

***Kindergarten Newsletter 12th December 2025***  
***Autumn 2 Topic - Food and Festivals***

**Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

This week, we have continued a focus on healthy eating choices. Linking with the school Christmas dinner day, we based a circle time around going through each element of what might appear on their plate as part of a 'traditional Christmas dinner'. In Music, we sang a song where children got to choose their favourite part of a Christmas dinner.

**Literacy, Communication and Language**

This week, the children have been encouraged to use a wider range of vocabulary linking to our Food and Festivals topic. This has included new vocabulary linked to a traditional Christmas dinner. Additionally, we have continued with our initial sounds in our Monster Phonics. The children have been finding this tricky and we have used this as an opportunity to introduce new vocabulary to them, e.g. anchor.

**Mathematics**

In Maths this week, one of the star challenges was to match baubles; some were numbered and some had a picture of numicon on. We have discussed regularly with the children about representing numbers in different ways; fingers, numicon, numerals and even jelly tots!

**Understanding the World**

A highlight of the week was our trip to Hayrack Church Farm. The children started the day by a very exciting trip; sitting on the top deck of the bus! Once we arrived, the children entered the magically lit barn, where they enjoyed a variety of different Christmas crafts, from tracing the items on their Christmas lists to painting wooden baubles. The children took it in turns to go and visit Father Christmas, who took time to speak to each child about what was on their list. It was lovely to see the children's faces light up! Finally, the children were given animal feed and went outside to feed the variety of animals the farm had; goats, sheep, pigs, ducks and donkeys. Later in the week, the children were taught about the meaning and traditions of Hanukkah, which is due to begin on Sunday. The children made Rugelach, popular, bite-sized, crescent-shaped Jewish pastries known for their flaky, tender dough and sweet, rich fillings. In Forest School, the children explored ice and made their own bags of reindeer food.

### Physical Development

In our fine motor activities, children have been cutting Santa's beard, either practising by cutting in straight, wavy or even zigzag lines. The children have again enjoyed the lightboxes and have been tracing over gingerbread houses. They have continued to work on their name formation by writing their names in Christmas cards. Additionally, the children have been using child-friendly knives to chop the carrots for the reindeer!

Mr Rimmer is so impressed with how much progress the children have been making in their yoga sessions; they are able to execute poses more accurately and hold poses (especially the abdominal ones) for much longer than at the start.

### Expressive Arts and Design

In Art this week, the children have enjoyed finger painting a Christmas tree, making a handprint menorah, participating in some transient gingerbread art and making a pipe cleaner wreath.

#### **Information/reminders:**

Christmas Jumper Day is next Tuesday (16th) December. Children are to come in normal school uniform, with a Christmas jumper and £1 to donate to our partnered charity, The Little Green Sock.

Due to the works being done on the netball court, from tomorrow (12th December) the Lower School gate will be out of use for pick up and parents will have to use the middle gate until the end of term.

If wish to book onto our non-term time setting, please contact Miss Bardsley ([hbardsley@forestschoool.co.uk](mailto:hbardsley@forestschoool.co.uk))

We would appreciate any Tapestry updates over the Christmas period, so the children can share these on their return in January. We wish all of our Kindergarten families a wonderful Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Very best wishes, *Mrs Budd, Mrs Singer and Miss Naylor*