



# NEWSLETTER

**“A Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum through wisdom and love”**

**Telephone: 01798 872007**

**WB 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

As we approach the end of term, we are so grateful for the Christmassy end that we are having for the children. We are grateful that we have been able to have parents in to see the children perform due to our low Covid rates. Thank you to the EYFS staff and KS1 staff who have rehearsed the nativity productions and to the team of parents who came in to school last weekend to help with sound, lighting and staging.

Thank you to Craig Davies, Lee Brockett, Rick Clayton, Aaron Greenfield, Jack Kidwell, Mr Leach, Caleb Leach, Josh Leach, Mrs Dona, Mrs Parsons and Tom Copus.

**Christmas Productions** – This week we have no confirmed cases of COVID and we are going to try and continue with the EYFS & KS1 Christmas productions.

- **Thursday 9th December EYFS 2.15pm & 5.30pm,**
- **Monday 13th December KS1 2.15pm**
- **Tuesday 14th December KS1 2.15pm & 5.30pm**

These dates are now on the school calendar on our website. We will be asking parents to do lateral flow tests before arriving and we will be asking to see the negative result on the NHS app. There will be QR codes on entry to do Track & Trace. We will also ask that visitors to the school wear masks throughout and doors and windows will be open for ventilation so please wear layers.

We are selling tickets on a first come and tickets are available on School Cloud now, as we are a cashless school, payment will be via PayPal. Please note that we may cancel the parents attending at any time if cases rise again then we will go over to Zoom as part of our COVID risk assessment. If any performance has to be cancelled, then payments will be refunded less the PayPal transaction cost.

## **Other Christmas events:**

- **Wednesday 15th December** - On-line Pantomime for the children – we are fortunate that The Lions and the PTA have funded the Pantomime this year and we know that it is always one of the highlights for the children and staff.
- **Thursday 16th December Chartwells Christmas Lunch** - bookings have now closed
- **Friday 17th December Christmas Eucharist** – Parents can join via Zoom. Please contact the office for the Zoom link details.
- **Friday 17th December Pupil & Staff Christmas Jumper / Christmas outfit day £1.00 donation to the PTA.**

**Lighting the star at church** – This was won by **Freddie B (Italy)** and he turned on the star on Sunday. Do look out for the star in the evening as it shines over Pulborough.

**Advent Eucharist** - A huge thank you to **Shaun Standing** and **Lauren Dempster** for organising the Oranges, which we used in the Christingle. We are grateful for the support that parents and Tesco make. It makes a huge difference to the children and their learning.



### PTA Christmas Hamper Raffle

We have had generous donations from the local community and the hampers are looking amazing! We have an incredible 12 hampers to raffle. Tickets for the raffle can be purchased on the playground at pickup or via BACS until Monday 13th. They are £1 each. Winners will be drawn on Tuesday, 14th. Thank you for your support & Good Luck!

**Bacs details: St. Mary's PTA, Sort code 30-98-97, acct 58340760**



**Andrew Griffiths MP visit** – We welcomed Andrew Griffiths MP this week to present the runner up prize for his Christmas Card competition to Gemma. We are thankful for his visit and showing such an interest in St Mary's school

**Storrington Nativity scene** - **Luna and Molly (China)** at the live Splash nativity in Storrington as they took their part. Luna often volunteers to help with events and she loves to serve the community at The Village Hub. Thank you to those who joined in.



**Vine leaves** – **Rosa (NZ)** for her perseverance and positive attitude towards her learning.

**Lexi A (USA)** for perseverance and resilience in all that you do. **Toby H (Ire)** for kindness as you have been a great ambassador for the school. **Miller B (Tha)** - For being so kind and caring when helping her peers with their learning! **Alexa (Tha)** - For always being so amazing at keeping our classroom tidy! **Amelie-Joy K (Ind)** for perseverance Amelie-Joy puts so much effort into her learning and is keen to succeed even when it is difficult. **Finnley (Ind)** class to be recognised for his manners, politeness and kindness.

**Achievements** – **Daniel (Ind)** and **Oscar (Ire)** for 'Man of the Match'. **Harry C (Chi)** achieved his 400m in swimming – this is a great achievement. **Charlie (Ire)** for winning a medal at Horsham Rugby Club. **Indi (NZ)** for gaining her Level 3 swimming.

**Tea and Chat for parents** – Mrs Callender is going to run a "Tea and Chat" on Early Reading (for parents in EYFS or Y1) and this will be **via Zoom on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am.** Join Zoom Meeting - [Early Reading Tea & Chat](#)



**Curriculum** – This week we have been making sure that our medium term planning is ready for the Spring Term and we have detailed planning in all the subject areas to ensure that children have an engaging curriculum that ensures progression as we move in to this term. Year 1 and 2 will be doing 'Memory Box', Year 3 will be learning about 'Predators and Prey', Year 4 will be learning about 'Temples, Tombs and Treasures', Year 5 will be learning about 'The Greeks' and Year 6 are focussing on 'Explorers and Adventurers'.

