

St. Matthew's

Church of England Infant School

Weekly Newsletter

11th December 2020



Dear Parents

This week we have been thinking about how Advent is a time of waiting to celebrate the birth of Jesus, as it was when the wise men were waiting for the birth of a king, God's son. We thought about how prophets had foretold that his name would be Wonderful Counsellor, Powerful God, Father who lives forever, Prince of Peace and that he will rule as King – and how Christians believe that Jesus helps them to make good choices and that he will bring peace for them and our world.

Reverend Elisabeth took us further into thinking about Advent, showing that if we add **-ure** on the end of Advent, then we make a new word, **Adventure**. We thought about how the events in the story of the birth of Jesus were like an adventure for those involved. The angel told Mary and Joseph of the adventure ahead of them, being chosen to have God's son – they also had to be brave and embark on a long journey, finding at the end of it that there was no room in Bethlehem for them. We asked for bravery to remember to do the right thing when we have a choice to make.

Well done to Elise for her Responsibility certificate from home, for giving away some of her toys to help the children who might not have many things to play with at Christmas – you set a good example to us all :)

Thank you to Hayely, Arlo and Jude for being my assembly helpers this week, saying our words at the beginning as we light our candle. Thank you, Hayley, for sharing your beautifully written and thoughtful words with the school in assembly:

You fill our eyes with wonder. You fill our eyes – whatever we see, you are the greatest Father, doing miracles around the world, you see.

The final filming of our St Matthew's nativity, 'Straw and Order' has taken place today. A huge thank you to Mr Atkinson for giving up so much time to do this and for bringing in all the microphones and filming equipment. The children have really enjoyed the experience and are excited to be able to see themselves on DVD. Well done and thank you to all the children who designed a cover for the DVD in our competition – they were all fabulous and it was hard to choose a winner. Everyone who took part is receiving a well-done certificate - we have a winner from each class:

Badgers: Madeleine / Otters: Elise / Rabbits: Leia

Please can I remind parents that the **school car park** is for **staff only** (unless you have an agreed prior arrangement with me) and this includes breakfast club times as staff are arriving throughout that time. The car park is small and staff arriving in the morning need to be able to park when they arrive – there is barely enough space for staff, so it is difficult with extra cars coming in and out. I know parents find it convenient, but it needs to be the same rule for everyone and from a health and safety point of view, children should not be in the car park / walking across the car park with cars coming in and out. The **only exception is by prior arrangement** for a particular need and permission will be given where it is appropriate.

We are disappointed that we are not yet able to have peripatetic musical instrument lessons in school and we hope to be able to re-instate these once covid restrictions begin to settle down. In the meantime, we are excited that we have arranged for a term's recorder lessons for Badgers in Spring Term, and Otters in Summer Term.

A big thank you to all the organisers of and donators to the St Matthew's Twelve Days of Christmas Raffle and to everyone who bought tickets – it has raised an amazing £590! The children enjoyed seeing the draw of winning tickets from a Christmas stocking during assembly today – thank you Hayley and Arlo for helping to pull out the winners :)

A thank you from Waitrose, Cobham, to the children who made a heart-shaped illustration and message for their 'Give a Little Love' window display, and to the parents who took their children along to Waitrose this morning to be photographed by the display. It looks fabulous and it is there for you to see and enjoy in the shop window – sharing a St Matthew's message of what love is.

Well done to Evie, Isabella, Imogen and Hayley for finishing their sticker charts.

Have a good weekend, Mrs Hutt



AWARDS OF THE WEEK



Rabbits:	All of Rabbits class for working really hard on their Christmas production dances.
Otters:	Finn for having an amazing day on Wednesday and working super hard.
Badgers:	Summer for working so hard especially on her newspaper report.

Wisdom Award:



R – Ralph for being very responsible and tidying up our classroom even if he didn't make the mess.
 O – Mimi for always looking after other people and making sure they are ok.
 B – Ellie for thinking so responsibly about how best to use her time when writing a newspaper report.

Golden Tickets

Badgers class: Isabella, Joshua, Sophia, Dylan, Jack, Tilly, Allie, Jessica



DIARY DATES

Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day Last day for Christmas card post boxes in class
Thursday 17 th December	Class party day – party clothes
Friday 18 th December	Early finish. 1.05-1.15 Badgers pick up 1.15-1.25 Rabbits pick up 1.25-1.35 Otters pick up



Waitrose Window Display

Don't forget to keep an eye out for your drawings in Waitrose Window this week!



12 Days of Christmas Raffle

Thank you so much for entering our raffle, we raised an amazing £590! Prize winners will be notified shortly.

Straw & Order DVD's for sale

This year our nativity is taking place with a difference - We are determined to not let the current situation stop us, so each class will be performing in their bubbles and Mr Atkinson (one of our parents) will be filming, editing and putting it altogether for us. We hope you get to watch and enjoy it 😊

To order a DVD please go to your parentmail account and order through your shopping basket. They cost £5.00 each and all money raised will go towards the school (as Mr Atkinson is kindly offering his services for free!)

Thank you, Sarah

Bring a Bauble!

Decorate the St Matthew's cherry tree in aid of Streetlytes Charity. Please see separate flyer with more details on this ...

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>
<https://smile.amazon.co.uk>