



Newsletter

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Issue 14: Thursday 15th December 2016

ADVENT WEEK 3



This week in Collective Worship we talked about the third week of Advent and the theme of 'Joy'. As we lit the third candle, the pink one, we thought about the things that bring us joy at Christmastime and what we can do to bring joy to other people. Ask your children to tell you about the special Christmas Crackers we pulled and what they symbolised.

Carol Service 2016

Thank you to everyone who attended our annual Carol Service in the Church this afternoon and we do hope you enjoyed sharing in our worship. We are very lucky that parents and families are able to join us for our school services, even if it is a very tight squeeze! I am sure you will agree it was a beautiful service with lovely contributions from each class and the Young Worship group; the Class 2 children did especially well with their acting of the Nativity – well done everyone!

CHRISTMAS DINNER TOMORROW

Our annual Christmas dinner happens tomorrow – just a quick reminder also that Class 5 are asked to make a decoration for the tables in the hall.

Choir

Monday 19th December

A reminder that the choir children are singing at local nursing homes on Monday. Please make sure they have a water bottle and a warm outdoor coat as they will be walking some of the way and remember to bring an inhaler if required.

School Office

In order for Mrs Rule to finish banking and administration by the end of term, we will not be able to accept money/payments after TODAY. Please ensure all outstanding bills are settled, many thanks.

CLASS CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Tuesday 20th December, 1pm

Class parties take place in the afternoon but children may wear their non-uniform "party outfit" to school that day *as long as it is suitable for normal school activities in the morning*. Please also ensure your child has appropriate footwear and a warm coat to wear for the day as they will still be playing outside as normal. Party food and drink contributions (nut free) should be brought in on the Tuesday morning – if you haven't heard by now please contact your child's teacher



Reception 2017 Application deadline

Families wishing to apply for a reception place for September 2017 are reminded that the deadline is fast approaching: 15th January 2017. Please also remember to complete a school form (SIF) which are available from the office.

Collection

Following last week's letter (on red paper) a reminder that the deadline for donations is TOMORROW.

REMINDER

Sometimes children are coming to school with the request from parents to stay in at playtime, miss swimming, not take part in PE etc. Our approach is that, other than in exceptional circumstances, if a child is well enough to come to school, they are well enough to take part in all curriculum areas. Please understand that in order to treat everyone fairly we have to apply the policy to all children under a clear and defined procedure. We really do appreciate that sometimes it can be difficult to make the decision in the morning if your child has been under the weather, but hope that you understand the need for a fair and clear rule for all. To clarify, we consider 'exceptional circumstances' to be for example, a child on crutches or with a condition that is supported by a medical letter excusing them from certain lessons. We really do appreciate your cooperation and understanding on this matter. Many thanks.

Milk and swimming Spring 2017

Letters for milk and swimming next term were sent out earlier this week. Please return reply slips by tomorrow.

Online Payments from January 2017

We are delighted to announce that as of January we will be able to accept online payments for school things such as dinners, trips, swimming and Early Bird club through 'School Gateway' using the website or smartphone app. **Please see the information letter coming home today for details of how to sign up.** Please note that payments for PTA events or other fundraising things will not be able to go through the online service and payments will need to continue by cash or cheque. If you have any queries about how it works please speak to Mrs Rule in the office.

Job Vacancy

We are looking to recruit some school cleaner/s. The position is part time in term time and includes the daily cleaning of classrooms, cloakrooms and public areas of the school with some additional cleaning in the school holidays.

Applicants are equally welcome from people who could offer 5 days a week OR if you could only offer 2 or 3 days we could consider a shared arrangement. For more details or an application form please contact the school office. Please feel free to pass this on to anyone who you think might be interested!

R Peddie
Headteacher

CHRISTMAS FAIR THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everyone that came along to the recent Christmas fair and helped to make it a success. It's one of our biggest fundraising events and takes many hours to organise. Thanks to everyone who attended planning meetings, sent in donations, bought shopping, set up on the day, helped staff stalls or tidied up at the end of the fair, we couldn't have done it without you!

Getting school and Santa's grotto ready for the fair is a big job and I'd especially like to thank the following people for all their hard work behind the scenes, making the magic happen! Lianna Cavaliere, Libbie Burbidge, Niki Laws Randall, Naomi Taylor, Lucy French, Helen Eldridge, Dee Soden, Sue Allenby, Sanae Sahnun, Leanne Cutler & Steve Cook.

Thanks to Mrs Stewart and the choir for opening the fair and for getting us all in a christmassy mood.

Thank you to the wonderful people who gave up their time to staff stalls and tidy up at the end of the fair, we couldn't have done it without your support! Jane Thake, Carol Scott, Helen & Hector Macinnes, Kelly Howell, Thabani Nyoni, Cath Turner Smith, Phil Britton, Tracey Culliford, Elley Gumble, Julia Toffa, Alison Hassett, Sally Hendry, Faye Hall, Alex Allenby, Sally Gittens, Vicky Wills, Sasha Grady, Rachel Wilkes, Helen Lydon, Jane Rose, Jenny Hughes, Victoria Whitley, Claire and Sophie Allen, Jo Hughes, Berni Mckeown, Sandra and Adrian Hinksman.

A massive thank you to Paul Rogers (www.rogerspictures.com) for giving his time to run the fun photo booth. Thanks to class 5 for your fun and creative games, which raised the fantastic total of £204.16.

I really appreciate the support given by the staff at school. Thanks to Mrs Peddie, Mrs Springall, Ms Ingle, Mrs Gemmel, Mrs Archer, Mrs Rule, Mrs Sabri, Mrs Blencowe, Miss Leake, Miss Walker and Mrs Stewart for giving up your time to staff stalls. Thanks also to Mrs Harrington Smith for baking for the fair and to Mrs Collins for your generous donations for the raffle.

Thank you to the following local businesses for kindly donating raffle prizes: David Lloyd Stevenage, Yoga Shed, Rusty Gunn, Fitness Exchange, SPADS theatre tickets, Toni & Guy hairdressers, Pebble Beauty Sanctuary, Space to Play, Pots of Art, Men at Work Hairdressers and Satchels.

Finally a big thank you to Louise Massie for organising the floats and taking bags and bags of coins back to the bank. We're delighted to announce that the **Christmas fair raised over £1000**. We're still finalising the exact amount and will let you know as soon as we can!

Nicola Allenby

Chair St Ippolyts School PTA

MOVIE &

MUNCH

Thanks to everyone that came to Movie and Munch and enjoyed a trip on the Polar Express. Thanks of course to Susan Stevenson who organised the event and to those who gave up their time to Volunteer.

Class 4 Cake Day!

The recent Cake day raised a fantastic **£62.29!** Thanks so much to the Class 4 families for supplying the cakes and to everyone who bought some

Reindeer food and more!

After school on Tuesday the PTA will be selling North Pole Reindeer Food and other Christmas items - first come first served, limited stock!

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