



## Friday 29th November

This week we have introduced the children to the artist Mondrian. Their initial reactions were fascinating as their preconceptions were that paintings had to be of specific things but it has been lovely to see that view change through the week. There have been lots of opportunities for shape based maths and the children have done some great creative pieces.

We will be moving into full Christmas mode next week and Twas The Night Before Christmas will be our inspiration (when we are not rehearsing!).

In phonics we will introduce the letters y, z, zz and qu.

Due to so many changes in the timetables for the next few weeks, there will be NO Forest School sessions until after Christmas.

Please send in costumes for the Christmas play next week. Please make sure they are clearly named.

So many of the children have coughs and colds at the moment. We do all we can to encourage the children to wipe their own noses but some of them do find it very hard. Please encourage them to become self-reliant in this skill at home and send them in with plenty of tissues. Please also teach your child to cover their mouth when they cough.

All the letters that we have sent home so far are letters that the children have been taught and ideally should be able to remember to read and write independently. For some children this is easier than for others. Our phonics sessions are short and snappy and we play lots of games in them. Flash cards are useful for games like pairs and snap and there are some great websites such as Phonics Hero which the children love.

As usual, we are sending home the letters that we have introduced this week as homework. We are very pleased with the letter formation this year. Some children do still form a few letters (such as a and o) by going in a clockwise direction, please be aware of this if they do want to write at home.

By the end of next week we will have introduced all 26 letters of the alphabet. We briefly discuss the letter name but our main focus is on the sound it makes.

Today (Friday) we are collecting in all the home reading books. This is because we are restructuring our home reading system and will be adding in new books. We will be sending new books home as soon as possible. In the meantime please share books from your collections at home.