ST JOHN THE BAPTIST RCP SCHOOL

Headteacher's Note

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 13th November 2020



Dear Parents,

This week has been such a busy week and school has been a hive of Activity.
On Wednesday morning we held a virtual Assembly led by our GIFT team to mark Remembrance Day. This was our GIFT teams first official job in their new role and they led our school in prayer beautifully. Thank you!



CHRISTMAS AT ST JOHN'S IS NOT CANCELLED

This week our teachers have met together to discuss our plans for Christmas. Traditionally Christmas is such a magical time for our pupils at St John's and for some it is the highlight of the year. Many children love the excitement of the Christmas play and the opportunity to perform and share their talents with parents. Our children have missed out on so much recently because of Covid-19. We want to ensure that they don't miss out during the lead up to Christmas and that the Christmas spirit will fill our school with joy. We have therefore decided that all classes will produce their own mini plays and these will be videoed and shared on the Video section of the school website. This will give all the children an opportunity to be part of a Christmas Play whether it be their first or last year at St John's.

Where we can, we will maintain as many of our Christmas traditions as possible, making alterations as needed to ensure that Covid-19 regulations are fully adhered to.

CHRISTMAS CARDS - Children may send cards to their friends in **their** bubble. They will be given a time to bring them, post them in a quarantine box and they will be distributed on one set day.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY and CHRISTMAS DINNER days will go ahead. However, children will remain in their class bubbles.

Christmas Parties will still go ahead but in single Class bubbles only. We have been promised that Santa will still be able to visit the children without breaking Covid restrictions and he may even be able to leave the children with a quarantined gift to remind the Children that his annual visit to their home is coming soon.





PTA Events and school fundraising

In the run up to Christmas the PTA usually support our Christmas Parties and their fundraising enables us to provide the children with additional treats. The PTA also raise a lot of money at Christmas by providing refreshments at all the events, Christmas Card Sales, Calendar Sales and School Disco's etc. We have not been able to have our normal fundraising events in 2020 and this has depleted reserves. This is also the same for the school fund. The sales from our tickets for our Christmas Shows is our main fundraising event of the year and our school fund account will feel it's absence this year. We are however committed to ensuring that our Children do not feel that Christmas is less special this year and we will prioritise spending to ensure that this happens. A Covid Christmas should be special as it will be part our children's history so we need to make it one to remember for positive reasons.

Quarantined Donations

Whilst we are not able to do our normal fundraisers we may ask for £1 collections/contributions for non uniform days such as today. Please note on these days anything brought in from home will be quarantined for a period of 72 hours before they are touched. 72 hours exceeds the hours that the virus can remain active.

Also we may ask children to bring in donations and the same rule would apply with pre set up quarantine areas. This enables us to still function at a caring Catholic School, supporting Charities where we can.

Christmas Raffle

Each year we have a school raffle for the performances of the school play. As there will be no performances this year we still intend to hold a raffle and this will be organised through Parent Pay. Details will follow later and there will be both a Child and Adult Raffle (Including varieties of fizzy drinks for over 18's.)

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

We will be having a socially distanced outdoor service of some kind with the children. We will gather as a school to pray and sing together and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Sadly we will not be able to let visitors into school to join us for this.



This year we would like each class to adopt a Grandparent. We are looking for people who either live in a care home or alone.

We want to find 8 special people so that each class can bring some Christmas Cheer into their lives.

If you know someone who has no family nearby and is in need of a few friends please let me or Miss Dewhurst know and we will take it from there.



GOLDEN BOOK



Friday 6th November

Reception:	Rocco Storer
	Iris Beck
	Celebrated in class
Year 1:	Daisy Nuttall
	Sonny Ramsay
	Roman Schillaci
Year 2:	Dalton McGough
	Emily Baines
	Joshua Pennell
Year 3:	Shay Greenwood
	Ruby Thompson
	Lacey McNamara
Year 4:	Grace Rushton
	Harvey Boswell
	Oliver Hesmondhalgh
Year 5:	Ayden Taylor
	Scarlet Rose Murphy
	Oliver Sharples
Year 6:	Archie Turner
	Liam Thornton
	Julia Gromek

Friday 13th November

Reception:	Heidi Meehan
	Pippa Beresford
	Alfie Blanchard
Year 1:	Georgia Ramshead
	Felicity Barker
	Alistair Dalton
Year 2:	Sonny Merchant
	Alexus Mortimer McGuire
	Lilly Mai Brittain
Year 3:	Kian Judge
	Charlie Robinson
	Hannah Ranshead
Year 4:	Amelia Cumming
	Charlie Maudsley
	Alex Graham
Year 5:	Joshua McGarvey
	Darcie Mansell
	Jayden Sinclair
Year 6:	Theo Thompson
	Charlotte Brookfield
	Emily-Jean Willott







Samaritan's Purse - Operation Christmas Child - EXTENSION

Due to Covid restrictions, the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child have been unable to be collected in November.

A new collection date has now been set for December. Please therefore ensure that all items / shoeboxes are in school for **Monday 7th December** to ensure they can be collected and make a difference to another child.

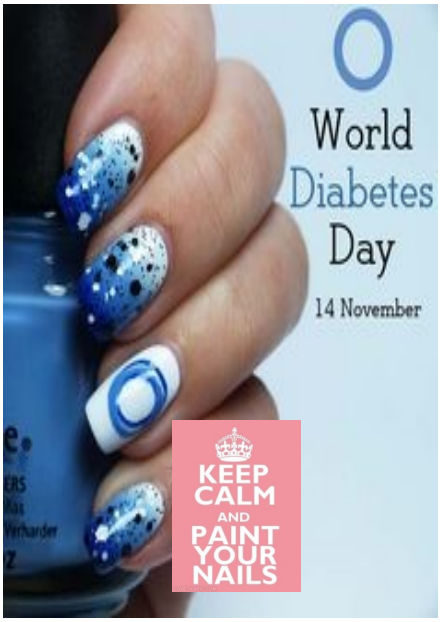
We have shoeboxes in school that can be sent home, if you wish to fill one yourselves, and each year has a class box for anyone bringing items in.

Many charities such as Samaritan's Purse are greatly affected by Covid as normal fundraising events across the country are cancelled. Please try to support this project if you are able, any small donation will be greatly received.



Let's support Diabetes UK





To support and raise awareness for Diabetes UK, we will be allowing pupils to paint ONE or ALL of their nails blue next week (Monday to Friday).

- The nail varnish must be blue - no other colour is acceptable
- The nail varnish can be worn all week but must be removed over the weekend
- False nails are NOT acceptable

No money is to be collected. Please help raise awareness of Diabetes by taking part in this fun event to raise awareness of this very serious issue.

New Mini Classroom

This week we have managed to open up a new room for group intervention support lessons to take place.



A special thank you to Miss McBreen who has been a fantastic support in helping to clear the PROP room to re-home equipment stored in this area to create this new space for the children.



Padiham Schools pay tribute to our fallen soldiers on Remembrance Day.



On Wednesday three of our pupils from Year 5 attended a special service at St Leonards Church. They were joined with representatives from all of out local primary schools. Each school performed a piece of poetry or a small reflection on why we should pay our respect to member of the armed forces on this special day. They then went on to lay a wreath at the cenotaph.

The service was recorded at the church and can be viewed on https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq2L5P45rDU_djH5RQxlTZQ

We also thank Mrs Jimmy– Astin Kilgallon our Chair of Governors who was able to join the children at the Cenotaph. The children were all fantastic ambassadors for our school and we thank them representing us so well.





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.

