



Weekly
Newsletter
16th December 2019

Headteacher's News

Today the first of our **nativity services** were held at St Mary's church (see pictures above and overleaf). The venue was packed with children and parents all celebrating the birth of Jesus and singing Christmas Carols with great gusto. Our young children in **YRec** and **Y1** performed excellently and entertained us all, something I'm sure they'll remember long into the future.

Christmas is of course a time of giving, and with this in mind, last week two minibus loads of Y2 children went to visit a Food Bank to bring their **Agents of Change** project to an end. For more on this, read the section on the right. Staying on a charitable theme, thank you very much also to all those that contributed to the **Christmas appeal**; the metropolitan police have received the gifts and were overwhelmed by their volume! More on this is included overleaf.

All of the events this week, including the **carol evening** on Wednesday, **poetry recitals** on Thursday, and **Christmas class parties** on Friday ought to get everyone in the mood for the festive period.

Don't forget that **school closes at 2pm this Friday, 20th December** and there is no tea time club on Friday.

Mr O'Brien
Headteacher

Y2A Agents of Change Project

Y2A children visited a Food Bank in Tottenham, where they met Dean Wigzell, the project leader and Jade Ayoola of Freedom's Ark Church. This particular food bank, run by the Trussell Trust in Tottenham Town Hall, was set up two months ago. There are now more food banks across the UK than branches of Macdonalds.



Dean, the Project Leader, told our Y2 children: "One of the most important things for humans is food and a food bank is for people who cannot afford food perhaps because they have big bills to pay. Lots of people really need this help - especially at Christmas." Dean also explained that people who need to use the food bank need to get a special letter of referral from the CAB, their children's school, their doctor or a church.

The Food Bank team answered various questions from our Y2 children including how they stop food going mouldy! They also found out that food bank volunteers make sure they give out foods that are closest to their use by dates. The children also learned that the favourite cereal of people who use this particular food bank is Weetabix and the favourite pasta is penne! When she found out it was the children's idea to donate to the food bank, Jade said: "It is super-important that you guys thought to do this - it shows how thoughtful and aware you are what is going on in London."

The children have made the national press with their pioneering work. Click the link below to see an article that appears in the Church Times this week:

<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2019/13-december/news/uk/pupils-at-church-school-call-for-change-to-save-planet>

Christmas Appeal

This year, we decided to take part in the Metropolitan Police 'Christmas Appeal'. We have been absolutely blown away by the generosity that we have received from everyone. We were inundated with so many fantastic gifts not only did we surpass all expectations for the Metropolitan Police, but we were also able to donate a proportion of the gifts to the Salvation Army who work alongside the Metropolitan Police over the Christmas period. Everyone was truly overwhelmed by what we as a school managed to achieve. I would like to say a massive thank you to all those who took part and donated. **Mrs Satari, Y2 Teacher**



Scenes for today's wonderful nativity!

Coffee Mornings on Mondays at 8.40am

Parents are invited to join together and meet for a coffee every Monday, starting at 8.40am and ending at 9.00am. If you would like to join us, coffee will be served in the gym.

Some parents may then like to stay at 9.00am to watch the Y1-3 gym assembly or Y4-6 hall one, both of which end at 9.25am.

Star of the Week



Congratulations to the following children who were awarded Star of the Week in assembly on Friday:

1 Attlee	Poppy	1 Morris	Leo	1 Wilson	Kenza
2 Attlee	Lucy	2 Morris	Olivia L	2 Wilson	Omega
3 Attlee	Miya	3 Morris	Eden	3 Wilson	Charlie
4 Attlee	Aliza	4 Attlee	Guilder	4 Wilson	Ruby
5 Attlee	Dawid	5 Morris	Domantas	5 Wilson	Beth
6 Attlee	Kayode	6 Morris	Ameen	6 Wilson	Nico

Well done everyone!

Christmas Carol Evening

This event will take place in the hall THIS **Wednesday 18th December** from 3.45pm to 5.00pm. We hope to see many parents in attendance enjoying the choir's carols, some instrumental performances and a few Christmas-themed readings from our worship group.



Poetry Recitals

This Thursday, 19th December, there will be two **poetry recitals** in the gym. **Attlee house classes and Years 1-3 of Morris** will be at 9am, and **Y4-6 of Morris and all of Wilson** will be at 2.15pm. Parents are of course very welcome.

