

“Every child is a unique child of God.”



Dear Families,

28.11.19

Thank you for your continued support as we edge towards the Christmas season. We are busy practising our singing, our productions, making baubles for our Christmas tree, which goes up in the hall next week and of course making the most of all our learning opportunities at this magical time of the year. Please see our PTFA newsletter below, which highlights some of the many activities we have planned for the coming weeks and of course, please see our Dates for your Diaries, regarding our Christmas productions.

Christmas Productions and Election Day

On the 12th December, school will be used as a polling station, as it is in all elections. We have requested two security guards on this occasion. The Hive will be used as the polling station so that no member of the public will need to come into the main school building. We have decided to go ahead with our Christmas productions on these days, as we are aware many families have taken time away from work to come along. This year, we ask families who are joining us on 12th, to please line up at the BACK gate, which will be locked until 10 minutes prior to the performance. In terms of safeguarding, families will be issued with tickets – please see the separate letter which accompanies this letter if you have a child in these classes. ***It is imperative that these tickets are brought on the day and handed to a member of staff prior to entering the school.*** If we do not know someone and there is no ticket, we reserve the right to refuse entry. We ask for your support in this matter.

We are thrilled that some members of our choir will be taking part in the Leeds Christmas Festival Concert on Tuesday 3rd December at the Town Hall. They will join the 350-strong festival choir, made up of 40-45 schools from across Leeds. The choir will sing alongside the City of Leeds Youth Orchestra and other guest groups in a magical evening of music at Leeds Town Hall. It's a fantastic opportunity for children to sing at such a prestigious venue and a lovely start to the festive season! The children have given their own time to attend practise sessions and we are very proud of them. Our thanks to our own staff who have supported them, in making the most of this fabulous opportunity.

Mr. Allen

Our best wishes to Mr. Allen who leaves us on 4th December to take up a new role in the centre of Leeds. Mr. Allen has worked with us since December 2017 and we hold him in our prayers as he moves on in his career. Good luck Mr. Allen.

Eco Friendly School – Message from Mrs. Brew and Mrs. Sharkey

Whinmoor St Paul's has been an eco-friendly school for a number of years now. Being an eco-friendly school means everyone at Whinmoor St Paul's has an on-going commitment to looking after God's world. We wish to improve, nurture and respect our environment both at home and in school.

We are all eco-warriors and this means that we have responsibilities to do what's best for the environment. This includes;

- Saving water by turning the taps off.
- Saving electricity by ensuring lights and electrical devices are not left on unnecessarily.

- Having a litter free school and recycling instead.
- Using our compost bins on site.

Our current focus is recycling and our motto is; 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!'

We are currently collecting various recyclable products such as used Christmas cards (these can be brought into school in January) and batteries.

Each phase group has a 'Battery Bucket' which in which we collect used batteries for recycling. Therefore we ask that if you have any used batteries in your household, please bring them into school so they can be recycled into something new!

In addition to this, in order to become a more eco-friendly school, we have become part of the Energy Efficiency scheme and have replaced all of the lighting in our building with more energy efficient lighting. This has been funded through an interest free loan which is repaid by the savings we make on our energy bills.

St. George's Crypt – Message from Mrs. Sharkey

We look forward to welcoming a Community Fundraiser from St Georges Crypt in Leeds to our school on Monday 2nd December. St Georges Crypt is a Christian charity in Leeds, working with the homeless and the vulnerable people across our city. They offer care, compassion and hope to people who need it and help to transform lives. At Whinmoor St Paul's this links closely to our Christian values and beliefs that everyone is a 'Unique Child of God'.

As part of our Christian value, 'Generosity' the school would like to make a donation of clothes to those in need who endure the winter months. With this in mind, we would appreciate any donations of winter clothing such as the following clean items:

- Hats, scarves, gloves
- Socks, tights, leggings
- Coats, jackets, cardigans and tops
- Any thermal wear

Any donations of clothing would be greatly appreciated. Could we ask that donations are brought into school by Thursday 19th December 2019.

Thank you.

Miss McBride.



November 2019

NEWSLETTER

We start with a huge THANK YOU to everyone who was able to make Ladies night, it was a great success and it was lovely to see people enjoying themselves, while supporting local independent businesses and of course the school. We were delighted to raise £500 which we will be able to spend on some lovely things for our children to enrich their learning experience further while at Whinmoor St Pauls.

Non-Uniform day – Friday 6th December

We are having a non-uniform day to help with donations for the Christmas Fair. Please can we ask that everyone brings either a chocolate or bottle donation. This can be a chocolate bar, box of chocolates, a bottle of drink, or even toiletries.

School Christmas Fair – Friday 6th December – 3.30pm

We will be having our Christmas fair after school on Friday 6th December. This is always a very popular and well supported event and this year we hope to make it even better. We have had confirmation from Lapland that Father Christmas **IS** able to join us along with lots of stalls to get everyone in the festive spirit.

If anyone has any donations please can you drop them into the office, all donations are greatly received.

Raffle tickets

All children should now have come home with some raffle tickets to sell for the Christmas raffle, this year we have some great prizes and don't forget that the class that sells the most will get £20 to spend on their Christmas party. Please can you send back any tickets that have been sold and the money by Friday 6th December so we can make sure everyone is included in the draw.

If you need some more raffle tickets, please ask at the office.

Present Picking

After the success of letting the children pick and wrap presents for parents, grandparents, relatives and friends last year we have decided to do it again. A letter will be going out early next week with more details and a reply slip, so we know how many children want to take part.

Empty Jars

We are still collecting your empty jars (with lids please) unfortunately we haven't had enough to be able to use them for the Christmas fair, but we do still want to collect them for a new fundraising idea we have for the new year. Watch this space and please keep sending them in.

Finally, just a reminder that we have a Facebook group called **Whinmoor St Pauls Ptfa** and we would love if everyone could join it. We post our events on here along with any activities that need supporting and will also begin to post where your generous donations go!

Thank you for your continued support in raising much needed funds and creating great memories for our wonderful Children.

All the PTFA on behalf of Whinmoor St. Paul's.