

# Newsletter

## Weekly news at St Christopher's



Dear Parents,

As we reach the conclusion of the Autumn Term, it's with great pride and gratitude that I reflect upon the journey we've had over the past few months. The Autumn Term has been a time of growth,

learning, and shared experiences, and as we approach the festive season, we have continued to be busy right up until the end.

Firstly, I would like to express our gratitude for the overwhelming success of our Christmas Fair on Monday. It was a joyous occasion, and I am thrilled that our new SCA, led by Mrs. Hill and Mrs. McHugh did a marvellous job of creating a magical space for both parents and children. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers at the Fair; your dedication and hard work truly made the event a memorable one.

One of the standout moments of this week was our double whammy on Tuesday with the Reception Nativity and then the Year 1 and 2 Christmas show, "**Christmas with the Aliens**". The children's performances were outstanding, and it was lovely to see the delight on the faces of parents, and particularly the Year 1 and 2 who told a Christmas story that you probably haven't heard before! Huge thanks must go to Ms. Wooderson and Mrs. Gay. Their collaborative efforts always ensure that every performance is nothing short of superb. This dynamic duo truly shine during the festive season, orchestrating numerous events with grace and efficiency. It's remarkable how they navigate the challenges seamlessly, never breaking a sweat or showing any signs of stress. Instead, they radiate positivity and enthusiasm, making them a fantastic and delightful team to work with.

We also invited elderly members of our community to enjoy the Nativity, thanks to our collaboration with the Re-engage charity. After the Nativity, some of our Year 6 pupils had the opportunity to share tea, cakes and conversation with elderly visitors, which was much appreciated. Re-engage is a charity dedicated to tackling loneliness and social isolation among older people. They organise social gatherings, providing companionship and support to those who may be feeling isolated. This collaboration aligns with our commitment to building a sense of community through our St. Christopher's in the Community initiative, and hopefully we connected generations, and made a positive impact on the lives of others.

Additionally, on giving back to the community, our

senior choir added a musical touch to the festive spirit by spreading joy by carol singing at St. George's Church, this week. They made us proud and brought smiles to the faces of members of the public. I really enjoyed listening to them, and again, a special thank you goes to Mrs. Gay for finding time in her busy end-of-term schedule to coordinate this event.

Today, we bid farewell to two members of our school community, Mrs. Rudge and Mr. Jacob. As they embark on new journeys outside our school, we extend our gratitude for the impact they've had on our pupils. They have both been at the School for many years, and their commitment to education has left a mark, and while we will miss them, we wholeheartedly wish them the very best in their future endeavours.

Change is a constant in life, and we are confident that Mrs. Rudge and Mr. Jacob will embrace new experiences with the same enthusiasm and that characterised their time here. We extend our warmest wishes for success and fulfilment in the future.

As school ends today, and the vast majority of our school community head off to the Panto, I want to end this term by reflecting that this time of year celebrates the Christian festival of the birth of Jesus, and is a time for reflection, gratitude, and cherishing moments with loved ones. Parents, I know, will feel pressure to create a magical Christmas for their children by installing the magic of Santa, ensuring the delivery of the gifts, even if it entails a measure of stress. However, come January, as your child returns to school, and they recount their Christmas holidays to me when I see them around school, they will speak of staying indoors watching TV, enduring freezing walks to obtain a McDonald's, the joy of staying at Grandma's, and the excitement upon your return from work. These stories include instances of snuggling in bed, engaging in games, impromptu swimming adventures with forgotten towels, New Year's Eve festivities at a friend's house, and the simple pleasures of wearing pyjamas for the whole day. While gifts are mentioned, the essence of Christmas for them revolves around your love, time, and the sense of security you provide, making you their most cherished aspect of the holiday period.

Enjoy your Christmas and New Year, and we look forward to seeing you back at school, on Tuesday 9th January.

Warm regards.

Mr Carter

**Head Teacher**