object around their group (whilst sitting in a seated balance) with their feet!

Peacocks and Eagles have been doing athletics trials and activities, in preparation for a possible competition in January. Tasks develop your child's PE ABC's of agility, balance and coordination. They include field events like javelin, standing long jump, speed bounce to name but a few and running events.

Robins have continued to have fun with the Clever Cat story, song and activities (REAL PE).

*Mrs Ridge*