



Dear Parents

Christmas is fast approaching as we reach the end of another busy term. I am sure the children have enjoyed the many Christmas events organised over the last few weeks such as the pantomime, Christmas lunch and Christmas parties. My thanks as always go to our amazing staff for planning and organising these activities.

I would also like to thank the PTA for putting together a wonderful Christmas fair last Saturday, it really was very festive, and for funding many of these Christmas activities, for example, the pantomime enjoyed by the whole school. Without their valued support we would not be able to provide our children with so many exciting opportunities.

Finally, the staff, governors and I would like to thank you for your continued support this term. I hope you have a wonderful restful Christmas and very much look forward to seeing you in January for the start of another busy term.

Best Wishes

Headteacher  
*Mrs J Barnett*

## KS1 Christmas Play & Reception Nativity

The Christmas performances by our Reception children and Key Stage 1 children are always very special events. I am sure you will agree that they were spectacular performances and I know how much the children enjoyed performing to you as an audience.



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The children were very excited about performing and their enthusiasm and enjoyment was matched only by the high quality of



their performance. I do hope you enjoyed the performances. I would like to thank the staff in Reception and KS1 for their hard work and commitment to ensuring such wonderful shows.



## Christmas Service 2023



The Christmas Service will be held on Tuesday 19th December at St Mary's church at 10:15am. As always it will be ably led by our Year 6 children. The whole community is invited to attend and we will be taking all children from school. I look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you to Mrs Vaidya, Miss Richardson and the Year 6 staff team for their hard work ensuring the children are well prepared for this role. It is always a lovely special Christmas event.





## Illness Increase



Now Winter has certainly arrived we are noticing an increase in the level of illness around school. Over recent weeks we have had a high level of staff illness. Thankyou for your understanding and support if your child's class has been impacted by this.

We ask that parents/carers continue to be vigilant regarding sickness, diarrhoea and respiratory illness including a raised temperature or flu like symptoms. Children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea and those with a high temperature should not come back into school until this has returned to normal.

We thank you for your support in this area.

## Christmas Jumper Day



Children were once again invited to wear Christmas jumpers to school today for Christmas lunch. We raised £212.20 for Save the Children and want to thank you for your generous donations. Many thanks

## Anti-Bullying Week



The theme for this years anti-bullying week was Make a noise about bullying. Each year group completed a range of activities around the theme, they considered scenarios which would be considered bullying and those which would not. On the Friday the children wore BLUE mufti which stands for Be Lovely & Understanding to Everyone.



# Christmas Parties



The children had a wonderful time at the Christmas parties this week. Festive fun was had by all! Thanks go to the PTA for



funding the parties alongside the snacks and crackers, to ensure the children have a lovely day.



## Carols in the Courtyard



What a lovely festive evening! Thank you to Mrs Levin, Mrs Massie and the staff for organising this. We raised £103.90 for Children in Need.

## INSET Day

School begins Thursday 4th  
January 2024

INSET day Friday 9th February



# VISION STATEMENT



## Head, Hand, Heart

With our heads we learn • With our hands we create • With our hearts we love & care for each other

**We believe in education of the whole child and through this holistic approach, and our christian ethos, when children leave SMAS they are:**

- Confident, resilient learners
- Able to challenge themselves and overcome challenges
- Well-rounded young people
- Equipped for life in an ever changing world
- Global citizens, respectful of themselves & others
- Caring and thoughtful individuals

*Colossians 2:2 "My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love so the they may have the full riches of complete understanding"*

I am sure that most of you are aware of our school vision which is prominently displayed on our school website and around the school. In addition to focussing on a child's academic achievements, we have other aspirations for all of our children, and aim for them to leave SMAS as:

- Confident, resilient learners,
- Well-rounded young people
- Individuals who are able to challenge themselves and overcome challenges
- Global citizens, respectful of themselves and others
- Equipped for life in this ever changing world.

We aim to achieve this through our day to day teaching of the curriculum, our PSHE lessons, providing opportunities for performances and extra curricular activities or trips, International weeks, Curriculum weeks and of course through the delivery of our weekly assemblies and Christian values. Our three key values are Wisdom: With our heads we learn, Creation: With our hands we create, Love: With our hearts we love and care for each other.



# Emergency Procedures / School Closure

In case of an emergency in which the school has to be closed at any time (due to severe weather etc), there is a set of procedures that is laid down by the County for schools to follow. Once a decision is reached to close the school:

1. We will send out a communication via ParentMail to inform you if school is closed.
2. School Website - We will also update our school website to provide any additional information [www.stmaryallsaints.co.uk](http://www.stmaryallsaints.co.uk). It will also be used to provide the children with school work where possible if the school is closed for several days. This proved to be an efficient way to provide work and to communicate in previous years.
3. County website - The Headteacher will contact the County about details of the school closure. The information about school closure will then be placed on the County's website, [www.buckscc.gov.uk](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk). The local Radio stations will also broadcast the closures. To access the School closure page, you can visit this website and from the home page click on 'Education' (located on left-hand side) - Schools – Closures. Alternatively, you can access the web page directly at: [closures.buckscc.gov.uk](http://closures.buckscc.gov.uk)

Parents are advised NOT to ring the local radio station but to stay tuned in for further details and/or to visit the County website. You may wish to make this a 'Favourite' for easy access should the need arise.

We will endeavour to provide as much notice as possible of any school closure. This is of course difficult on the first day of closure due to snow, however should the school have to remain closed for more than one day we will normally advise parents by 5pm. This will allow parents sufficient time to make arrangements for the following day.

We would ask parents to avoid phoning the school for information during extreme weather forecasts, but to rely on the websites.

As an additional backup, should any one of the systems above fail (as was the case with the County website, on the first day of snow in previous years), it is advised to check both websites (School and County), or listen to your local radio for information.

While we will endeavour to keep the school open, I believe it is prudent to be well prepared. I hope the above measures are not needed this year and in the event that they are, I hope the arrangements we have put into place prove to be reliable and efficient.



