



# Maidenhead Nursery School December 2023

## The Children's Learning

It's hard to believe that we are rapidly approaching the Christmas break - this term has flown by.

The children have been full of festive excitement as we all decorated the nursery together. We love exploring different ways of making marks and this week the paintbrushes have been replaced with baubles!



As well as the sound of Christmas songs, the smell of Christmas spices has filled the air as we have made mince pies and explored cinnamon, cloves, oranges and star anise in the play dough and potions area.

Our Tales Toolkit inspired storytelling created wonderful stories including one about a gingerbread girl called Hattie getting trapped by some mud and wishing upon a star to help get her out.



As we near the end of our first term together and the end of 2023 we have been reflecting on the amazing things we have achieved, new skills we have learned and also some that we want to continue developing when we come back in January.

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year  
from all at Maidenhead Nursery School!**

# Christmas Crafts and singing.



It was fantastic to see so many of you this week for our Christmas celebration. We hope you enjoyed some crafting together and didn't get too messy!

The children have been busy practicing their Christmas songs and we are so proud of their performance. It is very intimidating with different people watching and we think they did amazingly well!

## Speech Technique of the Month

### Have conversations

Making comments instead of asking questions will encourage your child to respond – 4 comments to every question.

Pause between sentences to give your child time to process information. Give them 10 seconds at least to respond.

Young children find it easier to talk about something they are looking at or doing.

## Dates for Your Diary

**Wednesday 13th December** - Christmas Celebrations - come dressed in your party clothes! The Christmas Grotto will be visiting us today.

**Friday 15th December** - Last day of the term. Break up for Christmas holidays. Nursery closes at **11.45am**. A reminder that there is no lunch club today.

**Wednesday 3th and Thursday 4th January** - New children and new parent visits

**Friday 5th January** - Existing children back today.

**Monday 8th January** - New children join us this week in Nursery. Staggered starts for new children.

**Friday 9th February** - Nursery closes for half term.

**Monday 19th February** - INSET day. Nursery closed today.

**Tuesday 20th February** - Children back to Nursery today



## School Applications

Online admissions is now open for children eligible to start school next September 2024

Closing date - 15th January 2024  
National Offer Day - 16th April 2024

[www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/schools-and-education/school-admissions](http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/schools-and-education/school-admissions)



**In order to have more chance of getting the school at the top of your list make sure that you do not miss the application deadline.**

**It is also important that parents/ carers complete all the choices when completing the form as this has an impact whether you are able to join a waiting list should you not be given your preferred choice.**

# BAD WEATHER CLOSURES

Please be advised that we always endeavour to open Maidenhead Nursery School however if the weather is extreme and staff are unable to get to school or the school site is considered slippery and unsafe we may need to close for health and safety reasons. In the event of bad weather parents should check the RBWM website - [www.rbwm.gov.uk](http://www.rbwm.gov.uk), our website - [nurseryfederation.co.uk](http://nurseryfederation.co.uk) or listen to Heart Thames Valley or BBC Radio Berkshire for school closure announcements.



## Thank you!

- ♦ **Thank you** to all of you who have paid the voluntary school fund contribution. This helps to pay for Christmas presents for the children, food for our pets and additional resources.
- ♦ **Thank you** for your donations to Children in Need. Our spotty day raised £36.14 for the charity.
- ♦ Thank you for all of your generous donations of snack. We have been inundated with crackers and breadsticks so do not need any more for a while :) We welcome more fresh fruit and vegetables though.



This month's book recommendation is Little Robin Red Vest by Jan Fearnley. Released over 20 years ago - we see this as a modern classic. Little Robin Red Vest has 7 vests but as he goes about his day he meets animals who are in need so gives them away. Suddenly he is freezing cold with no vest of his own to keep him warm - luckily someone very special arrives to help! A heartwarming story about friendship and kindness.

## A couple of reminders!

- ♦ If your child is unwell please don't bring them into Nursery. Colds and stomach bugs do circulate quickly and affect the staff team considerably - Please remember to call and let us know why your child is absent on the first day. Any child suffering from a stomach bug should not come into Nursery for 48 hours from their last symptom.
- ♦ Please remember to park considerately, keeping pavements and drive ways clear. We don't like to upsetting our neighbours.