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@StStephensPri



Newsletter 15

17th December 2020

St Stephen's Primary Church School

Merry Christmas!

Christmas Celebrations... I have to say that despite the obvious restrictions, it has felt like a really fun and festive week. **Christmas parties** have been in full swing with staff coming up with all sorts of creative alternatives to the usual party routines. Thank you so much to Sam, Karin and the PTFA for providing individually bagged snacks for the children to enjoy during their parties. It was no mean feat buying, sorting and delivering it all in time for it to be quarantined before being eaten. Thank you!

Our Christmas Performance... went live on Tuesday morning and we sat down as a school to watch it together. It brought a lovely sense of togetherness so thank you for all of the messages about it. In doing things differently, it has been lovely to hear how the link to the video has been shared with family and friends around the country and indeed the world. We even received an email from Bishop Ruth this morning to say how much she had enjoyed it! [The film is now available on our website here](#) for you to share and enjoy, although the original link will still work too.

Christmas Tree Sale... More thank yous, this time to Nic Anderman who, together with a large group of helpers, made our Christmas tree sale (this year over two days and with click-and-collect) such a success. The organisation that went in to making this work is mind-boggling so thank you, and to everyone who supported this vital fund-raising opportunity.

Christmas Service... This morning we enjoyed our Christmas Service via Teams with the one and only Reverend Philip who performed a one-man play called The Innkeeper, featuring a strong west midlands accent and a burst of the Hallelujah Chorus to mark the big moment before a moment of quiet reflection. An absolute treat, as always.

Festive Farewells... Today we are saying goodbye to two special members of staff. Miss Warlow joined us in 2014, moving into Reception at the same time as our current year sixes did. As well as teaching in Reception, Miss Warlow has worked across the school to develop our healthy school status, has been a valuable member of the leadership team and was even seconded to support another school for a period. She is great fun, caring and a fantastic teacher and we will really miss her. We're very proud that she will be taking up a deputy head post in South Gloucestershire in the new year and wish her lots of love and luck.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Brown today. After being part of the St Stephen's family for many years, first as a parent and then as a member of staff, Mrs Brown has truly left her mark on the school. Her warmth, creativity and genuine care for the children have woven throughout her roles at Breakfast Club, lunchtime and as a teaching assistant and it is impossible to calculate how many children she has helped over the years. I know you will join me in wishing her lots of love and luck as she begins a new adventure in sunny Cornwall.

Finally, a thank you to you... Your support, vigilance and understanding during this most challenging of terms have been invaluable. It has felt like a huge team effort with staff, parents, governors and children each doing our bit. Thank you, and have a restful and happy Christmas.

Andy Bowman

Love

Courage

Creativity

Joy



Consultation on Admission Arrangements for 2022/23... In accordance with the requirements of the 2014 School Admissions Code, the Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust (The Admission Authority) is consulting on proposals to alter the Admission Arrangements for all schools within the Trust for 2022/23.

It is intended that the revised Admission Arrangements will be introduced with effect from 1st September 2022.

You may view the proposed School Admission Arrangements along with details of changes made, and how you can comment by clicking the following link:

<https://www.bwmat.org/admissions/>

The consultation will open at midday on 4th December 2020 and will close at midday on 29th January 2021."

PTA...

A huge thank you to everyone who bought a Christmas tree from us this year, profits from the sales have made just over £2,500 for the school!

A special thank you to those of you who gave up your time to help carry, sell and net the trees. A great team effort!

Nic Anderman

FROM REVD PHILIP

Bless you all, this Christmas! And bless our wonderful school - and all the time, effort, laughter, sweat and passion that has made children, staff and families rise above the pandemic.

Please find additional attachment to this newsletter with details of our Christmas services, and do not forget the amazing Advent Windows!

Christmas joy,

Philip

Fun and safe Christmas dance workshop!...

Boogie n Bath is running a COVID compliant Christmas dance workshop for ages 6-18 years. It is a fun, 3 day workshop that will enable your child to partake in safe and enjoyable exercise with qualified, CRB checked professionals. The children will learn technique and performance skills, group dances, own choreography whilst playing lots of fun, Christmas themed games. There will be a performance at the end of the workshop to showcase everything the children have learnt. The workshop will take place at Batheaston school from 21st-23rd December. For more information, please contact BoogienBath@gmail.com



St Stephen's Primary Church School

Calendar Dates Reminder...

17th December: **END OF TERM**

18th December: **INSET DAY**

Monday 4th January: **INSET DAY**

Term 3 begins: Tuesday 5th January

Teaching Assistant vacancy

As Mrs Brown is leaving us, we have a new vacancy for a Teaching Assistant in year 2.

For more information please visit the trust website here –

<https://www.bwmat.org/vacancies/>