



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope that you had a lovely Christmas with your children, and that you were able to enjoy the break. It has been lovely having the children back in school this week, thank you for sending them back in looking so smart and ready to learn.

On Thursday, Father Anthony joined us to celebrate Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany and the start of the new year. We thought about the Kings, and their courage in travelling to find the baby Jesus, and we prayed that we may have the courage to seek Jesus in everyone we meet. We also remembered that the visit of the Kings is a reminder that Jesus came for everyone in the world, regardless of race and background, and we prayed that we may show the same acceptance and respect. Many thanks to the Chaplaincy Team for preparing the Mass and reading so well.

RE learning

This week the children have completed their learning about Christmas, with particular focus on the Feast of the Epiphany and the message that Jesus came for everyone in the world. Next week we will start our new topic of Revelation. This unit considers the recognition of God's revelation of himself in Jesus. The children will learn about the role of a priest, as well as the role of the Church in getting to know God. Pupils will begin to explore stories from scripture that show how special Jesus is, for example, miracle stories that show that the Kingdom of God is present within Jesus. The children will know about God's revelation as recognised by Simeon and Anna in the presentation at the temple, the baptism of Jesus, the transfiguration, where Jesus revealed his glory and in St. Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus.

Clubs

Just a reminder that all after school clubs start up again next week.

Vacancies

We have several vacancies at the moment for Midday Supervisors and staff for our Before and After School Clubs. These are great jobs if you want a couple of hours and, of course, they are term time only. We can be flexible in the number of days worked too. If you would be interested, or know of any one who might be, please look at the details on our website <https://www.stwalburgas.bournemouth.sch.uk/staff-vacancies/>

Year 6 Residential

Just a reminder that the deadline for payments for the Year 6 residential is 30th April 2024, and you must have paid in full by that date.

Phones etc

I expect some of the children may have received new devices for Christmas – and I am attaching the information sheet we sent out in September with some advice about setting parental controls. Your child should only bring a phone to school if they need it for walking to or from school – if this is the case the phone must be handed in to the class teacher on arrival, and you and your child will need to complete a phone agreement form. If your child has a smart watch, you should modify the settings so they cannot access calls, messages, internet or camera during the school day – otherwise it should stay at home! If the adults have received new phones for Christmas – please ensure that we have your up to date contact details!

Attendance – End of Autumn Term

At the end of the Autumn Term our whole school attendance was 95.76% which is lower than our 96 % target. We did have a lot of illness over the last 2 weeks of term but we noticed that there were a lot of unauthorised absences due to day trips and holidays. It is vital that such events should take place at weekends and school holidays. Here is the attendance breakdown for each year group;

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	95.40%
Year 1	95.71%
Year 2	95.58%
Year 3	95.29%
Year 4	96.03%
Year 5	96.10%
Year 6	96.10%

Well done to Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 for being above target!

Parents' Evenings

Our Parents' evenings this term will take place in the week before February half term – we will be sending more information out next week. However, we will be holding the Parents' evenings for the children in 2ML on the 16th and 17th January to be sure the parents get a chance to meet with Mrs Lee and Mr Allen. 2ML parents should have received a letter yesterday, and booking will go live on WisePay at 9am on Monday, 8th January.

Mission Statement hero and Stars of the Week

Our Mission Statement heroes this week are the three Kings, we learn from their example to seek Jesus in others and to persevere in our commitment to follow him.

Super Role Model:

RP: Rafi; RJ: Indie; 1JC: Helena; 1WH: Freddie; 2NW: Franklin; 2ML: Sienna; 3BM: Lola; 3NL: Elma; 4CY: Julian; 4CR: Carla; 5JC: Imogen; 5RH: Phoebe; 6KB: Izabela; 6PM: Jessica.

Learning Champion:

RP: Helna; RJ: Amelia; 1JC: Betsy; 1WH: Anna; 2NW: Samantha; 2ML: Bahar; 3BM: Hugo; 3NL: Lindsay; 4CY: Freddie H; 4CR: Angelina; 5JC: Lewis; 5RH: Victoria; 6KB: Noah; 6PM: Paul.

Dates for your diary:

Tues 16 th Jan	3.00pm-6.30	2ML Parents' evening - Face to Face
Wed 17 th Jan	3.00pm – 6.30	2ML Parents' evening – Online via Microsoft Teams
Thurs 25 th Jan	2.15pm	4CY Class Liturgy– parents and carers welcome
Mon 29 th Jan	2.15pm	6KB Class Liturgy – parents and carers welcome
Tues 30 th Jan	2.15pm	6PM Class Liturgy– parents and carers welcome
Wed 31 st Jan	All day	Choir to Young Voices at the O2 London
Thurs 1 st Feb	2.15pm	4CR Class Liturgy - parents and carers welcome
Wed 7 th Feb	3.30-7.00	Parents' Evening – more info to follow
Thurs 8 th Feb	3.30-7.00	Parents' Evening – more info to follow

Wishing you a lovely weekend with your family,

Veronica Woodward
Headteacher

Malvern Road, Bournemouth, BH9 3BY
Tel: 01202 528811