



Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another.

Newsletter No. 14: Friday 13th December 2024

Weekly News

Dear Parents,

We lit our second candle of Advent this week and thought about symbols of peace and how we can bring peace to others. We listened to John the Baptist's message of asking for God's forgiveness. The children responded really well and could think of lots of ways in which they are preparing for Jesus.

A huge well done to our school choir who performed for some members of our parish on Monday afternoon and members of the community in Aldridge on Tuesday. Their behaviour and attitude was excellent and their singing beautiful! Thank you to Mrs Amann Mrs Lee and Mrs Hayes for coordinating and supporting 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, 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.

Well done to our Reception class who visited Ash End Farm on Tuesday. They had such a brilliant day exploring all of the play equipment and learning all about the animals. They were also very excited about seeing Santa!

On Wednesday, Y4 and Y6 were visited by Professor McGinty, an amazing time travelling detective! He brought his mobile museum with him and captivated the children with tales and artefacts linking to World War II and Roman Britain. We learnt so much new knowledge and many interesting facts with some jokes and laughs along the way. Please have a chat to your child about how much they learnt.

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 the Nativity and carol services, Christmas lunch, art and craft day and Christmas jumper day!

Have a wonderful weekend.
Kind regards, Mrs Hill

Peer Mentors

Our Peer Mentors led us through a super assembly this afternoon, teaching us about Mary and Joseph and the journey they faced before the birth of Jesus.

Children received awards for brilliant behaviour and excellent independent skills.

We also started up our new format of the 'Bench of Pride' with our Dojo winners for this term being congratulated with a certificate, a raffle ticket and a special seat in assembly.

congratulations

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, a reminder that, instead of sending Christmas cards, please also take the time to send Christmas wishes via our Padlet - following this link. We can be stewards of God's creation by saving paper.

<https://padlet.com/postbox8/st-mary-of-the-angels-christmas-wishes-2024-mrajrd6p8y8ku4w>





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Notices

- We have decorated our beautiful Christmas tree this week. (Thank you to the Guest family.) It looks wonderful and it has been lovely to see gifts appearing underneath it every day for those in need. Thank you so much for all for your donations ☺. We are taking them to the Thomas Food Bank, who will distribute them on behalf of us.
- Wednesday will be a Christmas lunch buffet for the children. Please see the flyer attached.
- A reminder about the end of the day - when you have collected your child, please move out of the line so that the teacher can safely and efficiently dismiss the next child.
- In PTA news, we are so pleased to share with you that our PTA Christmas Fayre raised an amazing £1949.67. This is such a brilliant amount and is added to the funds that the PTA already have in the pot. We will share some exciting plans for a spend with you in the new year. The PTA are also organising a visit from Santa for the children on Wednesday with a gift for each child - how exciting!



Please see the attached letter regarding Mass on Christmas Eve. Fr Ramesh is keen to continue the tradition of children arriving dressed up in a costume linking to the Christmas story. We look forward to seeing you there.

Events

Tuesday 17th December - Y2/Y1 Nativity - 9:30am and 2:15pm.

Wednesday 18th December - Children can wear school uniform with a Christmas top or jumper. (Please do not buy anything especially for this - tops with red, green, etc can all be worn.) Children will have a Christmas themed lunch on this day and will take part in some Christmas crafts

Thursday 19th December 6:30pm - KS2 Carol concert in Church (please see separate letter)

Friday 20th December 9:15am - Mass in school

Friday 20th December 1:30pm school closes for Christmas break

Reconciliation will take place in school for Y4, 5 and 6 before the end of term.

Monday 6th January - inset day (school closed to children)

Tuesday 7th January - start of term

Prayer and Reflection

This Sunday is the Third Sunday of Advent.

Joh the Baptist helped prepare people to listen to and act upon Jesus' message of love. The words of John the Baptist are just as important for us today as they were for the crowds long ago, so that we, too, will be ready for the Lord.

"I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Luke, Chapter 3)

Yours sincerely,
Mrs N. Hill
Headteacher

