



## Class Highlights

What have the children at Parkgate Primary been up to this term?

### Rhinos

Rhinos have had an exquisite Autumn term. The standard of trips woven throughout the topics has been outstanding, including Western Approaches in Liverpool, Crucial Crew in Chester, and another Liverpool trip to the Maritime Museum. Y6 are always bursting with ideas in lessons (especially when they have to write a letter to Mr Hutchings ). The exciting vocabulary extends every time with knowledge and curiosity throughout all lessons. From slushies to sweets , teddies to games, Yr 6 had a wonderfully unique time at our Christmas fair , whilst they were working hard running their stalls people were enjoying the fabulous popcorn and sweets .Every minute was something to remember.

MERRY CHRISTMAS !!!

### Jaguars

Jaguars have had a great Autumn term learning about Africa. We have played authentic South & West African music on the djembe. We have made our own picture frames in DT, using African patterns to inspire us. We have read 'Four Feet, Two Sandals' which explains about refugees and poverty. This has helped us in Geography, when learning about the similarities and differences between Madagascar and the UK. We also held our parent workshop on times tables, in preparation for the Multiplication Check next June.



### Meerkats

Year 5 had had a great start to the academic year. We have visited Quarry Bank Mill as part of our studies of Victorians. The children had a great time learning all about how children had to work very hard when they were apprenticed to a cotton mill such as Quarry Bank. We have studied Earth and Space in Science and this topic has really captivated the imaginations of the children. In music we have been learning how to play the guitar. We recently had our concert celebrating the ten weeks that we had lessons and the children put on a fabulous performance for their parents. We have had a great term and I'm sure that the children are all looking forward to the Spring Term where we can start to learn outside again. Merry Christmas to you all!

### Lemurs

Lemurs have had a brilliant first term in Year 3! The children loved learning about the Stone Age and created some wonderful art inspired by cave paintings. This half term they have been learning about light in science and conducting lots of different investigations. We also made our own lighthouses in DT! Well done Lemurs. Have a lovely Christmas!

## Penguins

## Tigers

Well done Penguin Class on a fabulous first term in Year 2. It would take too long to mention everything but some of the highlights were a lovely chance to learn alongside their families in our maths parent workshop. They have loved learning to play the ukulele with our music expert, Mr Jolliffe. A great day was spent celebrating 'Black History'. They all worked so hard to learn their lines to lead the amazing Christmas nativity. This is all alongside their fantastic day to day activities linked to dragons and explorers. Have a lovely Christmas everyone.

Well, what a start Tigers Class have made in Year One! A busy and enjoyable term filled with amazing experiences. The children learnt all Walter Tull and Stephen Wiltshire in our 'Black History Day'.

During Autumn two the children had a visit from Don and Catherine who are toy makers. The children loved colouring and creating their very own toys. They had to smooth, drill and hammer during the creating process. The Key Stage One nativity was fantastic and the children were fantastic with their singing and all round performances. The school are so proud of them. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all. See you in 2025!



## Lion cubs

## Nativity Play

Can you believe, the reception children have been in school for a whole term? They have survived! Not only that, everyday they come in with a smile, they are eager to learn and are so lively with it too! We are so proud of them. This term they have learnt about Autumn, hibernation, riding balancing bikes, occupations in school, A leaf Thief, A Friendship Bench, 'Black History month', Vivaldi's Autumn', a Christmas workshop and much, much more. Well done you little Lion Cubs. Have a restful break and we will see you next year!

This year, KS1 & Reception nativity play was entitled 'Simply the Nativity'!

The children performed and sang their little hearts out. The audience laughed and cried with tears of joy and pride.





# Celebration & News

## New Keyboards

A huge thank you to our amazing PTA who purchased brand new keyboards for the school. Year 4 were the first class to use them with Mr. Jolliffe teaching the keyboard skills.



## Halloween Disco

The PTA put on another 'spooktacular' disco for the children back in October. This year, the costumes were really out of this world! We even had two green aliens visit and a cowgirl on horseback!



We would also like to thank the PTA team, who organised a festive Christmas Fair. Lots of fun, games and laughter from children, parents and staff.

## Sporting achievements

**Football-** Yr 5 & Yr 6's mixed football team played in a interschool's match. They all participated with enthusiasm and pride.

**Athletics** Year 5 and 6 enjoyed a fabulous indoor athletics event at Neston High School, participating in a great 3rd place finish for the team. Well done everyone.

**Netball** Yr 6 & Yr 5 mixed team. played in a netball tournament with the other local schools. Parkgate won the tournament and are through to the next round. Congratulations to all that played and fingers crossed for the next stage



## Choir's Christmas Cheer

In November, Choir were asked to open the Christmas Fair at St. Mary's & St, Helen's. Parents and fairgoers listened to the jolly voices of the children who sang a mixture of Christmas and popular songs.

Choir also visited the local residential homes bringing festive happiness to one and all.



# Celebration & News

## Black History Month

In October, the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed learning about the remarkable lives of significant people who made a difference. From Nelson Mandela to Barack Obama to Louis Armstrong, the children produced some fine art and learnt of their talents, beliefs and the sacrifices that these people made.

## Carol Service at St. Mary's & St. Helen's

This year's Carol Concert was a beautiful event which celebrated our school in the community. With parents, whole school and the school choir contributing to an array of Christmas music. We had special musical treats from Oliver Mottram (guitar) and Emily Ellinson (soprano vocalist) which almost meant there were no dry eyes left in the church. The music was punctuated by readings of the Christmas story which were beautifully read by the children in our Year 6 class. We already look forward to preparing for next year's event.

## Pantomime

Once again, our annual trip to see a Christmas pantomime at the Gladstone Theatre happened on a cold December morning. 'Oh no it didn't! Oh yes it did! The children, staff and volunteers thoroughly enjoyed the fairy tale story of Cinderella. Thank you to the PTA who contributed towards this trip.

## Dates for your diary

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Inset day – school closed to pupils

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January – School Reopens to Pupils

## A message from Mr Hutchings

As we head into the festive season, I just wanted to take a moment to say a big thank you for all your support this year. It's been amazing to see the children grow and flourish, and we're so proud of everything they've achieved.

Christmas is such a special time, and I hope you all get to enjoy some fun, laughter, and precious moments with your loved ones. Whether you're spending it at home or away, I wish you a holiday full of joy and happiness. Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year! We can't wait to see the children back in January, ready for another exciting term.













































































































































































































































































