



15.12.2024

Dear Parents,

This will be my last letter of the year so may I wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas and thank you for your support this term. I would like to thank the governors, staff, teaching and non-teaching, our School Business Manager and our site team for all their hard work and dedication and I'd like to thank the children for being so utterly wonderful.

### **Christmas Fair**

Thank you all for supporting the Christmas Fair on Friday afternoon. The PTFA worked hard to make it a success and were in all morning on Friday preparing. Thank you to Mrs Morrissey and Mrs Buckhurst, our governors who came to help. Thank you to the staff who helped out too, the support staff in school created a beautiful grotto which I am told FC approved of. Huge thanks for all the donations which were more than we have ever had, the tables were groaning with toys, chocolates, gifts, bottles and cakes at 1:30pm. The fair was busier than ever which meant that most stalls had run out just after 3pm! We are fortunate to have secured Matched Funding once again, this is vital and really boosts the totals that the PTFA work tirelessly to achieve. I don't have the total raised yet but will let you know when we know. Thank you so much for your generosity!

### **EYFS Nativity**

We have the Pre-School and Reception Nativity on Wednesday which we are all looking forward to. If you have not got your ticket yet there is still time. If we have any spare tickets, we will let you know when they will be released.

Please, park responsibly on the afternoon. St Nicholas will allow us use of their bus park but all cars will need to have gone by 2:30pm at the very latest. Only blue badge holders can park at the front of school.

### **Christmas Lunch**

Thank you to our kitchen team for the most delicious Christmas lunch on Thursday!

### **Rocksteady Concert**

Friday's concert showcased the many talents that have been developed through Rocksteady. It is always good to see the children's confidence grow. Some new band members this time which was lovely to see. If your child is interested in joining a band, get in touch with Rocksteady.

### **Illness**

Please do not send your child in if they are poorly, we have had to send several children home who have arrived at school unwell last week. So many bugs around.

If your child is sick or has diarrhoea, they must stay away from school for 48 hours after their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. This prevents the spread of infection.

## Grange Theatre Trip – Peter Pan

Thank you to Ms Davies for organising the logistics of getting the whole school to the pantomime last Wednesday. It is a huge amount of work but just seeing the children's faces watching the live performance makes it all worthwhile. It was a little different this year, Peter Pan, performed in the round so lots for the children to engage with.

Thank you to all of the parents and governors who volunteered to help, we really couldn't have done it without you. Thank you to Mrs Bennett for organising the drinks and treats.

## Choir

Mrs Cooper's choir sang so well at the Christmas Fair on Friday, it was a real treat, lots of smiling faces. They go on tour tomorrow to Sandiway Nursing Home for a performance that I am sure will delight the residents just as it did last year. Our Pupil Parliamentarians from Year 5 are joining them to help with refreshments.

Thank you to St Nicholas Catholic High School for the loan of one of their mini buses tomorrow, which has made the trip possible.

## Carol Concert – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

A separate flyer about this will follow this parent letter. Our Carol Concert is such a special occasion, please try to join us if you can. I know particularly for the parents of our younger ones there are lots of demands on your time at this time of year so we do appreciate your support when you can join us.

## Advent

This Advent we celebrated a Mass of **Hope** in the first week, a service of **Peace** in the second week and tomorrow will be our service of **Joy** (Gaudete). Thank you to our RE Leads, Mrs Cannavan and Mrs Bold for preparing the services and our children for the true meaning of Christmas.

Thank you for the feedback from our Travelling Cribs. The children have thoroughly enjoyed taking them home and the photographs and messages we have received have been wonderful.

I took a Chapel session with each of four classes last week about "Who is welcome at the crib?" The children were fantastic, their responses to people being turned away because of prejudice was what we are all about. Everyone is welcome at the crib and the fact that the shepherds visited first, the outsiders in their community, is an important message for everyone. I have three more classes to share the session with this week.

God Bless,

**Justine McEniff,**

**Headteacher**

