



### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### Head's Update

Happy Friday!

We have had such a busy time in school this week! We have been **making Christmas crafts and looking at the theme of Advent**. We have also been **finishing the filming of each class' song for the Christmas show!** Yesterday, the learners and staff looked very colorful in their Christmas jumpers for our Christmas Jumper Day!

We have been **running a Christmas card competition** over the past couple of weeks. The winning designs will be part of our e-card that is sent out each year. **The winners were: Bea, Flo, Zackery O, Malikai, Nihal, Saul, Rhys, Alfonso, Carter and Reggie W, with Bea being the overall winner.** Well done everyone!

**Christmas card competition entries:** <https://youtu.be/1sotCNTbr8>

On Tuesday, a number of learners from Crocodile, Stansted and Gatwick **went to the President's Children's Sports Awards Lunch** at Barleylands in Billericay. Whilst they were there, the learners met some famous sporting celebrities and **Benedict won an award for trying hard, being respectful and making good progress in school karate lessons.** Well done Benedict - we are very proud of you!

Last week, **we had 5 acoustic guitars donated by a lovely company called Peach Guitars.** Dan met with Adam from Peach Guitars to receive them and to thank him. We can use these as part of our Friday music option with the older learners!

This is our final newsletter before our Christmas fair next week! **We now have some amazing raffle prizes thanks to Zoe, one of our parents from Leopard class!** Thank you to Zoe and her contacts for all their amazing donations. We just need everyone to buy tickets now! The raffle will be drawn next Friday (15<sup>th</sup> December 2023).

**The bookings to meet Santa are now open!** Please remember to book one of the slots allocated for your class. It is first come, first served and some slots have already sold out. If this is popular this year, we will look at how we can extend it across the whole week next year!

**We are still looking for donations of second hand toys, nut-free chocolate, and plastic bottles and cans (such as toiletries and drinks) for our bottle tombola.**

Teachers will be sending a message on DOJO today about who is coming to the fair. **Please let your teacher know, so that we can sign people in and out!**

Have a good weekend!

Kind regards,

Maggie

### ★Class of the Week★



#### Meerkat Class



#### Becky, Class Teacher says...



This term has been a great start to the school year!

In Meerkat class, the learners have embraced their new classroom, adults and peers.

We have seen confidence grow in communication and social interactions, as well as trying new ways of working and learning!

This term, our topic is **'toys'** and we have had a lot of fun exploring teddies, dolls, vehicles, television characters, Toy Story, construction, robots and soldiers! Our class have had the opportunity to have **regular sessions in the sensory play bus, mud garden, music with Anita, karate with Alan, and interactive storytelling with Katie the Traveling Librarian.** We have also begun our swimming sessions, where the learners have been building confidence in the water, practicing their kicking and independence skills of getting undressed and dressed.

In **'thinking and learning'**, we have been exploring number, shape, measurement and real-life contexts. The children have all worked hard exploring one-to-one correspondence, addition and using a part whole model as well as identifying different types of shapes. They have used their understanding of number to measure objects looking at the length and height as well comparing and identifying what they see. We have explored money, identifying different coins, placing these in order and using these within role play to buy snacks in the Meerkat tuck shop!

In **'independence and life skills'**, we have been using language-focused play, promoting initiating and communicating with our peers and adults. The children and adults have enjoyed playing drama games such as **'the Zoo keeper and the monkey'**, focusing on skills such as turn taking, making eye contact and having fun with their peers. We have also enjoyed **cooking lessons, making our own toast and sandwiches, as well as pizza and cakes** linked to the different weekly themes. This has helped to focus on our cutting skills and safety when using different equipment when cooking!

We are looking forward to one more week on **robots and soldiers**, and then finishing off this term with our **elf workshop**, linking to 'toys' - and of course Christmas!



The Edith Borthwick School  
Weekly Update



### Upcoming dates

**Christmas Fair**  
Weds 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Covid Vaccinations (Change of Date)**  
Mon 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Christmas Break**  
Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 –  
Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

**Spring Term Starts**  
Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Non-Pupil Day**  
Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

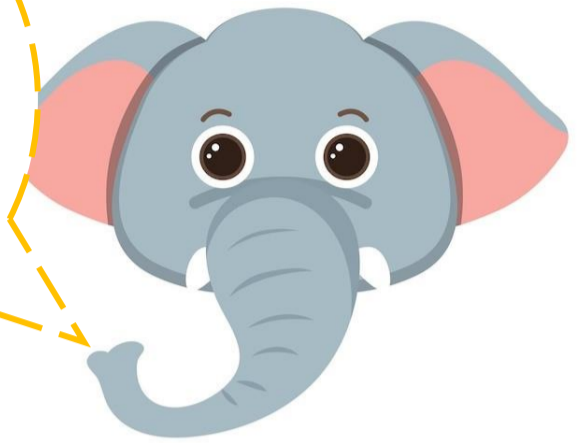
**February Half Term**  
Mon 19<sup>th</sup> February – Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024



### Edie's Corner



#### Word of the Week:



#### Edie's Jokes of the Week

**What do you call a tiger at the North Pole?** Lost!

**Doctor, Doctor! Help, I feel like a pair of curtains!** Pull yourself together then.

### Christmas card competition entries:

<https://youtu.be/1sotCNTrbr8>

Benedict receiving his award at  
**The Children's Sports Awards Lunch**



**Thank you** to everyone who donated Christmas jumpers and winter coats for the uniform bank – they were given out to families last Saturday! Some were even given out to learners for our Christmas jumper day on Thursday!



Our Assistant Headteacher Dan with Adam from **Peach Guitars**

