

ISSUE

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# Newsletter

Dear Parents

A huge thank you to all of you for your tremendous support for our **"Come Read With Me"** initiative this week. It has been lovely to have the warm buzz of happy voices around school as the children have engaged in reading with their mums, dads, grandmas, grandpas, aunties, uncles and friends! Lots of the children have told us how much they enjoyed having family and friends in school and we hope it was a positive experience for you too. We are always keen to have more volunteer readers in school, so do please come forward if you feel you would like to come and read with the children more often. Reading is such a key skill for the children and the more practice and enjoyment they get, the better their progress! It doesn't have to be weekly – **if you can commit to once per half-term, we would be delighted to have you! Please let the office know if you are interested.**



**Advent** is almost upon us and so to the next opportunity for parents to come and join us in school! Father Bill is leading an **Advent Reflection for parents and children weekly on Monday mornings** from 8:15am – 8:40am starting this coming Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November (a bit early, but it means we can get the four Advent Sundays in before we break up!) All parents and all children are welcome to join us every week, so please just turn up and join us in the hall. To help the KS2 children to understand that Advent is a time of preparation and reflection (not easy when the commercial world is already full of the glitter and gifts of Christmas -time!), we are asking all of them to commit to coming at least once during Advent (if they can come every week, so much the better!). So that they can encourage each other, we have assigned each year group a week to help them definitely come along at least once. Year 3 will begin with their assigned week this coming Monday morning and we will continue as follows:

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Nov – Year 3, Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Dec – Year 4

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Dec – Year 5, Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Dec – Year 6



The Advent Reflection will focus on the Advent Wreath and help us to prepare more fully for the joy of Christmas which is to come. **Please do come and join us – the more the merrier!**

Last but not least, KS2 children have this week been invited to apply to join our new school **Prayer Council**. This is the brainchild of two of our Year 6 girls who are keen to lead activities at lunchtimes in the prayer garden and help to develop the prayer life of the school. Some keen children have already submitted their letters explaining why they would like to be a member of the Prayer Council – in order to give everyone who would like to, the chance to reply, letters are welcome until Monday evening, when the Senior Leadership Team will be deciding who would be the best children for the roles. We are keen to have representatives from across KS2, so if your child would be interested and hasn't yet applied, **do help them to write their letter this weekend!** Watch this space for further developments in the life of our brand new Prayer Council!

Thank you for all your support of our work for the children – we are delighted to serve such a strong and supportive community and look forward to many more opportunities to collaborate.

With best wishes, Catherine Burnham

**SCHOOL CLOSURE—FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER**

Please remember the school will be closed next Friday, 1 December.

**ST ANDREW’S DAY—GUIDING, SCOUTING, ST JOHN AMBULANCE UNIFORMS**

Children may wear their Guiding, Scouting or St John Ambulance uniform on Thursday 30 November to mark St Andrew’s Day.

**YEARS 4 TO 6 CAROL REHEARSAL AT ST ERCONWALD’S—THURSDAY 30 NOVEMBER**

Please remember that children will be walking to St Erconwald’s next Thursday for their rehearsal. **They need to be collected from the church at 3.00pm.** If they need to be walked back to school for after school clubs please indicate on your permission slip. Thank you.

**CLUB NEWS**

**Netball Club is cancelled on 30 November and 7 December** due to the St Erconwald Carol Concert rehearsals. The last session will run on 14 December.

**Spanish Club will run as usual next week.**

**SCHOOL UNIFORM CONSULTATION** closes today. Uniform is available to view in the school office if you would like to see it before you decide. Last chance to let us know your views - vote online or on paper to the office. Thank you.

**PARKING** Thank you to those who have tried to support our neighbours by parking considerately this week. They are very grateful, so please keep it up!

Thank you too to all those who have walked or cycled to school this week - this helps the parking issue no end and is also a really healthy option for the children. Please ensure children are safe with helmets and reflective gear, especially as the beginning and end of the day is quite grey at this time of year! We are looking at an incentive scheme to encourage the children to walk/cycle to school more often - this should be ready to launch in January.

**USED TOY COLLECTION FOR ST PETER’S HOSPITAL** Attached is a letter about a used toy collection for children in St Peter’s Hospital over Christmas. The first collection is next **Wednesday, 29 November**. Please see the letter for information about which toys are suitable. Thank you.

**BOXES OF TISSUES** The school office would be very grateful for any donations of boxes of tissues for children to use in school. Thank you.

**SCOOTERS/HOOPS IN PLAYGROUND** Please can we remind parents that children, including pre-school siblings, should not use scooters in the playground at drop off or pick up time. We have had a couple of instances of people being hit. Hoops in the playground are also not for use before or after school—people have also been hit with these. Thank you.

**PA NEWS** Please find the latest **Christmas Fair Newsletter** attached.

Don’t forget the **Christmas Fair Programme Cover Competition**—the deadline is 30 November. Thank you to those who have placed their **Christmas Card** orders. You have raised £148 for the school! Your orders are now being put together and we are expecting them to be delivered to the school early next week. They will then be sent home via the children as soon as they arrive. Thank you again for supporting the school.

**EFFORT AWARDS**

<b>Red</b>	Dominic G	Isaac H	<b>Ruby</b>	Rui L	Isabella O
<b>Orange</b>	Freya G	Henry C	<b>Coral</b>	Abi E	Lucas R
<b>Green</b>	Luma D	Hattie F	<b>Opal</b>	Isla B	Lydia R
<b>Yellow</b>	Emily C	Mario B	<b>Sapphire</b>	Lilia B	Ethan D
<b>Violet</b>	Cuba W	Lucas B	<b>Emerald</b>	Emily C	Toby T
<b>Blue</b>	Joseph C	Martina G	<b>Garnet</b>	Aidan C	Damian G
<b>Topaz</b>	Lucas R	Maya O	<b>Amethyst</b>	Hannah B	Philip R