

“Every child is a unique child of God.”

WHINMOOR



ST. PAUL'S
C of E Primary School

Dear Families,

Thank you to all families for their continued support throughout this term and at this time, as we edge towards Christmas. The children decorated our tree at the end of last week and what a joy it was to see each child bring their own, handmade bauble to the front of the hall and place it on the tree. The baubles all represent something important to us at Christmas. In Y6, the children made baubles with prayers and wishes inside for those who are homeless or displaced over the Christmas period. This links in with the values we are focussing on at the moment – hope, democracy and tolerance. We are proud of how caring and compassionate our children are.

We had a wonderful end to the week last week, when many of us came along to the 'Ladies Night' to enjoy an evening of Christmas browsing, shopping, chatting and relaxing. All together we raised £280 towards school funds. Thank you to our PTFA and all involved for making the night so enjoyable and helping us raise these valuable funds. Funds collected will go towards our Nature Area, which we can start to use in the spring term – we cannot wait!

HMI

Last week we had a visit from Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI). The inspector met with Leaders, staff, children, parents and carers, and external advisors in order to build up a full picture of our progress towards tackling issues highlighted in the previous Ofsted. Books, curriculum coverage, data and improvement plans were scrutinised and staff, children and governors were interviewed.

We are not allowed to give any more information at the moment, but the report will be published either before the end of term or early in the New Year and we will alert all families when this happens.

Science

On Tuesday this week, we worked alongside an external science adviser and author, Deborah Roberts, to ensure our teaching of science is high quality, fit for purpose and supports our children in making progress throughout the curriculum. We had positive feedback and look forward to continuing our work with Deborah as we continually improve our curriculum for our children.

Christmas

As Christmas draws nearer, we look forward to the many concerts, plays and activities which we hope you will join us for here in school. By now, all families will have had information around the play / celebration that their child is taking part in. Please let us know if you can come, so that we have an idea of numbers. The stage is now up and the practising is in full flow. We can't wait.

On Friday 14th December, from 3.30pm until 5pm it is our Christmas Fair in school. We do hope you can all join us for a wonderful evening of shopping and perhaps a visit from Santa Claus! On Wednesday 12th December, if children wish to come to school in non-uniform for the day, we ask for a donation of chocolate, which will go towards prizes for the Tombola. Chocolate can be sent in any time from Wednesday 12th to the 14th. We thank you for your support.

The actual day of the fair, the 14th, is also the day Christmas jumpers can be worn to school all day and we ask for a small charitable donation, which we will send to Save the Children. Again, thank you for your support.

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Christmas parties

Our children are all looking forward to their class Christmas discos and parties which will take place at various times across Wednesday 19th December. Children will be given light party food, will play games and activities and we have hired a disco to entertain them. We are happy for the children to wear their party clothes for school on the day but please remember that the children will need to wear clothes and footwear which are suitable for wearing outside at lunchtime and break times and are comfortable enough to wear all day. We ask for a small donation of 50p to help us cover the cost of this. We thank you again for your support.

Miss O'Shea

We are delighted to announce that Miss O'Shea is expecting her first child later this year. Miss O'Shea will be with us until June when she will commence Maternity Leave. We are all thrilled for her and look forward to welcoming the new arrival. Mrs. Deverill will continue to teach within the Y6 team, ensuring continuity throughout the year and we will, of course, send further details to the families of our Y6 children regarding staffing arrangements nearer the time when Miss O'Shea begins her leave.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 13th December – Nursery and Reception Christmas Performance – 10am.
Year 1 & Year 2 – Christmas Performance – 2pm.
Friday 14th December – Christmas Jumper Day.
Friday 14th December – Christmas Fair. 3.30-5pm.
Monday 17th December – Year 3 & Year 4 Christmas Performance – 2pm.
Year 5 & Year 6 Christingle Concert – 5pm.
Wednesday 19th December – Christmas Party Day.
Thursday 20th December – School Carol Service – 2.15pm.

Many thanks to all our families for your continued support.

Miss McBride