



Newsletter No 13

Dear Parents and Friends

Friday 9 December 2016



Christmas Fayre

We hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas Fayre last Friday. It was lovely to see so many of you attending. Congratulations to all our raffle prize winners: Hamper-Frankie J, Veuve Clicquot-Andrea F, blow dry at Blow-David G, Shellac nail voucher-Michelle H, Costa Coffee voucher-Mark S; and thank you to the PTA for all their hard work in preparing this event. A very special thank you to Santa, for visiting us; we know that this is a very busy time of the year.

The grand amount of **£1,700.00** was raised! Thank you for supporting this event; it was a great success.



Careful Parking - URGENT REMINDER

I have written to you several times this year regarding parking outside school and unfortunately I do so again. A local resident has written to me complaining how parents have parked across his drive blocking him in whilst they are dropping off and/or collecting. He also complained that he was spoken to in an aggressive manner when he challenged drivers about their parking. The PTA has recently provided cones to deter drivers from pulling up in a no stopping zone. We want all our children to follow laws and treat people with respect and it is very unfortunate if they are witnessing these disputes. The local police have been notified about this on-going situation. As I wrote about previously, we had a very close near miss a couple of weeks ago and I worry that there will be a serious accident if drivers do not demonstrate more care. It is also important that we enjoy positive relationships with our neighbours so again I plead with you to park, as I am sure that many of our parents always do, responsibly and legally, even if it means a slightly longer walk to school. I ask for your full support in this matter.



Mass: Year 5 will lead our Mass in school on Thursday 15 December, all welcome.



Department of Education Data Checking Form

Every child was given 'Data Checking Form' for the Department of Education; asking information to record their nationality, ethnic background, first language and country of birth. Can you please complete and return this form no later than **Wednesday 14 December**. If you require a copy please contact the school office. Thank you.

Year 3 Trip to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

Earlier this week, Year 3 visited Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery as part of their topic, The Ancient Egyptians. The children looked at many ancient artefacts from Egypt housed in the museum, including real mummified humans and animals! During the workshop, they learned about the mummification process including what and who was involved. Year 3 really enjoyed the day and were excellent ambassadors to Holy Cross not only through their knowledge and understanding but also by their behaviour and manners throughout the trip. Well done children, we are very proud of you.

HSBC Bank

A member of the HSBC Bank will visit our school on **Monday 12 December**. We try to encourage our KS2 children to open and be responsible for their own bank account and manage their money.



School Choir

Our school choir will be singing at the following events:

Monday 12 December at 1.30pm, OAP Parish Christmas Lunch at the Church Hall.

Wednesday 14 December, 1.30pm at The Oaks (residential home).

Saturday 17 December at 9.45am, House of Fraser in Sutton Coldfield - parents are welcome to watch.

These are lovely opportunities for the children to perform to a variety of audiences and show the rewards of their hard work. I look forward to a high participation at all these events.



KS2 Carol Service Rehearsals

Monday 12 December all the KS2 children will be going to Church at 9.00am to rehearse for their Carol Service. **Parents are asked to drop their KS2 children to Church at 9.00am.** *If you have siblings in EYFS/KS1 please bring these to school first.* Kids' Club children will be walked to Church at 8.30am.

On Monday 19 December children are required to be collected from Church at 3.10pm; this will allow parents to collect siblings from school for 3.20pm. If your child attends Kids' Club they will walk back to school with staff. Thank you for your support.



Tennis Club - Year 1 and Year 2

Letters were sent home with children in Year 1 and Year 2 for after school tennis. If your child would like to join this club please complete and return form with payment no later than **Tuesday 13 December 2016**.

Please note that for organisational purposes, **NO late orders after this date** will be accepted. Thank you for your cooperation.



Christmas Dinner for Children

On Tuesday 13 December, we will be having our Christmas lunch in school. **This will be a non-school uniform day.** Children can wear their Christmas jumpers on that day to get into the Christmas spirit.

