



# St John's Church of England Academy

## I Will Shine

Issue 12:  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
December  
2022

Dear Families and Children,

We are another week closer to Christmas and preparations have been in full swing at St John's. The last two weeks of Autumn term promise to be filled with joy, love, peace and hope as we continue through the season of Advent towards Christmas. The children are all looking forward to sharing their Christmas performances with you on Tuesday and Wednesday and we have the Christmas Fayre on Friday, followed by an evening of music on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December. To top it all off, the wonderful members of the St John's PA have also planned a Christmas disco on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December! Mrs Henderson and I, and all the children in school can't thank you enough for the hard work and time you put in to make these things happen for our school – you are a tremendous group of people!

Our worships this week have prepared children for the season of Advent. They learned the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth's child, John the Baptist, and how his life prepared the way for the coming of Jesus. We all enjoyed learning the song 'Love Shone Down' and putting actions in to show how love shines brightly throughout the world and we reflected on ways that we could share love through our community.

There has been lots of exciting learning happening this week. (Please look at our Twitter and Facebook pages to see our learning in action.) Year 2 enjoyed their Young Driver experience and did very well to drive safely around the course on the playground; only a few cones were lost along the way! Year 3 loved their Stone Age experience day with an immersive outdoor learning experience. I do want to say a huge thank you to our volunteers who come in and support our outdoor learning. We wouldn't be able to do things like this without you and we are so grateful for your time and knowledge. If you are interested in volunteering your time to work with our children, please speak to me or Mrs Henderson and we can talk you through the process.

Rather than starting a new Padlet this week, I'd love to encourage more contributions to the most recent ones so that these conversations can happen at home and be shared with the school community. There is a poster of all the QR codes in the hall and I'll put this on the doors to each classroom when you walk around the school. These are the links we have open currently:

[Environment pledges](#)

[Reading Recommendations](#)

[Aspirations](#)

### Congratulations to our Writing, Presentation and Star of the Week certificate winners this week!



The teachers have recognised and celebrated the hard work of:  
Evanee, Ava, Miriam, Holly, Zebe, Amelia-Rose, Henry, Elias, Henry, Cideon,  
Mary, Jemima, Joshua, Lillie, Sebastian, Ben, Eszter and Effie.

We are all so proud of you!



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### Safeguarding

Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Henderson are the safeguarding leads in school. If you have a concern about a child in our school, please speak to us, phone us at school or email:

[laura.stevenson@stjohns.covmat.org](mailto:laura.stevenson@stjohns.covmat.org)

[sara.henderson@stjohns.covmat.org](mailto:sara.henderson@stjohns.covmat.org)

