

Headteacher's Weekly Briefing: 4/12/2023

Jesus said "Be on watch, be alert, for you do not know when the time will come" Mark 13:33-37

Good morning,

The holy season of Advent began with Advent Sunday yesterday: Advent and Christmastide is a time of blessing for us to grow closer to God and each other. During Advent we are preparing for the coming of Jesus. Today, to celebrate the start of Advent we had a special Advent Assembly with the children to prepare them for this wonderful time of year. We have been reminded how Jesus is the real reason for the season and how we can continue to make his presence and love felt on earth. Please find attached a special Advent Calendar for this season which started yesterday, Sunday 3rd December, the 1st Sunday of Advent through to Christmas Day. This is designed to read and share as a family throughout the season. The children will be sharing this calendar in their classes as well

Pope Francis tells us: "**Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. The birth of Jesus brings us the good news that we are loved so much by God**"

Wednesday 6th December: Christmas Dinner Day: The staff will also be having Christmas Dinner and will join the children in the hall for lunchtime. It's always a wonderful time and our kitchen staff make a fantastic dinner!

Friday 8th December: Christmas Jumper Day & £2 donation for colouring competition - On this day we ask for a £2 donation and everyone to come into school wearing either Christmas jumpers or something Christmassy! During the day, the children will be taking part in the Christmas colouring competition. There will be two winners from each class.

As we are getting near to Christmas, I know that the children like to get their teachers/ support staff a little gift/present. This is such a kind gesture but please could I remind you that these should only be small gifts e.g. cards/ small presents. Class collections (Money or Vouchers) should not be carried out as staff are unable to accept such gifts. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Diary Dates up to Christmas:

Christmas Performances: Your child will be bringing home 4 tickets to the Christmas Performances tomorrow. **Each child will be given two tickets for each performance, 4 tickets in total.** Please feel free to exchange tickets with other parents if necessary but may we politely remind you there will be NO admittance without a ticket. There will also be NO spare tickets available. The performance dates are:

Pre School – Monday 11th December (Morning session 9.45am; Afternoon Session 1.45pm)

Yr1 - Tuesday 12th December (Morning session 9.45am; Afternoon Session 1.45pm)

F2 - Wednesday 13th December (Morning session 9.45am; Afternoon Session 1.45pm)

Yr 2 - Thursday 14th December (Morning session 9.45am; Afternoon Session 1.45pm)

Friday 15th December - Mission Day-St John the Evangelist Feast Day - Before half term we took time to find out about St Luke the Physician on his feast day. On this day, the children will be taking the time to learn all about St John the Evangelist as our school is named after him and his feast day is during the Christmas holiday.

Tuesday 19th December: Mass for Advent for YEAR 1 & YEAR 2 at St John's Church (9am).

Wednesday 20th December: Christmas Party Day (Own Clothes) and **Christmas Discos** for all the children (F2/Preschool straight after school); Year 1 & Year 2 : 4.15pm (More details to follow nearer the time)

Thursday 21st December: Finish for Christmas Holiday - children can be picked up from 1.30pm

Monday 8th January: Children return to school (8.45am)

Have a great week

Mrs Bulmer