



St. Philip's Newsletter

14th December 2018



Dear St Philip's Families,

It has been a busy two weeks in school as we continue our journey through Advent.

Congratulations:

To all our hardworking children, staff and families at St Philip's for our Primary School League tables ranking and being named as one of the best performing schools in The Times, The Daily Mail and The Argus. Well done everyone!

<https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/17297985.the-best-performing-primary-schools-in-east-sussex/>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6491843/Englands-best-worst-performing-primary-schools-revealed.html>

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/best-uk-schools-guide-parent-power-tr95xdztg>

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair was a great success and raised almost £3000 which will be shared equally between the school and the parish. A big thank you to Fiona for organising this and everyone who helped out and came along and supported.

Advent

Year 6 led us in beautifully in our Liturgy to mark the start of Advent. It was lovely to be joined by friends and family and Deacon Ken. Thank you, Year 6, for starting our Advent journey with your beautiful candlelit singing.

All children have been given an Advent Calendar to help them reflect, each day, on this special time leading up to Christmas. Our post box, for children's Christmas cards, is now up. If your child posts a card please make sure they put the name and class on every envelope to avoid confusion and disappointment.

Children from KS2 brightened up the high street with their beautiful carol singing during the late night shopping last week. Well done for representing St Philip's so well and many thanks to Miss Feldman for accompanying them.

I am sure many of you managed to see our Christmas Tree at the Holy Cross Festival of Christmas Trees. The tree is now in the hall and you can take your decorations home after the Epiphany if you wish.

Our Service of Reconciliation was a chance for children to reflect on the good they will do during the coming weeks. Year 4 did a wonderful job of leading us in this service. Thank you to Father Ian for offering individual reconciliation after the service.

Trips and Visits

Year 6 had a survival day in our Forest Area as part of their 'Awfully Big Adventure topic'. They enjoyed everything the great outdoors has to offer; building shelters, lighting fires and cooking al fresco.

Year 4 enjoyed an architectural workshop where they got to build a model of the Taj Mahal from wooden rods and rubber bands. It was great for their team working skills.

It was lovely to welcome our Reception parents into class last week to share their children's work. Do remember that staff are always happy to talk to you about your child, if you are worried about anything. Please email the office if you need an appointment.

Our Year 3 team attended the ROAR finals and represented our school brilliantly. They had to pitch their idea to different judges, just like in Dragons' Den. Our children were the youngest team there and the judges were incredibly impressed with their professionalism and confidence.

Many thanks to all the staff who arranged these trips and experiences and to the many parents without whom these events would not be possible.

Sports News

This term the children that have attended Netball Club have worked very hard on their acquisition of skills. They all have knowledge of variation of pass and some understanding of the game. Mrs Miller would like to thank parents for their commitment and support. Their children have been a pleasure to work with.

Infant Nativity

The Infants performed their Nativity to packed audiences. The children had worked really hard to learn their lines and songs. They had a great deal to remember and performed like true professionals. Thank you to our excellent staff who bring out the best in all our children: Mrs Costen who wrote the nativity herself, Mrs Kendall and Miss Thomas our wonderful teachers; Mrs Neill, Mrs Smith and Mrs Tungate our hard working TAs.

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Christmas
Joanna Sanchez

Primary Admissions

Do remember that the closing date for applications for Reception 2019 entry is 15th January.

Diary Dates

December	
Mon 17 th -	KS2 Christmas Play in church 6.30 – parents welcome to attend
Tues 18 th	Christmas Lunch and Dress up Day
Weds 19 th	Carols followed by mince pies 2.00– parents welcome to attend
January	
Thurs 3 rd	First day back at school
Mon 7 th	9.00 Epiphany Liturgy (parents welcome to attend)
Thurs 17 th /Fri 18 th	Panto (evening)
February	
Tues 12 th	Parents' evening
Thurs 14 th	Parents' evening
w/c 18 th	Half term
April	
Fri 5 th	Last day of spring term
Tues 23 rd	First day of summer term
July	
Fri 19 th	Last day of term
Mon 22 nd	INSET day – no children in school
Tues 23 rd	INSET day – no children in school