

# Weekly Newsletter

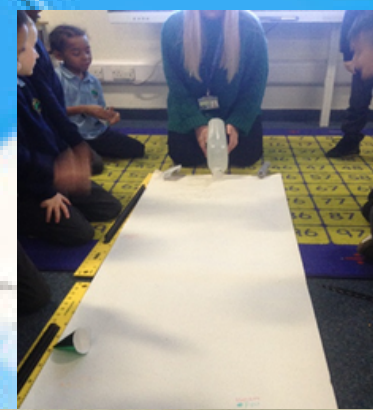
9th December 2022



This week in science, year 2 carried out a rocket mice experiment which related to our science topic 'Everyday Materials.' Each mouse was made of different types of materials such as paper, card, and tinfoil. We each took turns to shoot the mice using a milk carton and then measured which one travelled the furthest distance. We had so much fun!



We have some very special news about a child in Year 3- Kendall- who has taken part in panto- Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Kendall worked alongside a variety of actors including Basil Brush and former Coronation Street star Steve Arnold. Kendall was one of the dancers and showed confidence and enthusiasm in her role.



In Year Five the children have been enjoying a focus on narrative poetry. Having explored the mysterious themes of Walter de la Mare's 'The Listeners', the children challenged themselves to write in the authors style. Their ideas were brilliantly descriptive and captured the unknown within the shadows. The children then read the Mary Howitt poem 'The Spider and the Fly.' Poetic features, including repetition, alliteration, stanzas and rhyming couplets have been identified as the children develop their knowledge and understanding of how to arrange and present poetry. They end the week busily planning rhyming couples of their own - soon they will be ready to perform to each other as we swing into our Christmas celebrations.

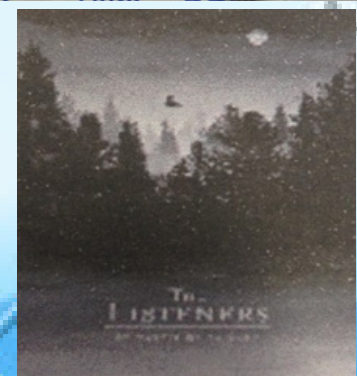
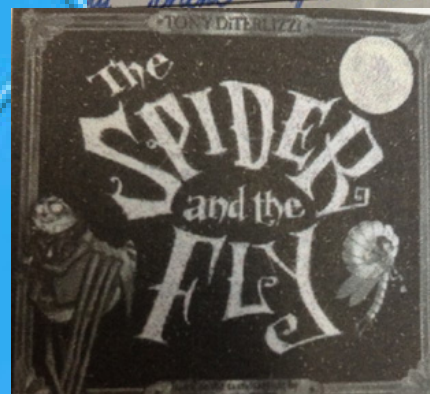
*"Is ~~sure~~ anyone there?" said the traveller,  
 faintly tapping on the illuminated portal.  
 And dark crows screeching,  
 like breaking the place in the immortal.  
 Though the whistling wind, an ancient branch snapped,  
 above the traveller's weary head.  
 And he angrily banged the rusty door a second time.  
 He never really wondered if they were dead.  
 He peered through the moss-covered window,  
 but forgotten phantoms were unaware.  
 He silently stood still in fear,  
 waiting for ghosts to return his stare.  
 A family of phantoms lived within shadows,  
 crumbled wall shawl,  
 its bricks splattered with blood,  
 filled with dread.*

*"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "to ask me to go down  
 For who goes up your winding stair can ne'er come down  
 again."  
 "I'm sure you must be weary, dear, with soaring up so high  
 Will you rest upon my little bed?" said the Spider to the  
 Fly.  
 "There are pretty curtains drawn around, the sheets are fine  
 and thin,  
 And if you like to rest awhile, I'll snugly tuck you in!"  
 "Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "for I've often heard it said  
 They never, never wake again, who sleep upon your bed!"  
 Said the cunning Spider to the Fly, "Dear friend what can I  
 do  
 to prove the warm affection I've always felt for you?  
 have within my pantry, good store of all that's nice,  
 so sure you're very welcome-will you please to take a  
 ce?"  
 "Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "kind sir, that cannot be  
 heard what's in your pantry, and I do not wish to see!"  
 "Sweet creature!" said the Spider, "you're witty and you're  
 handsome are your gauzy wings, how brilliant are  
 your eyes!"*

*A stanza is a paragraph but it is in a poem. This poem has 7 stanzas.*

*At the end of each line there is a word that rhymes below it. This is called a rhyming couplet.*

*The author has used alliteration because by describing the look in the spider's eye-glass as little.*



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We loved seeing everyone getting into the festive swing this week. There were some great Christmas jumpers and we know Save the Children are always grateful for the support offered from across the nation. We hope you like seeing some of the jumpers and are fabulous children.

