

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to share our exciting news from this half-term with you all. As always, we have been very busy!

In this newsletter:

- Sad goodbyes
- School growth
- Class updates
- Police visit
- Pantomime fun!
- Upcoming Events- Art Week
- A message from Mrs Austin
- Dates for your diary

### Sad goodbyes

This term, we have to say a sad goodbye to Mrs Sharma. Mrs Sharma will be greatly missed by students and staff, and we would like to wish her all the very best for the future.

### School Growth

Next half term, we have plans in place to open three new classes and we will also have additional pupils joining existing classes where there are spaces. We all look forward to giving new starters as big, warm Easthorpe welcome!

### Class updates

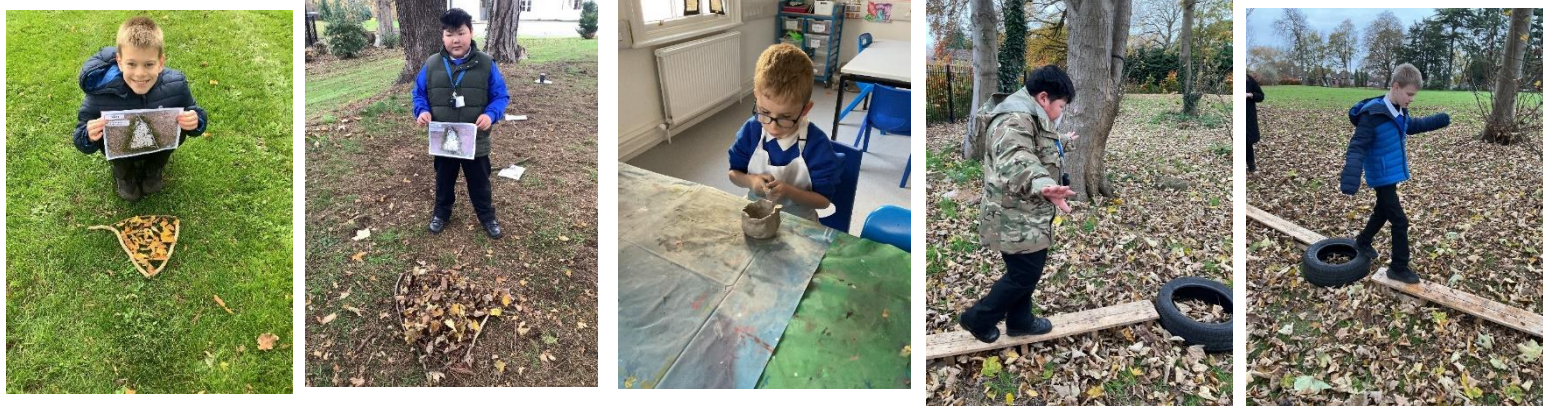
#### Holly Class



Holly class have been working very hard this half term and we are very proud of their achievements. They have shown good focus and engagement around their English learning during which time we have been focussing on well-known/ traditional stories and doing lots of hands-on activities around the stories to extend & embed our learning. All the children have planned and made their very own board games in DT which was brilliant, and we have had fun playing with these in School. The children will be bringing these home so you can have a go too! Some of our highlights this half term have been visiting the Framework Knitter's Museum and our walk into Ruddington village delivering our letters to Santa.

### Redwood Class

This half term, Redwood class have done some amazing things. Here are some of our art projects we have completed. Also, a sneak peek into some forest school activities which the children loved!



### Hawthorn Class

In Hawthorn, we have combined History with our art making clay animal masks similar to the ones the Mayans would have used. As part of our learning in D.T, we made smoothies, from choosing and chopping fruit to designing our own logos and packaging. We have also worked hard at perfecting script writing and have read scenes from a Harry Potter script, using stage directions to show emotion and incorporating sound effects. In Science lessons, we have used our knowledge of states of matter to identify and investigate Oobleck.



