

ISSUE

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Newsletter

Happy St Andrew's Day! It has been lovely to see the children from YR to Y6 in their different uniforms to mark this special saint's day and they have enjoyed showing off their various badges! In collective worship this morning, we reflected on the scripture from Matthew's Gospel, where Jesus calls Simon Peter and Andrew to follow Him. We noticed especially that they straight away put down what they were doing and followed Him. In our busy world, it is sometimes good for us to put down what we are doing and make time for God in our lives too.

As you know, the season of **Advent** begins this weekend. At a Headteachers' meeting with Bishop Richard this week, he asked us especially to help our children to understand that this is not Christmas! It is so difficult for them to understand when school nativity/carol concerts are going on and the shops are so keen to promote "Christmas" from about September. Bishop Richard reminded us that Advent is a season of hope, looking forward to Christmas, so it is right for us to feel a sense of anticipation. There is a great video clip here reminding us about the meaning of Advent: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eC0FGQLBp7w>

- Some ways you could help your children to enjoy the season of Advent and look forward to Christmas include:

- Use the Missio Advent Calendar alongside or instead of a chocolate one, to keep the meaning of the feast <http://catholicyouthwork.com/mission-together-advent-2018-resources/>

- Put up the crib without the shepherds/kings (and of course without the baby!) – but have the shepherd or king figures move ever closer to the crib – maybe progressing through different rooms in your house

- Light an Advent candle/Advent wreath each night and say a prayer together

- Make a Jesse tree and build up the picture all the way to Christmas <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/word-on-the-go/signs-seasons/>

- Attend our Advent reflection services on Monday 10th and 17th December in school at 8:30am

- Take home the travelling crib for one night – tell the story and have some quiet time thinking about the birth of Jesus

This week, I have had an email from **Network Rail** asking us to raise awareness of Railway Safety in school, as they have had a number of incursions on the high speed lines in this area. This morning, the children watched a short film showing them how to cross the railway safely (bridge/underpass / level crossing) and explaining about the danger of high voltage electricity. If you would like to see the film, the link is on our website.

Following an accident in Arch Road this morning, I would also like to raise awareness of road safety again. Fortunately a child was not hurt this morning in the collision, but it is only a matter of time. Please leave plenty of time for your journey and use the parking at Hershams Station or Coronation Rec rather than driving down Arch Road. There is no safe way of having over 400 children in a confined space with so many cars, so please put our children's safety over convenience and approach the school on foot.

I wish all of you a very happy start to the Advent Season and a lovely long weekend! See you on Tuesday.

Catherine Burnham

SCHOOL CLOSURE—MONDAY 3 DECEMBER

The school is closed for staff and pupils on Monday, we return on Tuesday 4 December.

CHRISTMAS DATES NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 4 December Wear Own Shoes Day
(please bring chocolate for Christmas Fair tombola)

Wednesday 5 December Years 4, 5, 6 Carol Rehearsal

Please collect children from All Saints at 3pm

Thursday 6 December Reception Nativity 2.30pm (doors open 2.15pm)

Friday 7 December Mufti Day
(please bring bottle for Christmas Fair tombola)
Choir at Sherwood House 2pm

The full list of Christmas dates is attached.

TRAVELLING CRIB—YEARS 1 TO 6

Mrs Sharp, our RE Lead, is organising a travelling crib for children in Years 1 to 6. It has the nativity figures and some suggestions for prayer and reflection. If your family would like to have the crib overnight, please email the school office. Thank you to those who have already booked, the crib will start going home next week. (Reception classes have their own travelling crib.)

CLUB NEWS

Irish Club will not be running on Tuesday 4 December due to staff training. There will be a replacement session on Tuesday 11 December.

Netball Club is cancelled next Thursday 6 December due to matches.

The following clubs after school have finished for the term:

French, Spanish, Table Tennis, KS2 Golf, Chess

Letters for next term will be on our website as soon as we have them (Spanish, French and Gymnastics are there now). Information about school-run clubs will be sent at the beginning of next term.

PRINTING CLUB CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SALE NEXT WEEK

Children in Printing Club have made Christmas cards and will be selling them at lunch times next week. Cards are £2 each and money raised will go towards resources for the club next term.

SCHOOL NURSE DROP IN SESSIONS—TUESDAY 22 JANUARY

A reminder that we are taking bookings for these sessions in January. The school nurse will be available to talk about physical and emotional health, healthy eating, behaviour, sleeping and toileting. Please email the school office if you would like an appointment.

BOXES OF TISSUES

It's the time of year for lots of coughs and colds. Please could we ask for any donations of boxes of tissues for classrooms and the school office. Thank you.

PE KITS IN SCHOOL

A reminder that **PE kits must be in school every day. For girls in KS2 this includes white socks – tights must not be worn during PE lessons.** Please can they have these in their PE kits. Thank you.