Whole School Attendance

The whole school attendance target is 96.5% and last week with winter sniffles, coughs and colds, we were well below that mark at 93.72%. There were no classes who achieved 100% attendance, but 5M had the best attendance with 98.46%. No classes had perfect punctuality this week but Reception Attlee, 1 Morris,

3 Wilson and 6 Wilson had the best punctuality record with just two late marks each. Attendance overall this year has been **96.27%**.

Reception Intake September 2020

Children born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 will need to apply this year between October and 15th January 2020 for admission in September 2020. We just one Open Evening remaining on Monday 13th January at 10am. Please share with any interested parties.

Parent Workshops

During the course of the year we will be running a series of Parent Workshops on a number of subjects that parents may find useful. The workshop will begin at 3.45 and will last between 30 minutes and an hour. There will be a crèche for your child, should you wish to attend.

Tuesday 14 th January	Fabulous Phonics
Tuesday 21 st January	Magic Maths
Tuesday 28 th January	Calculation Workshop
Tuesday 4 th February	Free Online Learning
Tuesday 11 th February	Science
Tuesday 3 rd March	Gifted and Talented
Tuesday 10 th March	History Projects
Tuesday 17 th March	Handsome Handwriting
Tuesday 24 rd March	RE Curriculum
Tuesday 28 th April	Sharing Age Related Expectations
Tuesday 12 th May	Writing
Tuesday 19 th May	Developing Your Child's Creativity
Tuesday 2 nd June	SRE Workshop
Tuesday 9 th June	Creative Curriculum
Tuesday 16 th June	SEND (By Invitation only)
Tuesday 23 rd June	Values and Growth Mindset

Dates for your Diary

<i>Tuesday 17th December</i>	<i>9.30am – Wilson Houses in Church for nativity</i>
<i>Wednesday 18th December</i>	<i>3.45-5pm – Choir Concert in the hall</i>
<i>Thursday 19th December</i>	<i>Poetry Recital: 9.00am – All Attlee House Classes and Years 1, 2 and 3 of Morris House 2.15pm – Year 4, 5 and 6 of Morris House and all Wilson House Classes</i>
<i>Friday 20th December</i>	<i>School Closes at 2pm – NO TEA TIME CLUB TODAY</i>
<i>Tuesday 7th January</i>	<i>Children return to school</i>

Our term dates follow on the last page of this newsletter. Please be aware that the early May Bank Holiday has changed, and has not been particularly well publicised. The Bank Holiday is no longer [Monday 4th May](#) and has been changed to [Friday 8th May](#).

Useful Contacts

Address: Brooke Road, Walthamstow, E17 9HJ

Phone: 020 8521 1066

Website: www.stmaryscofe.org Email: school@st-marys-coe.waltham.sch.uk

Teatime Club: 07542 193499

Nursery: stmarysnursery.net

Church: www.walthamstowchurch.org.uk

General Data Protection Act (GDPR)

The new GDPR is now in force. The Data Protection Officer (DPO) is responsible for overseeing this policy and developing data-related policies and guidelines. Please contact the DPO with any questions about the operation of this policy or the GDPR or if you have any concerns that this policy is not being or has not been followed.

The DPO's contact details are as follows: **Data Protection Officer:** Craig Stilwell, **Address:** Judicium Consulting Ltd, 72 Cannon Street, London, EC4N 6AE **Email:** dataservices@judicium

Dates for 2019-2020

Autumn Term 2019

Half Term: Monday 21 October to Friday 25 October 2019

Second half (40 days)

Start - Monday 28th October

End – Friday 20th December

Christmas holiday: Monday 23rd December 2019 to Friday 3rd January 2020

Spring Term 2020

First half (29 days)

INSET - Monday 6th January 2020

Start – Tuesday 7th January 2020

End – Friday 14th February 2020

Half Term: Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2020

Second Half (30 days)

Start – Monday 24th February 2020

End – Friday 3d April 2020

Easter Holiday Monday 6th April 2020 to Friday 17th April 2020

Summer Term 2020

First Half (24 days)

Start - Monday 20 April 2020

End Friday 22nd May

Bank Holidays Friday 8th May and Monday 25th May (during half term)

Half Term: Tuesday 26 May 2020 to Friday 29 May 2020

NB: THE EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY HAS CHANGED FROM MONDAY 4TH TO FRIDAY 8TH MAY

Second Half (35days)

Start – Monday 1st June

Finish Friday 17th July

This calendar gives a total of 195 days. Four Inset Days and one further day made up by staff from Twilight sessions gives 190 school days.