



8th December 2017



SANTA'S WORKSHOP

After listening to Mrs Dawson read *The Night Before Christmas*, the children asked if they could turn their castle into Santa's workshop. After looking on-line at some pictures of workshops, the children decided that they wanted a workbench with tools, a present wrapping station, a "calm place for Santa to relax" (complete with fireplace) and of course a sleigh. The elves have been hard at work!



PHONICS

Given how busy things are at this time of year, both at school and at home, we have decided not to give the children any new letter sounds or tricky words until the new year. We will be using the next few weeks to consolidate the children's learning so far, ensuring that they know all their current sounds and words inside out and upside down! To help practice them at home you will find some great interactive games on the following website <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/3-5-years/letters-and-sounds>



WRAPPING PRESENTS

Building on last week's exploration of 3D shapes, this week we have been wrapping and comparing the shape, weight and size of different presents. The children have used mathematical language to describe their presents and have used their reasoning skills to explain differences in size and to work out how many presents we could fit in Santa's sleigh. They also wrote some present wrapping instructions for Mr Clarkson (so that he can help Mrs Clarkson this year!)



CHRISTMAS CRAFT DAY

We had a magical day on Monday doing our Christmas crafts. The children loved being in groups with the older ones and we saw so much independence and confidence as they made their way around school. They all made some beautiful decorations that we're sure will be treasured for many years to come. We had a raft of friends and family who came in to help and they all said how wonderful the Reception children were!

Enjoy the weekend! The Early Years Team

