



Urchfont C. E. Primary School

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17th December 2021

At the end of each term, I usually write to parents and include the activities and achievements that have happened that term. I often look back to the previous year before I begin writing and am surprised when I am reminded of what has been achieved in the previous year. As you can imagine, although events have been less, there has been an increase from last year, which we must be grateful for.

During this term, I have seen great resilience in both the staff and children as our build remains unfinished. We are still awaiting windows and the school continues to be in a state of flux. However, learning has continued to take place across the school and a full curriculum has been delivered to all of the children. We have shown creativity such as holding worship either live on-line via TEAMS or outside on the playground. Classes raised over £100 for Children in Need.

It has been lovely to see the Year 6 pupils resume the Bikeability training this term and I'm pleased to announce that they all passed and are now qualified to ride their bikes safely around the village. Chaffinches held a Roman Day as part of their themed learning and enjoyed making and eating flatbreads. They have also been on Welly Walks to Oakfrith Woods where they were challenged to create mazes from woodland material. Robins have been learning about space and Owls have been considering who was responsible for sinking the Titanic.

Although we have not been able to hold all of our usual amount of Christmas activities this year, we have still managed a fair few. Robins were able to invite their families to their Nativity, a large number of you joined staff for our Carols at Dusk event, the children made Christingles and Rev Richard Curtis joined us for a Christingle Service on the playground. Our Christmas lunch was enjoyed by everyone on Wednesday and I know that many children attended the USSPA Christmas disco that was held in the village hall. My thanks go to everyone involved in making these events happen as I appreciate how challenging it is currently.



Last year in my Christmas letter, I was asked by Public Health to urge you to be mindful and careful over the Christmas period and the school did not have a single case of COVID all year. But as many of you will know, we have had very few weeks where the school has not had a case since September. We have been lucky that staff have remained well and that we have not had to send whole year groups home. This has not been the case in many other local schools. In the new year, I would urge you to keep your child at home if they are ill, because if class staff become ill, we may be required to switch to on-line learning as there are currently limited supply teachers available locally. Let's all work together to ensure all staff and children stay as well as possible can.

We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas with your family and friends and we will return to school on Tuesday 4th January.

Yours sincerely,

C.E. Talbot

Mrs Carol Talbot
(Head Teacher)

