



Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had another busy week in school! It was great to see so many of you at our Parents' Evenings this week – I hope you found them useful. Many thanks to the staff for their time and preparation for this event.

On Monday, we celebrated the Feast of the Presentation in our whole school Celebration of the Word. This feast day marks the day when baby Jesus was taken to the temple and presented to God by his parents. Simeon and Anna, two elderly people who lived in the temple, recognised Jesus as the 'Light of the World.' For this reason, the Feast of the Presentation is also called 'Candlemas' – we celebrate the light that Jesus brings to the world, and acknowledge his instruction to us to 'shine as a light' to others. We are grateful to the Year 6 Chaplaincy Team for leading this special Celebration of the Word – and for creating a new poster which shows our commitment to bring Christ's light to others.



On Tuesday, as part of their learning about castles, the Year 1 children (and staff) enjoyed 'Happily ever after' day. The children enjoyed dressing up as princes, princesses, knights and dragons and did some medieval baking. Bruno in 1WH says: *'My favourite thing was building the castle and dressing up.'* Aria says: *'We did some dancing and I loved baking the cakes and dressing up.'* Josephine says: *'my favourite was baking the cakes, they were very tasty and delicious.'*



Hinduism Learning

Next week the children will begin their unit on Other Faiths. Our focus this year is on Hinduism, where the children have begun to explore the key components of this faith. The children will be introduced to the main beliefs of the Hindu faith, specifically focusing on the sacred buildings, sacred texts and how they worship. The children in Key Stage 1 will learn about the Mandir as a place of worship and after half term they will continue to develop their knowledge of the different stories that form the foundations of the faith. In Key Stage 2, the children will learn about the different Gods and Goddesses and identify the similarities and differences between Hinduism and Christianity. After half term, the children will begin to learn more about the festivals of Diwali and Holi and produce a piece of art to reflect their understanding.

Urgent request for School Building Fund

A reminder that the termly payment for the diocesan building fund is now due. We have been able to access a very significant amount of a fund to help with the costs of replacing leaking roofs and many other vital projects which are the responsibility of the school, keeping the school maintained and safe. To do this we need to ensure we have a regular supply of donations, preferably by way of standing orders of £2.50 per month, £30 per annum or whatever you are able

to contribute please. This will help us to pay our required termly subscription. Thank you to all of you who help us in this way already, it is greatly appreciated. Please see the attached leaflet with Standing Order Form for regular donations. Or alternatively you can pay via WisePay and it is available now. Thank you. **We have to pay this bill, regardless of whether or not we receive your donation – so every bit of help is absolutely essential and gratefully received!**

Internet Safety Day

Next Tuesday is Internet Safety Day, and the children will be undertaking a range of activities in class. This year's focus is on AI: **Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.**

Chocolate Bingo

Thank you very much for your donations of chocolate on our mufti day yesterday – we are looking forward to seeing some of you at our Bingo events on Thursday 12th February. Both sessions are now full - **please don't come if you do not have a ticket!** Just a reminder that children cannot attend this event without an adult with them. We will be selling books for you to play the games at a cost of £1.00 per book – you can buy as many books as you like! It would be helpful if you could bring along pens for your family. We have decided that we are going to send any money that we make at the Chocolate Bingo to support Crazy Kev and his family. You may have seen in local and national media that Crazy Kev's baby daughter has been diagnosed with a rare cancer, and they are fundraising for some specialist treatment. Crazy Kev has been a good friend to the school for many years, and I know many of you will know him from children's parties too. I hope that we will be able to use our Bingo night to help him in some way. If you would like to donate, or find out more please follow this link: <https://gofund.me/8b661984f>

House Point challenge:

Well done to the children in St Anne's house who have won the house point challenge this half term and can wear mufti (with a bit of blue) next Friday, 13th February.

Well done to all our Stars of the Week!

Super Role Model:

RJ:Anashe; RP:Sophia; 1JC:Annabel; 1WH:George; 2NW:Alice; 2MS:Amelia; 3NL:Bethel; 3BN:Sheyn; 4CM:Kobi; 4PM:Mark; 5JC:Harper; 5RH:Alexa; 6KB:Zayra; 6HT:Beatrix.

Learning Champion:

RJ:Artur; RP:Sofia; 1JC:Sofia; 1WH:Aria; 2NW:Freyja; 2MS:Eleanor; 3NL:Florence; 3BN:Favour; 4CM:Joshy; 4PM:Emily; 5JC:Elisha; 5RH:James P; 6KB:Ana Paula; 6HT:Evelyn.

Dates for your diary:

Thurs 12 th Feb	4.00-4.45 5.00-5.45	Chocolate Bingo session 1 Chocolate Bingo session 2
Fri 13 th Feb	2.30pm	Second Hand Uniform Sale
Fri 13 th Feb	2.50pm	Children finish for half term
Mon 23 rd Feb	All day	Staff training day – school closed for children
Tues 24 th Feb	8.40am	Term starts again for children
Tues 24 th Feb	All day	Young Voices Choir trip to London

Wishing you a lovely weekend with your family,

Veronica Woodward

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