



St Walburga's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Friday, 6th December 2024

Number 13

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have been marking the start of Advent, in our learning and in our Celebration of the Word. We have made a different type of Advent Wreath this year – every child in the school has written a prayer or their name on a leaf, and Mrs Short and the Chaplaincy team have created this wreath, reminding us that we are one united school family as we wait for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.



This morning, instead of our usual Celebration of the Word, we had a special prayer time with our Prayer Buddies. The Chaplaincy Team had planned the prayer stations based on the themes of the Advent candles: Hope, Love, Joy and Peace. The children wrote prayers which they hung on the Christmas tree in the hall, and wrote messages of love on pieces of 'straw' which they have placed in the manger ready for our Nativity performances next week.

Thank you to those of you who have taken part in the reverse Advent calendar for the Food Bank – the class collections are building up already!

Fun Night

We had such a lovely time on Wednesday at the Fun night! The children certainly seemed to enjoy coming back to school in their pyjamas or Christmas clothes! We are delighted to tell you that we raised £1029.17 for School Funds – thank you so much for your support., and many thanks to all the staff who gave up their time to make this happen.

Christmas Raffle

You should have received an email yesterday with details of our Christmas Raffle. We have lots of super prizes (thank you!), including a top prize of £100 cash. We really hope that you can support us with this fundraiser. Tickets are available on WisePay. We will not be sending tickets home – every 'ticket' purchased will be allocated a number, and the numbers will be drawn at random on Wednesday, 18th December. You will be contacted before the end of term if you are a lucky winner!

Christmas Performances

Just reminder of the dates for Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 4 performances this Christmas.

Reception:

Performance 1: Wed 11th Dec, 9.15am - Child's surname **A-H**

Performance 2: Thurs 12th Dec, 9.15am – Child's surname **I-Z**

Year 1: Performance 1: Wed 11th Dec, 10.30am – Child's surname **A-H**

Performance 2: Thurs 12th Dec, 10.30am – Child's surname **I-Z**

Year 2: Carols and Mince pies – Tuesday 17th December 2.00pm

Year 4: Advent service will take place at school on Monday, 16th December at 6.00pm.

The children and staff have decided that they would like any money collected from their performances to go to Julia's House. You can bring cash along to the performance, but if you would prefer to pay via WisePay, that would be very much appreciated as we try to avoid having cash in the office. Thank you in advance – we love to encourage our children to use their talents to help others in need.

Christmas party day

Our Christmas party day this year is Wednesday 18th December. The children are invited to come into school in their party wear (but please bear in mind they will be playing outside, so will need sensible footwear and warm clothes). We are planning lots of fun activities for them during the day, and we will all have lunch together in the hall (packed lunches and Christmas lunch for those who have ordered it already).

There are two **discos** in the evening – one for children in **Year 3 and 4** from 5.00pm to 5.45pm, and one for **Years 5 and 6** at 6.00pm to 6.45pm. Please drop your child off at the main reception, and please take their coat home with you as there won't be any where to put coats in the school. When you collect your child, please come through the front entrance and leave via the music room / key stage 1 playground. There is no charge for this event, thanks again to the PSA. There will be a tuck shop – your child will need tokens to 'shop'. Tokens are 50p each and will go on sale via WisePay from Monday next week. **There will be no tokens on sale on the night.** The sweets are very cheap, and children must not spend more than £2.00 on tokens. NB: all children must be collected by an adult, and no child is to bring a mobile phone with them. **If you are able to help at either of these events, please let us know on the gate or via the office.**

Hot School Meals

Please ensure you read the letter sent home on Tuesday regarding the new hot school meal ordering portal with our catering supplier, Forerunner. Please register your accounts and order your child's meals for after Christmas ASAP.

Key rings on bags

I know that some children like to add keyrings and other items to their reading folders/ book bags. Some of these are getting very bulky, and could really hurt a child if they catch them as they are putting them in and out of a locker or carrying them around school. Please talk to your child and select no more than ONE keyring for their bag. (Obviously they don't need one at all.) We will be asking children to remove any extra keyrings and bring them home.

Christmas cards

Our Christmas 'postal' service is now open! If your child would like to send Christmas cards to their friends, they can put them in our post box and they will be delivered. Please put the **class or year group** on to help the posties! Please **do not** put sweets or chocolates in the cards – we have children with allergies and some children who do not eat sweets and chocolates. If you send cards in with chocolates, we will have to return them to you which is very disappointing for your child. Thanks

Dates for your diary:

Weds 11 th Dec	9.15am	Reception Christmas Performance Child's- surname A-H
Weds 11 th Dec	10.30am	Year 1 Christmas Performance Child's- surname A-H
Thurs 12 th Dec	9.15am	Reception Christmas Performance Child's surname I-Z
Thurs 12 th Dec	10.00-12.00am	Choir visit to Charminster Library – Year 4 and 5 Choir members only
Friday 13 th Dec	2.50 -4.15pm	ALL Choir Performance at Kingsleigh House.
Thurs 12 th Dec	10.30am	Year 1 Christmas Performance Child's surname I-Z
Mon 16 th Dec	6.00pm	Year 4 Advent Service
Tues 17 th Dec	2.00pm	Year 2 Carols and Mince Pies
Wed 18 th Dec	All day	Christmas party day
Wed 18 th Dec	5.00-5.45pm	Year 3 & 4 Disco
Wed 18 th Dec	6.00-6.45m	Year 5 & 6 Disco
Fri 20 th Dec	2.50pm	End of term – Christmas jumper day

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Veronica Woodward

Veronica Woodward, Headteacher

Malvern Road, Bournemouth, BH9 3BY

Tel: 01202 528811

email:office@stwalburgasprimary.co.uk

Website: stwalburgas.bournemouth.sch.uk