Ask Me About….
Week beginning Monday 2\textsuperscript{nd} December 2019 (Year R)

Please make time to share a few of things we have been learning about at school this week. You can use this sheet as a gentle reminder!

- We continue to learn about different celebrations involving light, such as firework night and Diwali. This week we have been specifically learning about Advent.
- In Literacy we have read *The Legend of the Christmas Spider*. It is a legend about a gentle mother who was cleaning her house ready for the arrival of Christmas. On Christmas Eve everything was ready, including the tree. Some of the spiders who had been banished by the gentle mothers cleaning were very upset as they couldn’t see the tree so very quietly they crept out of their attic, down the stairs, and across the floor to wait in the crack in the threshold. They must see the tree closely, since their eyes weren’t accustomed to the brightness of the room... so the crept all over the tree, up and down, over every branch and twig and saw every one of the pretty things. At last they satisfied themselves completely of the Christmas tree beauty. But everywhere they went they had left their webs behind. When Father Christmas came he was dismayed as he knew the gentle mother would be quite upset if she saw the tree with webs all over it. So he touched the webs and they all turned to sparkling, shimmering, silver and gold! Ever since that time, we have hung tinsel on our Christmas trees, and according to the legend, it has been a custom to include a spider among the decorations on the tree. The children all carefully thought about what their favourite parts of Christmas was, some said it was the Christmas trees, some said it was the sound of crackers. We then wrote our ideas down, thinking carefully about what sounds we could hear when trying to write. Well done everyone!
- We also made our very own spiders webs. We had to trace a web onto a laminating sheet with glue and then added a few pinches of glitter! When these were dry we were able to hang them up around the classroom.
- In maths we have been learning about 1 more and 1 less. The children have been using different visual resources to help them think about what number comes next (if it is 1 more) or which number was before (if it is 1 less). We have played lots of fun games on the interactive whiteboards like popping the balloon that is 1 more.
- This week we have been recapping all our sounds we have learnt so far, which means there will be no phonics homework this week. You can help your child at home by encouraging them to write different CVC words (consonant, vowel, consonant) remember to keep trying to sound out the different sounds you hear, such as pat, cat, mat, sat, sit, pit, mop, on, at, in, it, is, and.
- In PE we have finished our wonderful dance for the Christmas Nativity play and are getting very excited about performing it in front of the Junior on Friday. Please do ask the children to show you/practice the dance at home, if they can remember it!
- The weather has been cold this week so some of us have decided that we would rather stay in the warm this week!

**Coats**
Please make sure your child has an appropriate, warm, coat, some gloves, a hat and possibly even a scarf in school - please make sure all of these items are named!

**Reading Books**
Please note that we will be sending home reading books during the weeks commencing Monday 9\textsuperscript{th} of December as usual. On Friday 13\textsuperscript{th} December we will remove all books and the yellow contact books for the holidays. You will then start receiving reading and library books again in January.

**Next week’s special theme ….. Advent**
The Early Years Team ☺