

16<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have come to the end of a very busy and exciting half term. There has been so much going on in school; from Google expeditions to our new climbing frame and outdoor equipment in the Foundation Stage.

There is plenty of exciting work under way in school to develop inspiring learning environments. Mr. Limbert's Reading Castle is coming along nicely, there has been an artist in school working with children to create pieces for the corridors and there is a wonderful mural in Key Stage 2.

We have also had lots of exciting Christmas events. The Christmas Fair was a great success thank you to everyone who supported it. It was also fantastic to see all the families come to our Christmas productions. The children's performances in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 were incredible, we have definitely got some budding actors in our midst! The Key Stage 2 carol concert was also a very well attended festive event to finish off our week with the sound of children's happy voices.

At the beginning of December the parents from EYFS and Key Stage 1 attended a Phonics and Reading evening to find out about the developments we have made to this aspect of the curriculum. We also discussed the approach we will be taking with homework. Information regarding Phonics and Reading in EYFS and Key Stage 1 is now on our website and please discuss any aspect of this with your class teacher.

Thank you to those parents who responded to the parental questionnaire the results are posted on our website. The main theme to come out of the questionnaires was that parents wanted more information on their children's progress. With this in mind we are currently reviewing how we report progress to you and how Parents Evenings will run in the future. The Be Your Best Tracker that is issued each half term and reports on children's behaviour will not be sent out this half term whilst we conduct this review to ensure we are providing you with effective information to support your child.

I look forward to updating you again on events and progress within school. Please continue to talk to your class teachers about any aspect of your child's learning or if you have any concerns or questions.

I would like to wish all the children and families at East Garforth a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

Rachael Binns

Head of Academy