

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

Merry Christmas Everyone!

It's hard to believe that we've come to the end of another term. This term is definitely my favourite term in school. It's lovely with the children in the build up to Christmas - but lots of hard work!

I hope you all have peaceful and happy Christmas and I wish you all the best for the New Year.

Christmas Productions

As always, I have been so proud of all our children this week.

Every child took part in a production either in school, at Park View or at the church. I thought every performance was beautiful. I hope you enjoyed them as much as I did!

Thank you to all the staff who worked so hard with the children to ensure that every performance was top class.



The Teaching of Spelling at Cestria

We began a review of the teaching of spelling, across the school, in January of this year.

We started with the introduction of Big Spelling from Years 1 to 6. This has proved to be very successful in matching spellings to individual ability and, as such, it has been particularly popular with the children, who generally make rapid progress. As a result, this approach to individualised spelling practice is to continue to be used throughout the school.

This term, Mrs Marshall has been trialling a new spelling scheme in Year 6. The scheme focuses on the teaching of the specific spelling rules for each year group and involves a range of engaging activities. Again this has proved to be popular with the children and has helped develop their spelling ability.

In January 2017, we will be introducing this new spelling scheme in Years 1 to 5, as well as extending the use of Big Spelling to the Early Years.

As children move through the school, the focus for the teaching of spelling is not only on the acquiring specific spelling rules but on developing the ability to apply these rules accurately.

In order to link more closely to this approach to spelling, we have decided to review the spelling homework. Therefore, with effect from January, we will be sending out spelling homework as follows: -

In Years 1 - 3, homework will be based predominantly on Big Spelling whereas, in Years 4 -6, homework will link specifically to the spelling rules taught through the new scheme.

Safeguarding News: Anti-bullying assemblies have been held this term as part of National Anti-Bullying Week. We used school fund to pay for Bigfoot Theatre Company to come into school to re-inforce the messages in an enjoyable but thought provoking way.