

St Mary & St John CE Primary School

Headteacher: Elizabeth Burton



Newsletter 6: 9.01.19

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy new year and decade to everyone. I hope you had a relaxing and happy holiday and, even if not a rest, enjoyed a different sort of life for a few days! Thank you for all your cards, presents and good wishes which I very much appreciated. This half term is 6 weeks and the next half term is 6 weeks; it's overall shorter than the Autumn Term marathon so may feel more manageable, especially as the days will lengthen.

We had a difficult term end as a parent was taken seriously ill in our church service on Wednesday 18 December. I am overjoyed to report her recovery and she is happy for me to share this news and thank everyone for their support with the emergency. It is testament to our community that the situation was handled calmly and appropriately. A prospective parent asked me yesterday why our school is so popular; my first response was to talk about the strength of our school community. It is special.

Thank you to our year 1 and 2 children for performing a lovely nativity, including aliens (!), with all children contributing and telling the Christmas story with spontaneity and enthusiasm.

Our playground now has a range of markings, including sports pitches, hopscotch, a maze and a number dragon. This has brightened the tarmac but also gives lots more choice for physical activity at playtimes, especially for those children who are not drawn to football, basketball and cricket.

The next phase of our refurbishment will include the conversion of our large boiler room into a storage room, the creation of a new small work space and a shower in the disabled toilet. We are also hopeful that the library will be open in a few weeks. The final cataloguing is underway and we are meeting as a staff next week to discuss how to respect the beautiful library and use it to support reading for pleasure.

Here's to a positive term and I look forward to working with everyone over the coming months.

Best wishes,

Liz Burton