



Newsletter December 2020

We have made it to Christmas!

I write this article excitedly from my office! Although I am still being careful, I am so pleased to be back in school. It is lovely to hear children, parents and teachers each morning as the day starts, laughing and joking. I hope to be able to invite you all back in for ERIC at some point, when things return to normal.

It goes without saying that your support and the children's resilience in dealing with the changes should be praised, however, I think we are all fed up talking about Covid now!

I made a conscious decision to continue with as many Christmas events as possible. The Christmas plays are different this year, but still wonderful. The parties may be on a smaller scale but we still danced, albeit in a very well-ventilated room, the children were not cold due to their fantastic dancing! Christmas dinner will be eaten in classrooms and Christmas crafts will continue but unfortunately without parents joining in.

Your children have worked so very hard this term to close gaps in their learning and continue to progress, especially those who have taken part in after school interventions - we are very proud.

Plans are in place to improve the Willow area, build a new library, re-build the flint wall, improve the heating and lay the daily mile route- watch this space! Academy council have asked for the boy's toilets to be painted and Mr Myhill has done this. We still hope to get the toilets refurbished next year.

Thank you for your ongoing support, have a wonderful Christmas and stay safe.

Mrs. Emma Owner
Principal
Iceni Academy-Hockwold





Acorn

Acorn Class have had a very busy end to their first term in school.

We have been learning all about Space during our Topic sessions, ordering by height in Maths as well as recognising and ordering numbers to 10 and 20 and adding 1 more and 1 less to a given number. We have also been working really hard in our phonics sessions and we are getting very good at sounding out and blending.

We have been practising to sit nicely and listen carefully during story time and thinking about how we can be kind and helpful to one another during our time in school. We have also been working on tidying up; we will continue to practise this next term!

We were particularly proud of their Christmas play performance, they worked so hard learning the songs and remembering what they had to do; they were all simply amazing!

It has been a very different first term for the Acorns this year but we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them in terms of how well they have adjusted. They are a credit to you all!

We hope that you have a fantastic Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all back in January.



Mrs Harris





Willow

An amazingly exciting first term has just ended in Willow Class! This half term we have been learning about Space and we have explored the Solar System through finding out facts about different planets to write a non-chronological report. We are definitely experts on Mars! We also met Bob the Man on the Moon, who helped us learn about the Moon and whether aliens do in fact exist. We all made a lovely picture of the Moon, inspired by the artist Robert Longo, using chalk, crayons and charcoal. As our fantastic finish, we are all making our favourite planet using papier mache.

In Maths, we have been extremely busy and we have learnt about several different topics such as money, doubling and halving, 2D and 3D shapes and measure. 2D and 3D shapes were certainly a class favourite!

Our topic in the New Year will be All about Pirates.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Team Willow







Elm

What a wonderful half term we have had finding out all about materials.

We have sorted materials and classified them into man-made or natural. We have looked at what materials are best for a particular job. We all agreed that a chocolate teapot wouldn't be great at its job!

We were introduced a new science character – Prof. Fiona Fairtest. She helped us to conduct a fair test to find out which ball was the bounciest.

We have loved reading the Iron Man. It has given us some excellent writing opportunities, writing a conversation between Hogarth and the Iron Man, describing the Space-Bat-Angel-Dragon and looking at adjectives and onomatopoeia words.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes

The Elm Class team





Beech

Beech Class this Autumn Term – from some of the children:

In English, we learnt about Shackleton and his journey. When he got stuck in the ice he wrote in his diary. We wrote diary entries about his journey, we wrote first, second and last, and what happened in order. We wrote all about what happened and we had to write when his ship crashed into the ice. By Teegan.

We have written diary entries, learning about Shackleton and narrative stories and finally some redacted poetry – by Henry.

In maths, we started multiplication and division, so we learned bus stops and long division. We also learned about percentages, turning decimals to percentages. It was a bit hard at first but I got it in the end. By Noah.

We did some time, multiplication, division, long division, percentages, areas, perimeters, polygons and coordinates – by Delilah.

I have moved up on my spellings and now I am on group 5. In maths I learnt how to do bus stop division and how to carry over the remainder. By Ruben.

