



St. Philip's Newsletter

18th December 2020



Dear St Philip's Families,

We have reached the end of the Autumn term and the end of an 'interesting' year. I am so glad that St Philip's has been able to stay open, and children have been able to access full time on site education.

Advent

Our Service of Reconciliation was a chance for children to reflect on the good they will do during Advent. Year 4 did a wonderful job of leading us in this service. The children had an opportunity to make Advent promises and they were offered during the service.

Christmas Dinner Day

On Wednesday, everyone came to school dressed in Christmassy attire to raise money for Cafod's World Gifts. The children enjoyed Christmas activities in class, followed by Christmas Dinner and a Christmas Movie. They loved pulling their crackers and listening to Christmas music, while they had their Christmas dinner. Thank you to all the staff for serving Christmas dinner. Also, many thanks to Jackie and Fatma, our cooks for organising and cooking such a lovely dinner – it really is a huge feat of organisation!

Nativities

All of our nativities were performed and filmed on Tuesday. The children had worked really hard to learn their lines and sign language songs. They had a great deal to remember and performed like true professionals. Do look out for the link today, so you can enjoy the nativities over Christmas.

Many thanks to all the staff who worked so hard to make the Nativities possible and for Zyl0 for their wonderful production.

Fabulous Finishes

Year 3 finished their Victorian topic by learning about how the Victorians celebrated Christmas and how many of the celebrations started and popularised in the Victorian period are still Christmas traditions used today. For example, they learnt that having a Christmas tree at home and gathering around it was made popular when an image of the royal family was published in a newspaper at the time, all gathered around a Christmas tree. They also learnt how Christmas crackers and sending Christmas cards were

made popular by the Victorians. The children then made their own tree decoration to take home.

Year 5 enjoyed a VE Day party to end their topic 'We'll Meet Again.' They used ration recipes to make biscuits and enjoyed jiving to wartime music.

Congratulations to:

Peter (Y5) for coming 3rd in the Mayfield Maths Challenge. This is really a great achievement as this challenge is incredibly demanding. It is a credit to all the hard work Peter consistently demonstrates in school.

Martha (Y5) and Noah Lake (Y4) for learning all their times tables and earning their maths sets. Well done for all your hard work.

Hellos and Goodbyes

This week we say au revoir to Mrs McCurdy, as she starts a period of leave, waiting for the birth of her baby. We wish her a happy and healthy end to her pregnancy and look forward to meeting her new baby in the new year. We are very pleased that Mrs Burman will be teaching year 1 during Mrs McCurdy's leave. We also say goodbye to Mrs Lines, Mid-Day Supervisor with year 1. We wish her well and thank her for all her hard work.

After Christmas, we will welcome Miss Trype as a teaching assistant, working with children to support their social, emotional and mental health. Do say a socially distanced hello when you see her next term.

Black History Month

Leo in year 1 supports Chelsea and chose to complete his Black History Month homework on the first black Chelsea player, Paul Canoville. His mum took a picture of his work and tweeted Paul Canoville, who replied "I love this and tell your son thanks so much". Damilola Taylor's father Richard Taylor OBE (The Damilola Taylor Trust) also retweeted his homework on his own page. Leo was contacted via Twitter by Chelsea and his homework has been put up on the wall in their training academy. Leo also received a video message from Chelsea, and the family have been invited to meet Paul Canoville and to see his work on the wall. What an exciting outcome

from his homework! We can't wait to hear all about his visit.

Primary Admissions

Do remember that the closing date for applications for Reception 2021 entry is 15th January.

With very best wishes for a happy and Holy Christmas and an improving 2021.

Joanna Sanchez

Diary Dates

January	
Mon 4 th	First day of term
Wed 6 th	Feast of the Epiphany
Fri 29 th	Reception vision screening
May	
Fri 28 th	INSET Day – school closed
July	
Mon 5 th -7th	Y6 Blacklands Farm Residential
Thurs 22 nd	INSET Day – school closed
Fri 23 rd	INSET Day – school closed