



SS PHILIP & JAMES' CHURCH OF ENGLAND
VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Together we shine

Friday 21 December 2018

Dear parents and carers,

As we move ever closer to Christmas, I have been reflecting on events that have taken place since September; it has certainly been a full Autumn Term. If you haven't done so already, please look at the *Sports Highlights* and the *Autumn Term Round Up* newsletters, which both give a flavour of the learning that has taken place, whole school events, as well as extra-curricular opportunities.

After watching our Early Years children perform The Nativity last week, it is incredible to think they have only been in school for a few months. It was a truly wonderful performance which I am sure will be remembered fondly by all who were there.

This week the children in Year 1 and Year 2 performed *We're Going to Find a New King* in a packed St Margaret's Church. The children presented a wonderful twist on a firm favourite *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, sharing how baby Jesus was discovered by the cast of the Nativity. We ended our Christmas celebrations this week, with pupils in Years 3- 6 sharing readings, songs and carols in St Margaret's Church. As always, we were proud of all the children who sang and performed with confidence and pride.

Today in our final assembly of Autumn Term we said goodbye to Mr Bushell and Ms Walsh. Mr Bushell is taking up an assistant head post at St Francis School and Ms Walsh is joining Corpus Christi. We will miss them both, but wish them the very best in their new roles.

Many thanks to all who donated to Christmas Jumper Day, pupils and staff raised £152.00 which we have donated to Save The Children. Last week our ever active PTA organised the Christmas Bazaar for the children during the school day and the Christmas Fair for families and members of our community after school. Both events were wonderful and enjoyed by all. I am delighted to say that the school community will be donating £2000 to Gatehouse. I would like to thank all who helped make both events so special - a huge amount of work went into them!

Finally, on behalf of the governors and staff at SS Philip and James, I would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas. We very much look forward to welcoming the children back to school on 8th January 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Awuye
Headteacher



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PTA News

Bazaar

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated gifts for the Christmas Bazaar. We had a wonderful collection for the children to choose from and we hope you will all like the gifts your children bought for you. The children had a super time and the volunteers really enjoyed helping them with their shopping. We made just over £500 for the PTA, which is brilliant. Thank you again and wishing you all a very happy festive season.

Christmas Fair

A massive thank you to everyone that participated in this year's Christmas Fair, it was a huge success with much fun had by all...a great way to get properly in to the Christmas spirit. The even better news is that the Fair raised nearly £1000 for The Gatehouse and we have secured match funding so they will benefit by £2000 as a result of your generosity. Thank you.

Calendars

There are still a small number of calendars for sale in the office but we are delighted to announce that this year calendar sales raised over £2000 to help support the school.

Goodbye and Thank you

We are sad to say goodbye to Jen Watkiss who has been a vital part of the PTA, helping with all the events that we put on but also providing us with the entertaining email communications which we all receive. Thank you Jen for all that you have given, we will miss you.

We are still looking for someone to fill the communication role on the PTA. Please do email carriext@aol.com if you think you might be able to help.

Next Term

Watch this space and save the date for 1st Feb 2019 when we will be holding the annual PTA quiz night. Tickets will be on sale in the new year.



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Weekly Celebration assembly

We expect all adults and children in our school community to demonstrate in all they do, our school values *love, compassion* and *community*. The children also follow our whole school rules: we will work hard, we will respect each other and school property, we will listen and follow instructions. We have high expectations for behaviour and we teach and support all our children to navigate relationships and interactions in a positive way.

Over and above our conduct expectations, we also award house points to children for showing kindness, care and effort.

Congratulations to the following children who were presented with a Bronze certificate having been awarded a well-deserved 25 house points. **6CB: Mara, James K. 5M: Taimur, Edward. 4CM: Riley, Noa, Noah, Alex. 4M: Amelia. 3L: Archie, Sam, Timmy, Milly, Isaac, Xanthe, Nikolai, Leo. 2RG: George, Charlie. 1C: Shepard, Felix, Rakesh, Henry. 1H: Ben, Isobel, Hugo, Cedrik, Patrick.**

Congratulations to the following children who were presented with a Silver certificate for being awarded a fantastic 50 house points. **6B: Aram, Akul, Noor, Elliana, Louis, Daisy, Olive. 6CB: Malavika. 5F: Oliver, Milo, Jamie, Eva, Saoirse, Max, Joshua, Mary, Leo, Hippolyte. 5M: Alice, Dennis, Noah, Leyla. 4CM: Lucy. 4M: Tomek, Laszlo, Alex, Octavia, Eric, Mary, Esther, Silvio, Anthony, Amelia, Martha, Timothy, Anaiya, Darian, Eli, Arnold. 3L: Hannah. 3S: Tristian, Niko, Dylan, Louise, Maria, Rodaina. 2BH: Alexander, Sera, Oliver, Isobel, Humphrey, Elliott, Maya, Emily, Beatrix, Merry. 2RG: Amelie, Bika, Orya, Karim, Isaiah, Hannah. 1C: Isobel.**

Congratulations to the following children who were presented with a Gold certificate for being awarded a fantastic 100 house points. **6M: Melody 5M: Zara, Oscar, Asha 3S: Amelie, William, Zoe.**

We are very proud of **Rosie in 6CB** who, last Saturday, performed as part of the Oxford Young Singers at the Bach Choirs "Carols for all" concert at the Sheldonian theatre. It was a busy weekend, as she also sang at the Lord Mayors Carol concert at the Town Hall the following day.





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Spring Terms 2019 dates for your diary

INSET DAY School closed for pupils	Monday 7th January
First day of Spring Term	Tuesday 8th January
Parents evening	Tuesday 15 th January
Parents evening	Thursday 17 th January
Phonics Information Evening – details to follow	Monday 21 st January
Sports Hall Athletics Years 3-6 - details to follow	Tuesday 22 nd January
Girls on the ball Years 3-6	Wednesday 23 rd January
Mental Health Week	Monday 4 th February
Mixed Football Tournament Years 3 and Year 4	Wednesday 6 th February
HALF TERM	Monday 18 th –Friday 22 nd February
EYFS Coffee Morning 9.00am	Thursday 28 th February
Girls on the ball Year 5 and Year 6	Thursday 28 th February
Life Bus visiting school details to follow	Tuesday 5 th February
High 5 Netball Year 5 and Year 6	Wednesday 6 th March
World Book Day	Thursday 7 th March
Coffee Morning Year 1 and Year 2 9.00am	Thursday 14 th March
Year 6 residential to PGL	Monday 18 th - Friday 22 nd March
Girls on the ball Year 3 and Year 4	Wednesday 20 th March
Coffee Morning Year 3 and Year 4 9.00am	Thursday 21 st March
Netball Tournament Year 3 and Year 4	Thursday 21 st March
Cross Country Finals	Tuesday 2 nd April
Coffee Morning Year 5 and Year 6 9.00am	Thursday 4 th April