



Newsletter ~ Term 2, Week 7

Christmas Events

The rafters rang last night at St Francis' Church as our Key Stage Two children did us proud with their wonderful retelling of the Christmas story through singing, acting, reading and dancing.

There are so many people we need to say 'thank you' to for helping us put this carol service together, but I personally would like to say a huge thank all the staff who have rehearsed, sung, stapled broken costumes, supervised children, made head dresses and carried furniture about - and always willingly and cheerfully.

In turn, our teachers would like to say a huge thank you to all parent 'walkers' who have helped so faithfully on our journeys to and from church over the last week. We couldn't do it without you! And to Mr Lochrie (our 'man with the van'!) who helped transport staging and benches to and from church.

It may take us a little while to look at the films of the service (thank you, Miss Parry) as we have a busy few last days, but further news will be forthcoming...

Charitable Giving

Thank you so much for your more than generous giving this Christmas. We are continuing to accept food donations for the Clevedon Foodbank so please hunt out those tins and packets over the weekend.

We have raised an amazing total of £724.85 through donations given by parents and friends during our various Christmas events and this will be shared between HCPT, Missio and Southmead Hospital.

Advent Prayer Bags

Thank you to parents of children in years 4 and 6 who have supported their children during Advent with the prayer bags. Here are some comments from the children:

'Me and my brother said how lucky we were to have each other as siblings and even though we sometimes argue we both said sorry for all those times.' Catherine

'Me and my mum were in my room and we had a prayer table and we laid it out and said all the prayers I knew. I felt peaceful as it was very quiet.' Arabella

My whole family said the prayer and we said an 'Our Father'. It was awesome because we all sat together.' Ezekiel

'I was in my bedroom with my whole family and we were saying what we were sorry for and what we could do better to sort things out. We said sorry for arguing with each other. I felt very good because I could get all those things off my chest.' Giuseppe

Well Done

To the children who have been awarded the 'end of term' book token for their all round commitment this term to their learning, positive attitude and approach to school and friendships we say 'congratulations!' – Serah (R), Vince (Y1), Merin (Y2), Thomas (Y3), Isla (Y4), Jamie-Ann (Y5) and Niamh (Y6).

We also congratulate our junior swimming team who competed in the North Somerset schools swimming gala last week. Miss Ball would like to congratulate Matthew, Fraser, Nancy, Amelia, Amelie, Claire, Will,

Alessandro, Zente, Giuseppe, Isla and Matilda for their fantastic swimming and their brilliant sportsmanship.

Sports Clubs

Flyers will be going home over the next few days giving details of our after school sports clubs next term. These will include:

Wednesday: KS2 Fencing

Thursday: KS1 Gymnastics and KS2 Advanced invasion games

Netball TBC

Swimming for Years 3 and 6

Swimming starts on Friday 5 January for and we would be very grateful for parental help. Please contact the school office if you have any time to spare on a Friday morning.

Safeguarding

We have been reviewing some of our safeguarding protocols this term in order to ensure that we are following all the latest guidelines to keep children safe in school. From 4 January 2018, if you come into our school building while children are on the premises, you will be asked to read a short statement and sign to say you agree to act accordingly while here. You will also be asked to sign in and out and ensure your visitor's badge is visible at all times. Thank you in advance for helping keep all our children safe and our site secure.

Admissions for Reception 2018

The closing date for admissions to the Reception class for September 2017 is **15 January 2018 at 23:59**. Parents can apply online at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/admissions. The Admissions Team can also be contacted on 01275 884078 or by email admissions@n-somerset.gov.uk. Supporting Baptismal evidence should be brought to the school office by **15 January 2018**.

And Finally

A white candle can be placed in the middle of the Advent Wreath.

*This is the **Christ Candle** and signifies **purity**.*

It is lit on Christmas morning to celebrate the birth of Christ.

On Christmas Day all candles are lit.

The birth of Jesus was a special gift and one of the messages of Christmas is that we should continue to see all people as gifts, precious in their own right. Caring for a baby is a very special thing – we all love a baby. In sharing his Son with the world God shared a great love for us, asking us to 'love one another' – to care for each other. We are asked to share the gift of God's love through our prayers and little acts of kindness towards each other.

Thank you for all you do and your continued support of the school and your children;

*on behalf of the staff and governors I wish you all
a very happy and holy Christmas.*

Term 3 begins Thursday 4 January