## Beech Class

This half term Beech class have been designing and creating a tote bag. We used tie dye techniques to create the base and then used felt and buttons to decorate. I am sure you will agree they are fantastic. In art, we have looked at the work of Van Gogh and had a go at recreating some of his masterpieces. In English, we have been studying play script. We started with exploring *The Twits* by Roald Dahl and turning the story into a play script. The class had fun getting into character as Mr and Mrs Twit. We wrote our own alternative endings to the story too. We then looked at William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and enjoyed predicting whether it would be a comedy with a happy ending or not!



## Willow Class

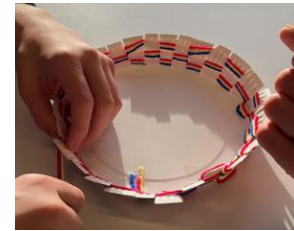


Willow class really enjoyed the school trip to The Framework Knitters Museum. We made our own scarves using the wool machines. We also made cupcakes for Children in Need which was great fun! Here we are painting colour wheels to look at contrasts of colour during our art sessions.

## Oak Class



This half term, Oak Class have been learning about the Mayans. We have played their traditional games, made model Mayan houses, created masks and tasted traditional Mayan food (including hot chocolate). We have also completed research about Mexico and created baskets and decorations to help us to learn about Mayan weaving.



In English, we have shared *The Iron man* by Ted Hughes. We have written story extracts and even created our own stop motion animations based on the story.

We have created pieces of art using natural materials in the school grounds and created clay sculptures inspired by the work of Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth.



We had a lovely trip to the Framework Knitters Museum and made some amazing scarves.



## Silver Birch Class

Silver Birch very much enjoyed their trip to the Framework Knitters Museum. Here you can see how they got into character to maximise the experience. The boys were able to make their own scarves which we were all very proud of.

## Lime Class



Lime class have had a brilliant half term, full of hard work, Shakespeare and Zumba! We have challenged ourselves to analyse two of William Shakespeare's plays alongside tackling problem-solving questions in Maths. We have enjoyed testing different materials as part of our science topic alongside exploring French food and baking our own Yule Logs. Our Art task of creating Christmas Wreaths from a broken branch was a great way to get us in the festive mood and it is no surprise that Lime Class's creativity shone through!

### Police visit

This half term, we were very lucky to have a visit from the police. They discussed with us what to do in an emergency & the continued importance of staying safe online. They also showed us their van and let us try out their riot gear! Here are some photos from the day:



### Pantomime fun!

Today, we went to see the pantomime- Snow White, at Loughborough Town Hall. It was a fantastic performance full of laughs and surprises and we all really enjoyed it!



## Upcoming Events

**Art Week:** In the first week back, we will be participating in a whole school Art Week. Over the course of the week, we will be exploring drawing in different forms. This will conclude in an exhibition for parents to view all our hard work from over the week. Further information on this will follow in the New Year.

## A message from Mrs Austin:

As we approach the Christmas Holidays, it's a lovely time to reflect on the year that has passed and the fantastic achievements all the children have made at school. At Easthorpe we are grateful for the wonderful pupils, parents, and staff who make our school a truly special place to learn, grow, and celebrate together.

We hope that you all have a wonderful 2 weeks- whatever you may be doing.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year, ready for more exciting learning and achievements!

## Dates for your diary: Spring term 1

First day of term: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January

Art Week- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January

Last day of term- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April

Half-Term Holiday- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

INSET days: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January & Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March

Thank you for a wonderful first term back. We are very much looking forward to a new year and new exciting opportunities for the children.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas – keep safe.

Yours faithfully,



**Laura Austin**  
**Head teacher**

[laura.austin@easthorpeschool.co.uk](mailto:laura.austin@easthorpeschool.co.uk)

[www.easthorpeschool.co.uk](http://www.easthorpeschool.co.uk)

Easthorpe School, 165 Loughborough Rd, Ruddington, NG11 6LQ

