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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE



It has been a challenging end to the academic year with Christmas events being cancelled and certain year groups having to work from home for the last few days of school.

However, many Christmas events have still taken place, such as the children's Christmas lunch, Christmas jumper day, Fr John on site to bless the crib figures, a visit from Santa with a gift of a chocolate selection box for every child.

I would like to take this time to pay tribute to the staff at St Mary's who have done such an amazing job in difficult circumstances. Thank you!

Despite the current situation, I would encourage all to be thankful for everything that they have, in particular the health of themselves and their family. Whilst we are rightly disappointed by the current surge in cases, there are some in our community whose health is not good and we should keep them in our prayers, as they need it most.

Many thanks for all your kind wishes, cards and gifts. It is most thoughtful.

On behalf of the staff and governors, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and I look forward to a successful new year.

Kind regards
Mr J Sims
Headteacher

WEEK BEGINNING 4TH JANUARY

Tuesday 4th January

Children return to school at 8.55am

Thursday 6th January

Epiphany Mass for whole school

INFANT NATIVITY

The PA organised the recording of the Infant Nativity, which parents can purchase as a download (£5) or as a DVD (£8).

The download is available by following this link:

<https://stmaryspa.co.uk/>

The DVD can be purchased through Wisepay. They can be collected from the main office when we return to school in January.

The Nursery performance can be viewed on our website (latest news, Christmas nativity)

<https://www.stmaryrc.org.uk/Christmas-Nativity-2021/>

ADVENT 2021

The birth of Jesus is now imminent.

In just one week, we will be celebrating the memory of that great event. The Mass on Sunday prepares us for the Christmas celebration. Each of the three readings takes up a different aspect of this great mystery to help us in our understanding and in our personal preparation.

The final purple candle will be lit to mark the final week of prayer.

MESSAGE FROM THE PA

Our Parent's Association would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and thank everyone for helping with the fundraising this term. The events that took place since September made over £6K profit:

Fireworks	£3,448
Christmas Fair	£2,272
Christmas wreath making	£88
Lottery	£483

The playground project continues to collect donations. To date, a massive £35,505 has been raised - £20k off our target! Many thanks to all who kindly donated.

The Virgin Giving web link has now expired, so if you wish to make a donation, please click on this link [gofundme.com/f/st-marys-sports-pitch-project](https://www.gofundme.com/f/st-marys-sports-pitch-project)

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Lois Jeffrey, 6M, passed her grade 1 piano exam last week. Very well done to Lois. We look forward to hearing her play!



A SPECIAL VISITOR.....

St Mary's were very lucky that a very special visitor popped in to see the children this week! Although Father Christmas is very busy, he said the St Mary's children deserved a visit!

The children were very happy.



GREENWICH AND BEXLEY HOSPICE

The Greenwich and Bexley Hospice would like to thank St Mary's children and staff for raising £320 towards their charity on Christmas jumper day.

Many thanks for all your support.



HAMPERS

Children from St Thomas More Comprehensive School kindly delivered hampers to St Mary's yesterday. It was lovely to see some past pupils return to see us.



END OF TERM AWARDS CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

Class A	William, Lydia
Class B	Delano, Fenella
Class C	Oliver, Eliza
Class D	Zealand, Tiggy
Class E	Kevin, Sasha
Class F	Amani, Isla
Class G	Leo, Heidi
Class H	Jack, Sofia
Class I	Oliver, Gabriella
Class J	Beatrice, Jan
Class K	Neo, Alysia
Class L	Joel, Natalia
Class M	Cameron, Lois
Class N	Finlay, Jasmine

END OF TERM AWARDS CELEBRATING SCHOOL VALUES

Class A	Freddie, Eden
Class B	Lionel, Margot
Class C	Sebastian, Beatrice
Class D	Albert, Dristan
Class E	Fancesco, Rosanna
Class F	Arlen, Isabella
Class G	Franco, Orlagh
Class H	Sofia, Valentina
Class I	Muko, Hope
Class J	Rafe, Mary
Class K	Archie, Daisy
Class L	Oliver, Florence
Class M	Hughie, Gabriella
Class N	Daniel, Olivia

END OF TERM AWARDS PSHE

Class A	Florence
Class B	Amelia
Class C	Annie
Class D	Aoife
Class E	Hugo
Class F	Donata
Class G	Luke
Class H	Tymon
Class I	Dante
Class J	Ayo
Class K	Ania
Class L	Nancy
Class M	Oliver
Class N	Summer