So, this half term we made our sock penguins. They were made out of purely recycled materials (old socks). We learnt how to use running stitch and ladder stitch – by George.

We made a family of penguins in Design Technology– By Katie.

First we made a little beanbag, filled it up with coco shells to go inside so it sits up – by Oscar.

The whole class really enjoyed making sock penguins – by Olivia.

I made a penguin. I stitched it. I did ladder stitch, over stitch and I made noses and arms for them. By Sophia.

Well done Beech Class – it has been another very successful half term.

Have a lovely Christmas break. We will re-join in 2021 in slightly different groupings. So farewell Y5 I hope you love it in Oak Class; and welcome to Y3, I am looking forward to getting to know you all in January.

From Mrs Slade





Oak

This term our topic has been about World War 2. As we have already visited WW2 in Beech Class, the focus was on events like D-Day, the Holocaust and Anne Frank's Diary. We also wrote poems about the war. As Prefects of our Academy, we both walked to the Church with Mrs Owner and Miss Rickards plus the two youngest children and laid the wreath on the War Memorial.

In Art, we have proudly made our Holocaust memorials with Mrs Stubbings; we also wrote about what each colour, shape and material represents. We enjoyed reading Anne Frank's Diary but we felt very sad about the Holocaust.

Joe Wicks has been a big part of our half term: not only did Oak Class write our Christmas production called 'How Joe Wicks Saved Lockdown Christmas' but we also joined him for his final 25 minutes of his 24 hour challenge in aid of Children in Need. We're not surprised he's so tired now (but you'll have to watch Part 1 and Part 2 of our play to understand more fully).

We carried on doing Biscuit Boosters this term and Miss Rickards is very proud of us as our practice SATS proved that, not only have we filled the gaps from lockdown, we have made great progress too! Our BEAR Project continues and we now have two Associate pathway children who read things like Shakespeare and Jane Austen.

We hope you all have a great Christmas.

Bow and Jack

PE at Icení Hockwold

During PE lessons this half term the children have been fortunate to benefit from two different areas of study, Mrs Hovell has delivered ball skills for EYFS and KS1 and Football for KS2. Miss Reidie has delivered Cross Country.

In Cross Country Miss Reidie has been building on the children's technique for long distance running. Cross Country is a sport where the children are running to beat their own times. Children were encouraged to achieve a personal best for different distances. The children discuss what they can do to decrease their time for example: jogging in places they usually walk. It has been a pleasure to see the children challenge themselves to achieve their goals.

In ball skills and football all of the children have worked hard as a team, but also individually to gain new skills. The children have been developing control whilst dribbling the ball, passing to a teammate, controlling the ball using different parts of their bodies, changing direction and applying tactics. KS2 children also enjoyed developing first touch control, passing accurately to a target and developing their defending skills. All children have worked exceptionally hard in their sessions making great progress.

Our next area of study is Gymnastics with Miss Reidie and Netball with Mrs Hovell.

Have a fantastic Christmas!



Willow and Beech Class



School field at lunchtimes

For next term, we are going to be using the school field much more. Acorns will be on there every lunchtime then KS2 (Beech and Oak) and KS1 (Willow and Elm) footballers will alternate on the football pitch with KS2 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays then Tuesdays and Thursdays for KS1.

School field at lunchtimes	
Acorns	KS1 and KS2 Football <ul style="list-style-type: none">• KS2 = Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays• KS1 = Tuesdays and Thursdays

Any child on the field, including Acorns, will need a change of shoes to wear while on the field **plus shinpads** for the footballers. Without shinpads, children will be unable to play. For any footballer who would like the opportunity to play, please write a covering letter giving permission for your child to do so.



**Our Christmas jumper day on 11th December raised £116.60
for Save the Children.**

Thank you for all your kind donations.



**We would like to thank you for the Christmas gifts that you
have kindly given to us this year. It is very generous of you
and we promise to leave them under the tree until
Christmas Day!**

Thank you to everyone that bought tickets for our Christmas Cake raffle. We raised £55.50 for FoHSA.

The winning ticket was number 59 and belonged to Ruben in Beech class. Enjoy!

