



St John's Church of England Academy

I Will Shine

Issue 11:
Friday 25th
November
2022

Dear Families and Children,

Our preparations for the season of Advent began today with lots of classes starting work on decorations and cards and thinking about what Advent means for us. Preparations are also in full swing for our Christmas productions. I'm sure the songs are being shared at home and they are certainly filling the corridors at St John's. It is so good to hear everyone singing out with joy and to hear about the array of characters preparing to wow you all on the stage! A huge thank you to all the staff for working so hard to organise the costumes, write extra dialogue for the plays so that all children who want to speak can have lines, and rehearse with the children; you are amazing! Information will come out to you separately on Monday about ticket allocations and we will be filming performances so that nobody misses out.

Last week kicked off with great celebrations for England football and the children enjoyed their afternoon, whether watching the game in the hall or having quieter activities in classrooms. We had the double treat of enjoying a Snow White production in the morning which was very professionally done and even involved some staff performing on the stage!

Our Worship focus this week was on perseverance to link to our school value of Drive. The learning forum Bible focus came from Hebrews 12: 1-2, "And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." We are all working very hard to recognise our strengths and celebrate these, but also to understand that there will be challenges on our path. When we meet a challenge, we know that there are lots of things to help us and that we can always seek guidance from God through prayer. I'm always very proud of the children when I talk to them about their learning and hear about how they persevere when things are tricky.

Our Wellbeing Wednesday worship this week was not based on a story but instead taught the children about the work of world leaders at COP27. We talked about the small things we can do to take care of our environment and that will be the focus of this week's Padlet. You can find the link [here](#).

Thank you to everyone for another very enjoyable week at St John's. I can't wait to find out how St John's does the Christmas countdown!

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



The teachers have recognised and celebrated the hard work of:
Samuel, Ethan, Vincent, Joshua, Finlay, Elliot,
Senaya, Rohan, Rubin, Brooke, Evie,
Kabien, Emily, Nathaniel and Alex.
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

sara.henderson@stjohns.covmat.org



Wellbeing tip from Mrs Henderson

Weekly wellbeing tip

Every sunrise reminds us that today is a new day, a new opportunity. If things didn't work out yesterday, today may be better.

Prayer and Reflection

Father, just as you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus, help me to clear the path in my heart to await Your coming! Advent is a time of preparation when each week we focus on something different through our Advent candles. Help me to think about hope, peace, joy and love and be open to all good things. Give me a heart, Lord, that is open and ready for your love. When I make mistakes, give me the strength to ask for forgiveness and to learn from them.

Amen



As we enter the season of Advent, we think about waiting. It is a season of preparation and expectation as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming of Christ in his incarnation. The word Maranatha, meaning 'Our Lord, Come' is used in Advent prayer. During Advent, we prepare ourselves in the way of the Lord by saying sorry for mistakes we have made and seeking forgiveness. We ask God to help us to live in his light and to try our hardest to be the best that we can be.

If you wish to join our family prayer group for Advent prayer, you would be very welcome. They meet every Tuesday morning at 9.00 at school.

Hope Peace Joy Love



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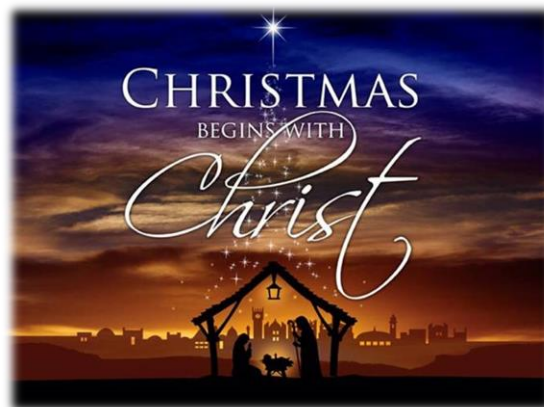


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Dates for your diaries	
Monday 28 th November	2.45 – 3.15: Years 1 & 2 Time to Shine 3.30 – 4.30: Learning Journey meetings
Tuesday 29 th November	Year 5 Anglo-Saxon visitor in school Year 2 Young Driver Experience
Wednesday 30 th November	
Thursday 1 st December	Year 3 Stone Age outdoor learning day
Friday 2 nd December	Non-uniform day in exchange for Christmas Fayre chocolate donations 9.00: Celebration Worship – please join us to celebrate together
Monday 5 th December	Christmas production dress rehearsals to school audiences
Tuesday 6 th December	1.30: Reception and KS1 performance for families 5.30: KS2 performance for families
Wednesday 7 th December	1.30: KS2 performance for families 5.30: Reception and KS1 performance for families
Thursday 8 th December	9.10: Year 2 Come and Share
Friday 9 th December	3.30 – 6.00: Christmas Fayre – see flyer below
Monday 12 th December	Learning Logs to be brought in and shared this week
Tuesday 13 th December	
Wednesday 14 th December	Year 6 Christian Christmas Experience Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
Thursday 15 th December	9.30: Year 3 Christmas service at St Christopher's Church Christmas Discos – see flyer below
Friday 16 th December	Last day of Autumn Term – Merry Christmas everyone!



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Stewardship

Thanks to your generous donations for non-uniform and the Bake Off sale, we raised a grand total of £280.09 for Children In Need! By working together, we can make a difference!



A St John's pupil who is truly living out our Stewardship value is Nancy in Year 6. This weekend, Nancy will be putting herself in the position of those who find themselves without a home or shelter by sleeping outside for St Basil's in Birmingham. She is making this sacrifice to raise money for homeless young people in the local area and we are all incredibly proud of how she actively lives our school vision and values. There will be photos to share and Nancy will be able to share her experience with the children next week. The link to the fundraising page is <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/karron-lanel>. Please donate, if you can, to help those who need support and thank you to Nancy and her mum for sharing this very important cause with us.



I have only been at St John's for a short time but I have already seen and heard about many examples of Stewardship completed by the children and the community. I know there are children in school growing their hair for the purpose of donating it to children who lose their own hair through illness. I know there are children who complete physical challenges to raise money to help animals in need and I know that there are so many other amazing things happening. You are all wonderful. If you think there is a picture or information for me to share through our newsletter about things that you are doing, are planning to do or have done previously, please send them in and Stewardship will be a regular newsletter feature.

Stewardship 

Your life should make a positive
difference to others

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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 15TH 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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