**Happy book certificates** – Happy Book certificates will be coming home next week. These are to celebrate the achievements of the children and between 4 and 6 children will receive one. Please do celebrate if you child has achieved one.

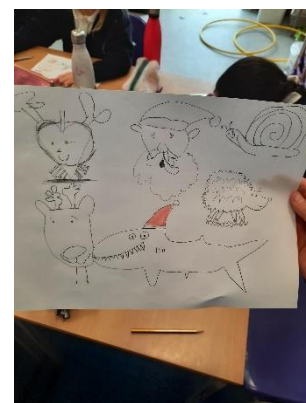
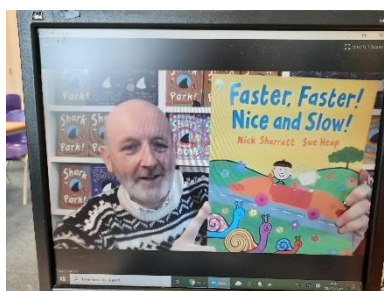
**Reading over the holidays** – The Christmas holidays is a great time to read! We would love to see you reading with something or someone Christmassy. Can you read with Father Christmas, a reindeer, an elf or something else?

We would also love to see the different books about Christmas that you are reading or a book that you got as a present for Christmas. Please email [office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk) or you can email your class email address.

**First Aid** – Thank you to Little Lifesavers who came to work alongside South Africa and Japan classes. The children were able to learn some valuable Life Saving skills that might just save a life. The children learnt how to help a casualty who was choking, place someone in the recovery position and carry out CPR. We are so grateful to the team of volunteer instructors for teaching the children such important skills.



**Nick Sharratt** – Year 4 met with Nick Sharratt and looked at what it is like to be an illustrator. What a great experience for the children!





**Badminton** – On Tuesday morning, we took a group of Year 4 children to Collyers in Horsham to participate in a Badminton enrichment activity. We saw a huge improvement in their skills in a short period of time.



**Year 6 Football** - The Year 6 Girls football team travelled to Tanbridge House last Friday for the final round of matches in Division 1. Despite missing their influential captain, the girls performed with the same positivity and determination that has characterised their performances over the past month. After losing their opening game 3-1 to the eventual champions Southwater Primary, St Mary's bounced back to beat Castlewood 2-0 with both goals courtesy of **Brooke G**, who ended with 12 goals in total over the 3 rounds of matches. The girls finished 5th in the league out of a total of 8 teams, which is a remarkable achievement given that so many in the squad had never played football before. Very well done to all the girls that played - **Amelie E-W, Brooke G, Charlie K, Bella B, Alicia B, Misty M, Abi H, Ellie J and Polly B**.

We look forward to returning to Tanbridge House in March when there will be tournaments for all year groups in KS2 and another opportunity for the year 6 Girls too.

**Clarinet Concert** – Year 4 performed 'Hot cross Buns', 'Drunken Sailor' and 'I want candy' using the 3 notes they learnt this term.



**Break time snacks and lunchboxes** – A reminder that break time snacks are fruit, yoghurt or a cereal bar please and we are getting lunchboxes that are 'sugar laden'. There should not be doughnuts, sweets or pure chocolate bars. A balanced lunchbox will help the children concentrate in the afternoons. Thank you for your cooperation with this. We are a 'Nut Free school'.

**Eco Council** – Pupils to collect crisp packets and sweet wrappers – We are encouraging the children to bring these in to school on **Wednesday 15th December AT THE LATEST**. On that day, the Eco Float (Sussex Green Living) will be located in the front playground at the end of the day; they will be collecting the packets and wrappers in to take to the recycling centre. There is a wheelie bin in the front playground so pupils can deposit the wrappers as they enter school.

**School Development** – As we go in to the Spring Term we will be working on the children's writing stamina in a range of curriculum areas. Our curriculum development will include; the impact that it is having on our pupils, the importance of Oracy and development of spoken language; the retrieval practise of remembering our learning within well-structured lessons.

**Parking** – A reminder please to park considerately around the school. We have received several complaints from some of the local residents. If you are concerned about the parking then you can contact [www.operationcrackdown.co.uk](http://www.operationcrackdown.co.uk)

**Vacancy** - We are looking for a cleaner to join our team in January, please click the link below for more details  
[https://www.st-marys-pulborough.w-sussex.sch.uk/web/vacancies\\_at\\_st\\_marys/572444](https://www.st-marys-pulborough.w-sussex.sch.uk/web/vacancies_at_st_marys/572444)

We are looking forward to the last week of term and celebrating with the children.

#### **Dates for January**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Return to school for the Spring Term**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Hawking About for Y3**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Greek Day Y5**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January – Clubs start**

**Thank you for your ongoing support.**

#### **Early Years Nativity –**