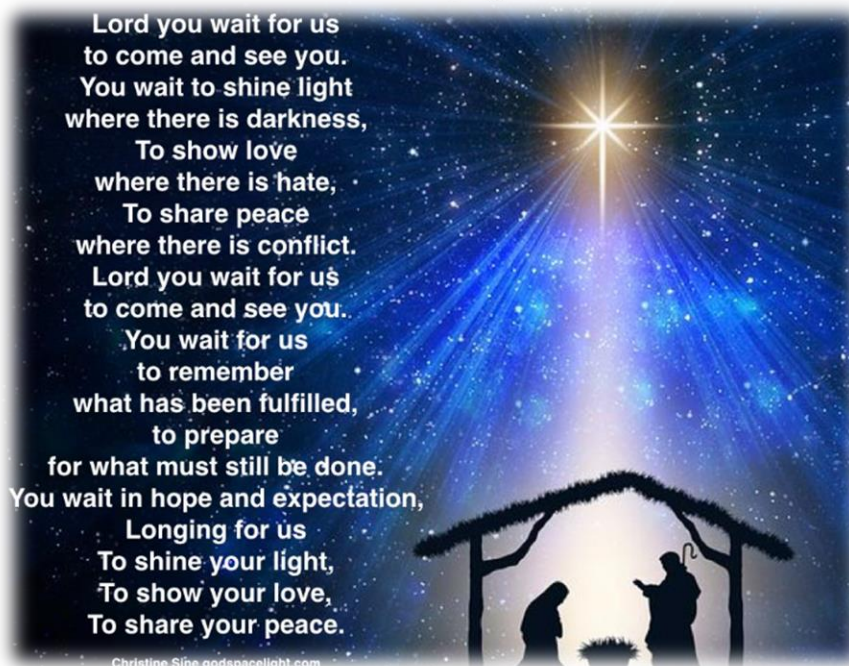


### Wellbeing tip from Mrs Henderson

#### Weekly wellbeing tip

Take life day by day and be grateful for the little things. Don't get stressed over what you can't control.

### Prayer and Reflection



As we journey together through Advent, we watch and wait in wonder. St John the Baptist lived his life preparing the world for the coming of Jesus our Saviour and Advent is our time of quiet preparation as we wait for Christ to come again.

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Dates for your diaries	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas production dress rehearsals to school audiences
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30: Reception and KS1 performance for families 5.30: KS2 performance for families
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30: KS2 performance for families 5.30: Reception and KS1 performance for families
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	9.10: Year 2 Come and Share
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	9.00: Celebration Worship – please join us to celebrate together 3.30 – 6.00: Christmas Fayre – see flyer below
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Learning Logs to be brought in and shared this week
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Christian Christmas Experience Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30: Year 3 Christmas service at St Christopher's Church Christmas Discos – see flyer below
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of Autumn Term – Merry Christmas everyone!
	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	Bank Holiday Monday
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	INSET Day
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00: Celebration Worship – please join us to celebrate together

### New Year, New Start – school uniform

Please work with us next year to ensure that children are coming to school looking smart. Hair that is longer than shoulder length **MUST** be tied back to minimise the opportunity for head lice. School uniform is listed on our website and all staff will be working together to ensure that children are wearing their uniform smartly for school and for PE lessons. The only jewellery which can be worn are stud earrings and a watch and these must be taken off for PE. The uniform link can be found [here](#). Thank you for your support.

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### Stewardship

Thanks to your generous donations and purchases of poppies and merchandise, we raised a grand total of £282 for the Royal British Legion. Once again, you filled two collection tins and raised a lot of money for a very important cause. Next year, we will ask them to double the number of slap bands in our box as I know running out so early left some children disappointed.



If you can cast your mind back to May 2022, St John's took part in Pyjamarama Day to raise money for Book Trust. We've recently received the confirmed fundraising total and I'm pleased to share that you raised £137! Reading is very important to us at school so I'm very proud that you raised money to help all children receive the gift of a bedtime story.

 BookTrust



### Stewardship

Your life should make a positive  
difference to others

There are so many children who are working very hard to make a positive difference to others and I want to feature this amazing work in the newsletter. Two stories to share this week come from Year 5 children. Firstly, Eliza took part in a physical challenge to raise money for the RSPCA. She had to run, walk or cycle 50 miles and raised an amazing £65 to help animals in need. In understand that she went above the 50 miles and did more than 60 miles in the end! Superb work Eliza!



Toby from Year 5 raised £202 for the charity Emmaus. Emmaus supports people to make their way out of homelessness, providing meaningful work, training, support and a stable home for as long as someone needs their help. Toby achieved the physical challenge of cycling 100km to raise money for his chosen charity. Wow! We are so proud of you, Toby!

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St John's PA presents  
**ST JOHN'S  
CHRISTMAS  
FAYRE**



**FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER**

**3.30PM-6PM**

**SANTA'S GROTTTO, BOTTLE LUCKY DIP,  
CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA, RANGE OF  
STALLS, CRAFTS, GAMES &  
REFRESHMENTS**

**WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO TAILOR MADE FOR  
THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT**



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*Join your school friends for*  
**ST JOHN'S**  
*Christmas Disco*

THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

KS1: 3.30-4.30PM. KS2: 4.45-5.45PM

TICKETS: £2.50 (VIA PARENTPAY)- INCLUDES  
DRINK & A SNACK.

*See letter that has been emailed out for more information.*

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