



# Blackberry Lane Bulletin

## Friday 1st December 2023



Our penultimate News Bulletin for 2023! The last 2 weeks have been very busy, and we definitely know that Christmas is near. The children have been singing their hearts out to some new songs ... not always the right words or tunes but they are definitely trying. The staff have managed to not do any Christmassy arts and crafts as yet but as of next week - its fair game - after all it is December.



The children visited the hall and played with the parachute again. They are getting very good at listening and following directional instructions. They were all offered turns to sit on top of the parachute whilst the other children tried to shake them off the centre - this activity definitely showcased some of your children's sense of humour. They then had the opportunity to sit under the parachute while the others shook it over them, causing some very funny static induced hairstyles.

Making volcanoes with various ingredients seem to have been very popular this last fortnight. There have been 2 methods in making these and if you would like to do more at home please feel free to ask for the ingredients or use the website for ideas. The children were asked a lot of "I wonder what will happen if....?" questions to get them thinking scientifically.



Painting as ever has been taking place on a daily basis. The Under 2s made some lovely patterns on the paper with their welly boots, after treading in a tray of paint. They were asked to identify specific colours as they made their marks.

Imaginative play has been going on in the form of children initially drawing maps and then recreating them in the playground. They have also been really interested in building houses and castles this fortnight. Because of their interests in the castles and a number of dressing outfits were provided for the children to dress up.



In the back garden the leaves have been a popular resource. The children have enjoyed sitting on piles of leaves and throwing them in the air. We have talked about their texture and the sounds they make when trodden on.

On Wednesday our snack, which consisted of Cheese savoury shapes, turned into a mathematical exercise. The children were each given a plate of biscuits and asked to count various shapes. Lissie showed them how to make a tally chart.



Artificial snow was introduced in the setting and the children appeared to enjoy making a snow village. The Under 2s played with the shaving foam and pretended it was snow. They have also been playing with frozen sand and ice in the playground.



This Friday, after many requests, an obstacle course was set up in the hall to challenge the children and their self confidence. Each child listened to the safety instructions before attempting the course.

A huge big **Thank you** to all of you who have donated coins or cakes to the Children in Need Fundraising. You have raised an amazing.....

**£188.52**



## Christmas Sing-a-Long Friday 15th December at 2.00 pm.

The pre-school children will be holding a Christmas sing-a-long on Friday 15th December from 2.00 pm in the primary school hall. If your child isn't normally booked in for Fridays and you think they will want to join in, please bring them to pre-school at 1.30 pm. There will be refreshments and raffle tickets for sale at the event so please bring along some pennies. All proceeds will be used to provide resources for the setting.



## Christmas Raffle

Sadly we are not holding a Christmas Fair this year, but we have decided to still hold a raffle. The draw will take place on Friday the 15th December at 4.30 pm. The tickets are priced at £1.00 per ticket.

We appreciate times are difficult at the moment and you have already been so generous with our Children in Need fundraising, but... if anyone has any unwanted gifts at home that you could donate - this would be fantastic. I have been told 'if you don't ask - you don't get!'

If you work for a business or know of a business that may be willing to donate a prize it would be much appreciated if you could ask them for us.

Please bring in any donations by Wednesday 13th December.



## Christmas parties Tuesday 19th December

The pre-school and nursery will be holding their Christmas parties from 12.30pm on the last day of term. Pre-school children not normally in attendance on Tuesdays can be dropped off at 12.30pm and nursery parents are welcome to accompany their children to the party. Party food will be provided for lunch and we are asking for a donation of £1 to go towards the cost of the food please.

Please come and pick your children up from 2.30 pm onwards— Father Christmas will be here to see all the children before they leave.

Please let us know if your child will be at the party to give us an idea of how many to cater for. RSVP via Tapestry or email or tell a member of staff at drop off/ pick up.



## Dates for your diary:

**Friday 15th December 2.00 pm**

Christmas sing a long. See newsletter for details.

**Tuesday 19th December 12.30pm to 2 pm**

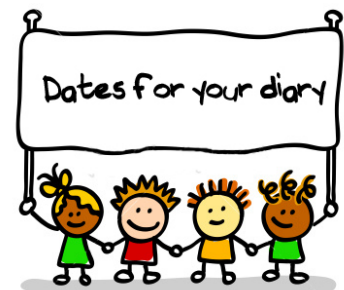
Christmas party—see above for details

**Wed 20 Dec 2023 - Tue 2 Jan 2024**

Christmas holiday (No holiday club during this break)

**Wed 3 Jan 2024**

First day of Spring term.



# Cowes Primary School

## Christmas Craft

### Stay and Play Session

Do you have a child due to start school in  
September 2024?

We are holding our next Stay and Play on  
Wednesday 6th December from 3.25pm- 4.25pm

No need to book, you can just turn up!

It's a great opportunity to meet the team whilst your child  
explores our exciting surroundings.



Edinburgh Close, Cowes, PO31 8HF Tel: 01983 293261

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