KS1 Christmas Production - The Hoity Toity Angel

There will be two performances: **Tuesday 13 December** with refreshments served from 2.15pm and the performance starting at 2.30pm.

Also, on **Wednesday 14 December** - refreshments served at 9.00am and the performance starting at 9.15am. The children (and staff!) have been practising really hard. We look forward to seeing you at one of the performances.



PTA Christmas Disco



This will be held on **Thursday 15 December from 3.20pm to 4.30pm**. If you are available to help please contact the school office. Thank you for your support. **This day will be a non-uniform day. £2.00 entrance to the disco per child and a maximum £3.00 spending money in a separate purse please.**

No Music Lessons

There will be no music lessons on **Friday 16 December**. Thank you.



School Photographs



School photographs were sent home with children this week. Please return orders to school no later than **9.00am on Monday 19 December**. Any late orders parents will be required to send direct to 'Academy Photographers.' Thank you.

Advent Service of Nine Lessons and Carols KS2 at Church

This will be held in Church on **Monday 19 December** at 6.00pm. Please ensure your KS2 child is at church at **5.30pm - 5.45pm**; thank you. We hope to see a full church on this occasion; please come along to support our children.



The Wizard of Oz-Whole School

We have arranged for 'The Working Theatre Company' to visit the school on **Tuesday 20 December 2016** to perform Wizard of Oz to all the children. A voluntary donation of **£3.50** is now required to cover the cost of the Pantomime. Please login to your Parent Pay account and select this trip; deadline for payment is **Wednesday 14 December 2016**.



Christmas Class Parties



On **Tuesday 20 December** the children will be having Christmas class parties. The children must wear **full school uniform**. Parents are asked for a £1 donation per child towards party food and prizes. Please send this into the class teacher in an envelope with your child's name and labelled "Party". Deadline for payment is **Friday 16 December**. Thank you for your support.

Toy Day

On **Thursday 22 December** children can bring a toy into school. Please do not send your child with an expensive toy as the school will not accept responsibility if this gets broken. **The children need to wear full school uniform for this day.**





Class of the Term Lunch Time Award

Congratulations to Year 3 who were awarded last half term's 'Class of the Term Lunch Time Award'. Their prize is to choose the menu of the day on **Thursday 22 December**. A letter was sent home yesterday with Year 3 giving more details; please contact the school office if you require a copy. The deadline to order a meal is **Wednesday 14 December** thank you.



After-School Dance Club Year 1, 2, 3 and 4

We will be holding an after school dance club for Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 run by an outside provider called Jacqui Betts, who has over 12 years' experience teaching dance. The club will cover a variety of ballet, tap and jazz.

A letter has been emailed home please contact the school office if you require a copy.

Thank you.

ASDA

Year 1 Trip to Asda

On **Monday 9 January** Year 1 is going on a trip to Asda, Minworth. This is in relation to their topic of 'Healthy Eating'. A voluntary donation of **£2.00** is now required. Please login to your Parent Pay account and select this trip; deadline for payment is **Monday 12 December 2016**.



Year 6 Trip to St Chad's Cathedral

On **Tuesday 10 January**, Year 6 is going on a trip to St Chad's Cathedral. Deadline for payment is **Monday 12 December** this is made payable via Parentpay. A letter was emailed to parents on 8 November; please contact the school office if you have not received a copy.



Dinner Money

If your child is in KS2 and has a school dinner the deadline for the payment of **£64.50 is Friday 13 January 2017**. Please make payment through ParentPay. If you have credit showing on your ParentPay account please deduct this from £64.50 and pay the remaining balance. Thank you.



Attendance - Our school strives for 100% attendance.

Did you know...? Government legislation states that a child with an attendance of 90% and below is categorised as a "Persistent Absence Pupil". An attendance figure of 90% equates to missing half a day every week that means four weeks of missed school work across the whole year.

Parents should also be aware that referrals to the school nurse will be considered for those children with an attendance rate of below 95% due to health related absences.



This week the Attendance Award was won by Year 2 with 99.63%!