Thank you very much to everyone who has donated pre-loved uniform to the recycling rail in the school foyer. It's been a great success already – clothes are literally flying off the rail. If you have anything you would like to donate, swap or if you would like to help yourself to items, you are all welcome. We are so please to see clothes going to a good home rather than landfill. Four Oaks is GREEN.



Have you heard about the national campaign #SleighNoToLoanSharks which is raising awareness in local communities about ruthless loan sharks? Loan Sharks are particularly targeting families over the Christmas period, trying to convince people to take out loans to pay for Christmas. The National Campaign urges all families not to do it and to warn family and friends to avoid getting into debts. Please see the contacts below for help.

**Stop Loan Sharks:** [www.stoploansharks.co.uk](http://www.stoploansharks.co.uk)  
Contact the England Illegal Money Lending Team to report a loan shark. Call the 24 hour helpline 0300 555 2222 or complete a secure form on the website.

Dear children,  
Did you see me around school last Friday and this week? I couldn't stop laughing at the wonderful looks of surprise on the Y3 children's faces when they saw me in their classroom in my own swimming pool with my favourite toy boat. I really wanted to go swimming with them. Did you know that the Governors at Four Oaks pay for every Year 1 to Year 6 child to have swimming lessons twice each year. They don't need to provide so many lessons for you and they get sent the bill whether you go or not so don't waste it! I ADORE swimming. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there next week. I wonder if you will spot where I am hiding...?  
Last week I said I was going to keep my eyes wide open to see who really shines like a star and there were so many people I could mention! On Friday I was sitting on top of Mrs Robinson's cupboard in her office, and I was very impressed when Blessing, Maggie, Shayne and Harvey came to talk to her visitor about History. I learned so much. I also followed her to the computer suite to see Year 5 and to the EYFS classes. You were all fab.  
I can't wait to see what happens next in Four Oaks. Have a good weekend and keep being good!!

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### This week's Christmas Jokes

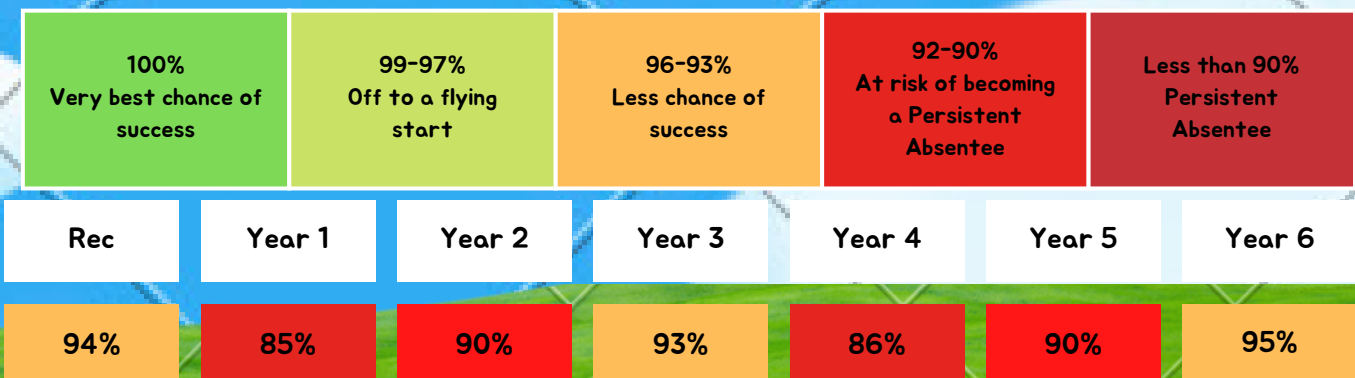
What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney?

**Claus-trophobia**

What do you call Santa when he stops moving?

**Santa Pause**

Absence: It is your responsibility to phone the school office by 9am each day your child is absent. Please leave a voicemail if there is no answer. TERM TIME HOLIDAYS WILL RESULT IN FINES.



The school target for this academic year is 97%