

ISSUE

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Newsletter

The first week of Advent is always a busy time in schools and this year is no exception! We marked **the start of Advent** with a whole school Mass on Tuesday - Year 6 Garnet Class led the readings and prayers and Fr Bill encouraged the children to think of the small steps they can take to prepare their hearts for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. One of the small steps we can take might be to join Fr Bill and the children from Y3 and Y4 at a short Advent Reflection service on Monday morning at 8:30am. All parents, children and younger siblings are very welcome.

For Reception children, the big event of the week was of course the **Reception nativity play!** The excitement was tangible in the classrooms as the children were getting ready for their starring roles in front of mummies, daddies, grandparents, aunties, uncles, siblings and friends! A great deal of work goes into preparing the children and it paid off as they were utterly charming, as always! They told the Christmas story beautifully, speaking their words loudly and singing happy birthday to the Baby Jesus with great gusto! Well done Reception! The season of plays and concerts has got off to a fine start!

Our **KS2 Choir** has been out and about this week spreading the good cheer. Sherwood House kindly invited us back after Year 4's excellent entertainment in November and so, today, the choir performed for the residents. They enjoyed a rousing rendition of some well-known carols and thoroughly enjoyed having the children to visit. This is a connection it would be good to continue, enabling our children to have a positive experience of using their gifts to serve others.

On that note, we should also thank the Class Reps who have been busy encouraging all parents to use their gifts to serve others at the Christmas Fair tomorrow! A great deal of work has gone into the preparation of the fair and it would be wonderful to have a good turn out to reward all that hard work. So far this year, the **Parents' Association** has agreed to fund:

KS1 climbing frame donation (£10,000)

Minibus service plan

Whole school Christmas panto (Scroogical)

Book Week dance workshops (Spring Term)

Creative Arts week workshops (Summer Term)

Pole and stand for the new school banner

and they continue to fundraise towards some further play equipment for the KS1 playground. It is great to have so many opportunities for our children from the money raised by the PA and we look forward to providing many more lovely things for our children to enjoy!

Wishing you a wonderful family weekend and we look forward to seeing lots of you at the fair!

All best wishes, Catherine Burnham



CHRISTMAS DATES NEXT WEEK

- Monday 10 Dec Years 3 + 4 Advent Reflection 8.30am to 8.40am
(Parents and children in all year groups welcome)
Years 4, 5, 6 Carol Concert Rehearsal
Please collect children from All Saints at 3pm
- Tuesday 11 Dec Yellow, Violet, Ruby Classes Christmas Concert 2.30pm
(doors open 2.15pm, back playground open for parking 1.45pm)
- Wednesday 12 Dec Green, Blue, Topaz Classes Christmas Concert 2.30pm
(doors open 2.15pm, back playground open for parking 1.45pm)
- Friday 14 Dec St Lucy House Mufti Day

COLLECTIONS AT CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

This year money raised at our collections at the Reception and Years 1, 2 and 3 concerts is going to Mary's Meals which provides school feeding programmes in the world's poorest countries. The collections at the Years 4, 5, 6 carol concerts at All Saints will be split between MISSIO, the Catholic Church's official charity for overseas mission, and St Michael's Children's Home in Uganda which continues to be supported by St Erconwald's church.

CLUB NEWS

The only clubs after school running next week are Irish (Tuesday), Judo (Thursday), Film (Friday). Gymnastics before school continues to the final week.

Spring Term: We will have some new clubs next term including **Ukelele, Engineers R Us for KS2 children** and some new sports clubs. More news next week.

Club letters for next term will be on our website as soon as we receive them (Surrey Football, Volleyball, French, Spanish, Gymnastics are there now).

Tennis will not be continuing next term.

St Erconwald Singers will now practise after 9.15am Mass on the first Sunday of each month at St Erconwald's, children are very welcome to join them there.

IROCK CONCERT—WEDNESDAY 19 DECEMBER

Parents of children who take part in iRock music sessions are invited to their end of term concert on 19 December. Please look out for the letter being sent home with more information.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR RECEPTION PLACES AT SURREY CC SCHOOLS

The deadline for these and Supplementary Information Forms is **Tuesday 15 January**.

NETBALL MATCHES AGAINST ASHLEY SCHOOL

Well done to our Year 5 team who won by an amazing 8-0 at home. Year 6 travelled to Ashley and lost 7-1. Teams and scorers are on the website.

LOST PROPERTY We have 5 pairs of glasses (including a pair in a pink case) in the school office. If you think they might be yours, please come and check. Thank you.

USED STAMPS FOR RNIB We are continuing to collect used stamps in aid of Royal National Institute for Blind People—it would be great if you could put stamps from your Christmas post in the box outside the school office. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS FAIR TOMORROW—12 NOON TO 3PM

**Santa's Grotto * Photo Booth * Cardinal Café * Secret Present Room
Jar and Bottle Tombolas * Raffle * Outside stalls * and lots more**