The Punctuality Award for the week: Year 2 and Year 6.

Recommendations: EYFS: Ollie L, Klaudia R Year 1: Alice F, Niall O'D Year 2: Jack C, Heloise C

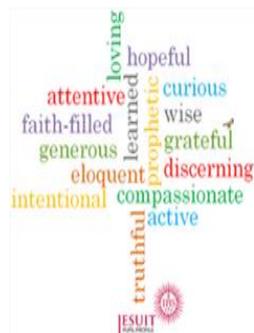
Year 3: Mollie-Mae H, Thomas B Year 4: Leilagh K, Harrison S, Erin L-F Year 5: Niamh S, Rosena J

Year 6: Chris S, Luke L.

Lunchtime Award: Enya B.

Class of the week: EYFS.

Sports Award: Grace B (Y6), Year 5 and Year 6 for athletics.



Virtues and Values

As you know the Archdiocese of Birmingham has introduced a focus on Gospel Virtues and Values. This half term we are concentrating on being **'Intentional and Prophetic'**. As a school community we are looking for opportunities in our own lives where we show the virtues. Please discuss this with your children at home; highlighting times when you experience or show these virtues. This will also be the focus for our 'Angel of the Week' awards for this half term.



Angel of the Week

Each week we will be recognising those children who we feel have made that extra special effort and show the virtues in their daily life.

This week's winners are: **Miss Stewart:** Daniel K **Miss Stevens:** Daniel W **Mr Hunt:** Amy M (Y5) **Mr Mayor:** All of Year 3 **Miss Crowley & Miss Lovelock:** All of Year 4 **Mr Rowlands:** Charlie B-H **Miss Cross:** Charlie H, Thomas T.



Happy Birthday to the following children who have celebrated their birthdays this week:
Anaha P (Y1), Sebastian H (Y2), Cassandra G, Erin L-F (Y4).

Dates for your diary - December 2017

Monday 12 December	9.00am	KS2 children to be dropped to Church
Monday 12 December	1.00pm	HSBC in school
Monday 12 December	1.30pm	Choir singing at Parish Christmas dinner
Tuesday 13 December	12.00pm	Christmas dinner for children and staff non-school uniform - children can wear Christmas jumpers
Tuesday 13 December	2.15pm refreshments 2.30pm start	EYFS/KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 14 December	9.00am refreshments start 9.15am	EYFS/KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 14 December	1.30pm-2.30pm	The Choir singing at The Oaks Residential Home
Thursday 15 December	3.20pm-4.30pm	PTA Christmas Disco
Saturday 17 December	9.45am-10.15am	Choir singing at The House of Fraser
Monday 19 December	3.10pm	KS2 children to be collected from Church
Monday 19 December	6.00pm-7.00pm	Advent Service of Nine Lessons and Carols KS2 at Church
Tuesday 20 December	9.00am-12.00pm	Christmas parties in class
Tuesday 20 December	1.45pm-3.30pm	Pantomime company in school - Wizard of Oz
Thursday 22 December	All Day	Toy Day - children to wear full school uniform
Dates for your diary - January 2017		
Monday 9 January	8.50am	Return to school
Monday 9 January	Morning	Year 1 trip to Asda

Tuesday 10 January	All Day	Year 6 trip to St Chad's Cathedral
Thursday 12 January	1.30pm	Year 3 swimming
Wednesday 18 January	7.30pm	PTA Meeting
Wednesday 25 January	9.00am-12.00pm	EYFS - School nurse to carry out hearing test
Tuesday 31 January	9.00am	Academy Photographers in school - groups, teams.
Dates for your diary - February 2017		
Monday 6 February	3.20pm-4.30pm	PTA Spring disco
Thursday 9 February	7.00pm	Confirmation - Year 6 children
Wednesday 15 February	All Day	Year 6 trip to Birmingham Back to Back Houses
Friday 17 February	3.20pm	Break up for half term
Monday 27 February	8.50am	Return to school

***Other dates available on website**

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

T Cotter

Miss T Cotter
Principal

