

# St Mary & St John CE Primary School

Headteacher: Elizabeth Burton



Newsletter 5: 12.12.19

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is an extremely busy time of year with lots going on and many adults and children fighting seasonal bugs and infections. I do hope you are coping and, if affected, recover in time to enjoy the coming holiday.

We've had lots of successes recently. Here are some:

- ❖ The excellent Winter Fair kicked off the season on Saturday 30 November. The PTA and others worked tirelessly to transform the hall into a stylish bazaar with a wide range of things to buy, eat and drink. The community atmosphere was notable, and it was great to have our choir serenading us during the event. Santa's Grotto was highly popular, and the jam jar tombola is an annual favourite. The school Christmas cards and calendars sold very well. Our thanks go to the superb PTA for their extraordinary work to make this event run smoothly and especially to our PTA Chair, Anthony Larcombe, for his leading and for keeping positive and cheerful throughout! We were cleared up by 5.45 thanks to a great team of adults and children. A supportive parent loaded a van with all the left-over items to take to a charity shop at the end of the day. Thank you and congratulations to everyone.
- ❖ The choir also sang at a local residential home last week and will perform again in St Mary and St John church on Sunday 15 December. Our choir is now led by three of our staff and they have welcomed lots of new members since September.
- ❖ We had a delicious Christmas lunch yesterday and thank you to our kitchen staff for their hard work. There were lots of seasonal jumpers and hats BUT no crackers. It is inappropriate to have crackers with plastic trinkets inside when we are aiming to reduce waste. The classes will each get £10.00 for a game/toy instead, something to last. A couple of year 6 children did point out that the ice creams came in plastic wrappers, so we'll work on that for next year!
- ❖ We had a delightful Carols by Candlelight yesterday evening where children did readings to tell the Christmas story interspersed with carols. The children read clearly and confidently, and the PTA provided refreshments – thank you again! Thank you also to Jane Godby who organised this event. It is one of the ways we share the real meaning of Christmas, a gentle event with a lovely atmosphere.
- ❖ We have our Christmas Play performed by our Key Stage 1 children in the main hall on **Tuesday 17 December at 2.00** and in St Mary and St John church on **Wednesday 18 December at 10.00**. The backdrop in the main hall is enchanting with children's spontaneous art showing the Christmas story characters and animals. Please take a look if you get the chance.

Next week is the final week of a long term with an early finish on **Thursday 19 December at 1.00**. Please ensure your child brings everything home from the cloakroom and lunch trolleys to enable the cleaners to do a thorough clean over the holidays.

Best wishes,  
Liz Burton