



Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another.

Newsletter No. 12: Friday 1st December 2023

Weekly News

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those of us who attended the Family Mass on Sunday to celebrate Christ the King. It was lovely to see so many of you there. We have talked this week about what kind of king Jesus is and how we can join Jesus in glory by following him now and throughout our lives. We are reminded that we are all part of God's global family and when we treat others kindly, we are also treating Jesus with kindness.

Today we say farewell to Mrs Hand, our cook and after school club playworker. Her vibrancy, enthusiasm, fun-loving and caring nature with the children will be hugely missed in school. We wish her all the best in her new career venture. We welcome Mrs Lucas, one of our wonderful teaching assistants, to the Before and After School Club.

This week the children have taken part in the NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe assembly and activity programme. The aim is to empower children and support them in how to stay safe. The children were taught that they all have the right to speak out and be heard, be safe and get help when they need it. Children were shown an analogy of a brick being added to a sack to highlight how worries can make us feel and this teaches children to think about which trusted grown-ups they could talk to if they ever feel worried or sad in order to lighten the load. The children enjoyed this work and could talk about the key messages.

As we enter the season of Advent, we ask that you read the letter sent from the Mini Vinnies last week. Instead of sending Christmas cards to all, each child will receive a card on behalf of their class. We are asking if you could make a small donation, via the gateway, to reflect the money that would have been spent on cards. This will be used to buy small world gifts for children who live overseas. Please also take the time to send Christmas wishes via our Padlet - follow this link.

<https://padlet.com/ehayes67/christmas-wishes-otmsmpec913qicj5>

We also have a travelling crib which will be circulating around each class. Please could you add comments and pictures to the following Padlet once your child and family has had a chance to engage with it. Thank you for all of your support with this, in embracing the meaning of Advent.

<https://padlet.com/ehayes67/christmas-hopes-and-prayers-around-the-crib-vxq9czi96i2q4656>

Have a wonderful weekend.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Hill

Award Winners

We had Dan and Emily from One Life Music visit a few weeks ago. Today the children joined them again virtually to take part in an Advent service. Music was shared, along with thoughts, hopes and the anticipation that we share during this time of Advent. And we got a shout-out from Dan and Emily!

Our Class of the Week and Lunchtime Award winners will be shared in assembly on Monday. Three classes each week earn £5 towards a treat or celebration. Each class is saving up and thinking of some exciting ideas!

Our Attendance winners for this week are Y4 with 97.5% and Y5 close behind with 97.2%.

Attendance Matters

Our target for attendance is 97%. Last week it stood at 95.9% so this is something to build on. Absence can only be authorised by the headteacher, and may not be authorised during term time except where circumstances are exceptional. Please remember that every day is crucial to your child's progress at school, developing confidence, building relationships and having fun. Learning is a progressive activity; each day's lessons build upon those of the previous days. When children have increased time out of school, children find it difficult to return to learning topics as they have missed previous learning and knowledge with which to build on. This can risk underachievement. If your child arrives after the close of registration, they will receive a late mark and they will miss the vital introduction to their lesson.



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Notices

- The children enjoyed the PTA disco last Friday. It was a huge success and lots of fun. Thank you so much to the PTA who kindly organise these enjoyable events for our children and give up their time with the work that takes place behind the scenes for these events. Thank you also to the staff who stayed to help, support and supervise the children. These lovely occasions couldn't take place without our dedicated adults.
- We look forward to seeing you for our PTA Christmas Fayre this afternoon. It should be a fantastic event. We are extremely grateful for your generosity with all of the donations over the last few weeks. It couldn't go ahead without all of your support.
- 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.
- We are keeping the momentum of Times Tables Rockstars Day going in school. Learning times tables by heart and ensuring that children can rapidly recall the facts helps support so many other areas of maths. Please encourage your child to utilise this website at home and use any opportunities to ask them to recall times tables facts.

Events

Monday 4th December - Y5 Confessions in school

Thursday 7th December - Y6 Confessions in school

Friday 8th December: YN and YR are invited to dress as a Disney character. They will also have a party on this day.

Friday 8th December - Y4 Confessions in school

Thursday 14th December 2pm - our musicians will put on a concert for us to enjoy. They have been working incredibly hard during their peripatetic music lessons. Parents are welcome.

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

Thursday 21st December 2pm KS2 Carol Concert in Church

Reflection and Prayer

This Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent.

Advent is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the Nativity of Christ at Christmas and the return of Christ at the Second Coming.

Mark Chapter 13: "Jesus said to his disciples:

'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come.'

Yours sincerely,
Mrs N. Hill
Headteacher

