



St Michael with St Thomas CofE Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 1st December 2023

Christian Value this half term: Thankfulness

A basic law: the more you practice
the art of thankfulness, the more
you have to be thankful for.

Norman Vincent Peale

Christmas Switch on!

There is no more avoiding it, we are in December and the festive period is well and truly upon us! We switched on Christmas at school today, with our attendance and Headteacher award winners decorating our Christmas tree and a whole school sing-a-long to a Christmas song. We are already looking forward to all of our usual favourite events, from parties and panto, to Christmas dinner and breakfast with Santa. Not to mention the KS1 Christmas play, Y6 Christingle service and the return of the elves! We are also very excited to bring back our choir singing everybody out on the last day of term, following a suggestion by one of our parents. Make sure you keep an eye on the looking ahead dates in this busy few weeks, so you don't miss anything!

Enterprise Week Plans

Plans are well underway for our annual Enterprise week and the pupils (and staff!) are very excited. During this week, each class is given £30 to create a product or business idea for the enterprise fair. The class that makes the most profit gets to keep it to buy things for their classroom. As you can imagine, the competition is fierce!

We will also be holding a Tombola, as this is always a favourite, and are asking for Tombola prize donations from families. These may be bottles, toiletries, sweets or other small prizes – a great chance for a clear out pre-Christmas! **We will hold a non-uniform day on Wednesday 6th December and ask for a donation of prizes on this day.**

If any parents have homemade items and would like a stall at the fair, please contact me.

We can't wait to see you all at the fair on Friday 8th December at 1.30pm!

Progress Meetings with Teachers

Following our assessment weeks at the end of this term, teachers will be holding progress meetings in the first couple of weeks of the new term. Bookings will be on Arbor and you will receive a message with further information in the next few weeks about when they will open.

Mon 15th Jan – Rec/Y1

Tues 16th Jan – Y3/Y4

Thurs 18th Jan – Y5/Y6

Mon 22nd Jan – Y2

Pupils who have individual learning plans will also be contacted by the class teacher to come in for a review meeting to set new targets for the next term.

Although we only hold two progress meetings a year, please remember that we have an open door policy and you can speak to staff to discuss your child's progress at any time during the year.

Christmas Panto and Party Day

Today is the final day for parents to sign children up for the panto and party days, as we need to release any unsold tickets back to the Brindley by the end of today. Only children with a ticket will be able to attend the panto.

Please contact the office if there is a problem with purchasing a ticket to see what support can be offered.

Breakfast with Santa & Christmas Dinner

As we approach December, we wanted to let you all know about some of our Christmas events which are coming up. Children in Reception – Year 3 will have the opportunity to have 'Breakfast with Santa' during the last week of term. This will take place before the start of the school day, and will be at a cost of £5. These sessions are as follows:

- Monday 18th December – Rec/Y1
- Tuesday 19th December - Y2/Y3

In addition to this, we will also be having Christmas dinners on Friday 8th December. If you wish to sign your child up to either/both of these events, please sign them up via Arbor.

Looking Ahead Dates:

We have a busy term coming up! Please keep a close eye on the 'looking ahead' section of the newsletter to make sure you don't miss anything!

Looking Ahead:

Here are some important dates for your diaries to help you plan for the next few weeks:

- w/b 4th Dec – Whole school assessment week
- Weds 6th Dec – Non-uniform day for Tombola Prizes
- Fri 8th Dec – Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper day
- w/b 11th Dec – Enterprise week
- Tues 12th Dec – Y6 Christingle @church 9.30am
- Tues 12th Dec – KS1 Christmas Play 1:30pm
- Weds 13th Dec – Rec-Y3 Panto and party day *(to be paid on Arbor)*
- Thurs 14th Dec – Y4-Y6 Panto and party day *(to be paid on Arbor)*
- Fri 15th Dec – Enterprise fair 1.30pm *(parents who have homemade items to sell and would like a stall at the fair, please contact Miss Slingsby)*
- Mon 18th Dec – Rec/Y1 Breakfast with Santa *(to be paid on Arbor)*
- Tues 19th Dec – Y2/Y3 Breakfast with Santa *(to be paid on Arbor)*
- Fri 22nd Dec – School Closes for Christmas
- Tues 9th Jan – School opens for the Spring term
- *Please note, these dates are subject to change - please ensure you check them each week for any amendments or additions.*

Headteacher's Award for In School Learning

Reception	Bonnie	For being so sensible on our bus ride!
Year 1	Lottie-Rose	For a super improvement in her spellings
Year 2	Sofia	For always being ready, respectful, and safe
Year 3	Riva-Rose	For trying really hard with her maths this week
Year 4	Hailey	For sharing her fantastic ideas and participating in learning
Year 5	Toby	For great explanations and contributions in class discussions
Year 6	Amelia	For being a total star in all she does!

Lunchtime Awards

Reception	Thea
Year 1	Patsy
Year 2	Oliver
Year 3	Kian
Year 4	Fern
Year 5	Alfie
Year 6	Charly

Attendance Matters!

Whole school attendance: 94.5 %

Well done to our class attendance winners who will get an extra break time this week!

Class Attendance winner: Rec 98.2%