



Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another.

Newsletter No. 14: Friday 15th December 2023

Weekly News

Dear Parents,

This week we have thought about John the Baptist being a messenger for God and preparing the people for the coming of Jesus. We have thought about how we are preparing our hearts and minds for Jesus through our thoughts, prayer and actions.

A huge well done to our school choir who performed for some members of our parish on Monday afternoon. Their behaviour and attitude was excellent and their singing beautiful! Thank you to Mrs Amann and Mrs Lee for coordinating this.

In other musical news, some of our very talented and hard-working musicians performed in a concert on Thursday afternoon. Wow, we are so blessed to be able to be the audience for such a fantastic Christmas concert - keyboard, flute, violin, guitar, drummers and the choir. This was a wonderful Christmas treat. A huge thank you to all of our music teachers and Mrs Amann and Mrs Ray for coordinating the event.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Mini Vinnies' campaign to provide gifts for those in need through the Thomas Project. The staff at the Thomas Project, and also those of us in school, are once again overwhelmed with your generosity. Some of our Mini Vinnies, along with Mrs Hayes and Mrs Smith will be heading to deliver the gifts to the charity very soon.

We are reminding children of behaviour and expectations in school as the excitement of Christmas is building and term brings to a close next week. We are sure that they will do us proud throughout a very busy week, including Nativity and carol services, Christmas lunch, art and craft day and Christmas jumper day!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Kindest regards,
Mrs Hill

Travelling Crib

We hope you are enjoying setting up the travelling crib if it has been sent to your house. We look forward to this travelling to more families next week. In the meantime, please check out these Padlet links to look at our engagement with the crib and also to send good wishes, prayers and cheer this Christmas.

<https://padlet.com/ehayes67/christmas-wishes-ottsmpec913qicj5>

<https://padlet.com/ehayes67/christmas-hopes-and-prayers-around-the-crib-vxq9czi96i2g4656>





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Notices

- Please see the separate letter sent regarding 5pm Mass on Christmas Eve at St Mary of the Angels Church. This is a chance for your child to arrive at Mass dressed up in any costume linked to the Christmas story. We would love you to support this and look forward to seeing many of you there.
- The National Online Safety website has some very useful information on many apps and programmes. Please see the attached information regarding what parents and carers need to know about Disney Plus.
- In other safeguarding news, at this time of year it is the anniversary of the tragic events at Babbs Mill Park, where four young boys lost their lives. We have been covering some winter water and weather safety during assemblies. Some further guidance can be found on the following websites:
- https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/support-us/our-campaigns/safety-on-our-waterways/winter-water-safety?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIyOXugKSPgwMVfUhBAh1IZQAJEAAYASAAEgLY6_D_BwE
- <https://www.rlss.org.uk/pages/category/winter-water-safety>
- Thank you to our PTA for providing a lovely suggestion box for our front entrance - if you have any suggestions or ideas, please drop in a note.

Events

Tuesday 19th December 9:30am and 2:15pm Y1 and Y2 Nativity.

Wednesday 20th December - School uniform with a Christmas top or jumper is optional / Christmas lunch day

Thursday 21st December 2pm KS2 Carol Concert in Church - please see separate letter

Friday 22nd December - 9:15am Mass in school - all welcome 1:30pm finish time

Sunday 24th December 5pm Mass at Church

Monday 8th January - Inset day - school closed to pupils

Tuesday 9th January - Pupils return to school

Reflection and Prayer

This Sunday is the Third Sunday of Advent.

John Chapter 1: 6-8

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

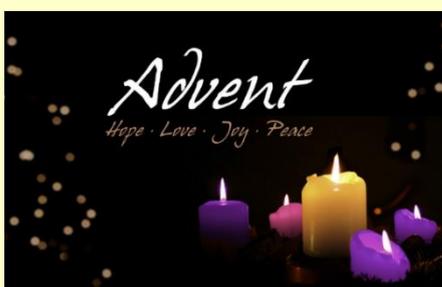
He came as a witness,

As a witness for the light,

So that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

Only a witness to speak for the light.



Yours sincerely,
Mrs N. Hill
Headteacher

Heavenly Father,
Your son Jesus is your greatest gift to us,
a great sign of your love.
Guide us as we strive to walk in that love
together,
as a school, this Advent.
As we prepare our hearts for Christmas,
Bring us closer to each other and to your
son.
Amen.