ST JOHN THE BAPTIST RCP SCHOOL

Headteacher's Note

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 11th December 2020



Dear Parents,

Once again we have had a very busy week in school and the children are certainly full of the Christmas Spirit.

It has been lovely to welcome our Year 4 pupils back into school after their period of isolation - well done to the these children for working so hard as they reverted back to home learning once more.

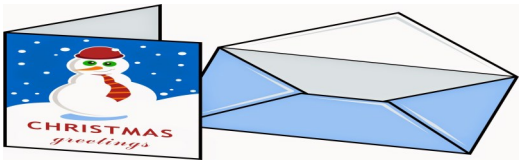
Yesterday we gathered as a whole school for the first time this term outside on the junior yard for a special Christingle Service. The children all took their Christingles home last night and hopefully you will be able to place your Christingle in a special place in your home and remember to light the candle on Christmas day and sing Happy birthday to Jesus.



You may view our service on the school website in the **children's area** under **school videos.**

St John the Baptist RC Primary School (primarysite.media)

Mrs McKeating



Christmas Cards

The deadline has now passed for bringing cards into school. They are now in quarantine and will be distributed towards the end of next week.



A special thank you to Cartmell's Greengrocers who were so helpful in sourcing 250 oranges for our Christingle service and they kindly donated some oranges too. Their kindness is much appreciated. Thank you!







Thank you to everyone for joining in the fun and wearing a Christmas Jumper today. It is nice to show our support for National fundraising events.





Thank you to our wonderful Kitchen staff for once again providing a delicious Christmas dinner. The school was filled will festive music and happy children as they pulled their Christmas crackers and tucked into their dinner. Thank you once again to the Kitchen staff for treating us and making our Christmas Dinner so memorable and special.

Will School Close early for Christmas?

Schools are currently playing a vital role in supporting the government in contact tracing, to help the national effort to limit the spread of the virus.

As test results often come out of hours this has led to additional work in the evenings and weekends for school leaders. Public Health England have asked school leaders to be available for 6 days after the final teaching day in school.

Once someone has a positive test, senior Leaders in schools follow a detailed action plan and track all people who have been classed as a direct contact. They then inform contacts to self isolate and for what length of time.

This would mean that senior leaders could technically still be fulfilling this role on Christmas Eve. Due to this, the DFE have advised schools that they can close for the 18th December but that they would then need to add an additional day to the calendar in 2021.

I have consulted with the staff and our school Governors and we have agreed to keep to our holiday pattern as planned and will therefore **not** be closing early. We feel that this would be short notice for our parents and would create additional pressures for families who would need to find childcare.

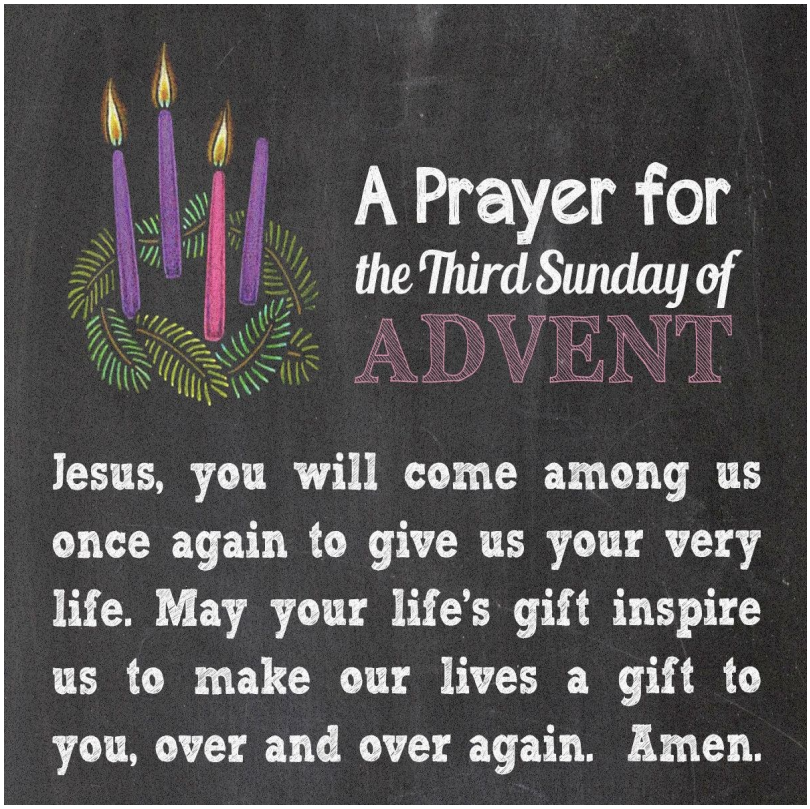
School will be open as usual on 18th December and it will be a teaching day. We will finish for the end of term after our Advent Readaround at the normal time of 3.15pm.

IMPORTANT ADVICE TO FOLLOW RE ONSET OF SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

1. Immediately Book a Test if your child develops any of the typical Covid-19 Symptoms
2. Contact Mrs McKeating head@st-john.lancs.sch.uk if your child displays symptoms within 48 hours of last being in school
3. Inform Mrs McKeating via email of the results as soon as they are delivered to you.

You do not need to contact school if your child displays symptoms outside of the 48 hour period that the child was last in school. This is then for NHS Test and Trace to advise.

Mrs McKeating will monitor her email inbox up until midnight 24th December



A special thank you to Mrs Brelsford for donating this year's Advent Wreath



One Week to go..... Quick Reminders of main events

CLASS PARTIES

On the children's class party day they can wear their party outfit all day. Please make sure that they are warm and dressed for the weather. *The Class teachers have let the children know which is their individual party day.*

Monday 14th Dec	**MONDAY ASSEMBLY- ADVENT**
Tuesday 15th Dec	**A SURPRISE VISITOR**
Wednesday 16th Dec	**FANCY DRESS DAY WEAR A CHRISTMAS OUTFIT OF YOUR CHOICE—PLEASE DON'T GO TO ANY EXPENSE—BE CREATIVE!**
Thursday 17th Dec	**END OF ADVENT MASS 9.15AM TBC (VIA TEAMS)**
Friday 18th Dec	**CHRISTMAS READ AROUND 2.30PM (VIA TEAMS)** **BREAK UP**

Final Call for Raffle Tickets

Huge prizes available £1.00 each via Parentpay. The *closing date* to purchase is *Tuesday 15th December*.

The draw will then take place on Wednesday 16th December in As-









Personalised Books For Sale



A Large set of these brand new books have been donated to school for us to sell and raise money for charity. They usually retail at £3.99 and we are selling them for £3 each. Simply write your child's name and class on an envelope with the name of the personalised book you would like to purchased.

We will give these out on a first come first served basis.

If we have the name you require it will be placed in an A5 envelope and sent home with your child. If we don't have your selected name then your envelope will be returned.



Please note all envelopes will be quarantined for 72 hours before dealing with any order requests.

There are some books that are not specific to a name.





The money raised from any book sales will be donated to Mission Possible who are trying to support the Sisters in Kenya in distributing food and a small gift for the children for Christmas.

