

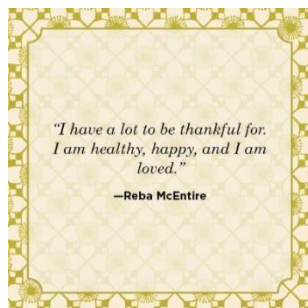


St Michael with St Thomas CofE Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 7th December 2023

Christian Value this half term: Thankfulness

This week we are thankful for our school kitchen staff for making such a lovely Christmas Dinner, and our healthy bodies allowing us to join in the Santa Dash!



Christmas Dinner, Christmas Jumpers and the Santa Dash!

What a day we have had today! The festive spirit has definitely hit the building now, with a super Christmas Dinner, a school in Christmas dress and even a special guest appearing at in the hall to pull a cracker or two with the children! We also took part in the national Santa Dash, joining schools from across the country. The children had a great time, despite the weather trying to put a stop to the event. Check out our social media pages for photos of the fun!

Assessment Week

This week has been the school assessment week and the children have been working so hard! We talked in worship about how we love assessment week in our school, with some of the children saying that it was a chance to 'show off how much they had learned' and others saying that they liked showing our Christian value of perseverance even when it is tough. We love this fantastic attitude from our pupils! Teachers will look forward to sharing all of the progress made throughout the curriculum with families in the Pupil progress meetings after Christmas.

Faith at Home - Advent

From talking to the children this week, I know a lot of them have been very excited about starting their advent calendars at home this week (and the arrival of the elves!). Below you will find a link to the Church of England's electronic advent calendar, which has a daily door for you to open to countdown to Christmas, with a family activity and reflection behind each door.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-calling/what-we-believe/advent-and-christmas/advent-calendar>

Enterprise Week and Fair

Next week we start our Enterprise week, and the children (and staff!) are very excited to start making their products to sell at the fair. Alongside the products made by the children, there will be games, a tombola, a raffle, performance by the choir and a festive café for all to enjoy!

The fair starts at 1.30pm and details about how children can be collected will be sent out next week. Children in KS1 who don't have adult at the fair will still be able to walk around and buy things with a staff member. Unaccompanied KS2 children will be allowed to walk around the fair themselves. We hope to see you all there!

Help for Households

We know that this is a very busy and expensive time of year, and many families are feeling the impact of this even more this year with the increase in cost of living. The Halton Help for Households website is available on the link below, which details all of the different support available to local residents. I would also like to remind everyone that the school is a foodbank referral agent – if you need support with this please come and see me in school and be assured that the process is very discrete.

<https://www3.halton.gov.uk/Pages/health/costofliving.aspx>

Christmas Panto and Party Days

Next week is our panto and party days and we can't wait! On your child's party day, they can come to school dressed in their party clothes (sensible shoes please) but we ask that they wear their school jumper/cardigan for the theatre, as this makes them easily identifiable in the large crowd. When the children return to school, they will have a party lunch (provided by the school – no lunch needs to be sent in or payments made on Arbor for this) and take part in party games with their class.

Children can bring a small snack to the panto with them – please can we remind families that this needs to be of a reasonable size and **nut free. Any items that contain nuts will be taken off the children and handed back to parents at the end of the day.** Children do not need drinks as they will take their school water bottles with them and any fizzy drinks etc will be removed.

Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3 – Wednesday 13th December
 Y4, Y5, Y6 – Thursday 14th December

Breakfast with Santa & Christmas Dinner

The last date to sign children up for Breakfast with Santa will be Tuesday 12th December to allow food to be ordered and so that we can let Santa know how many presents he needs to bring with him! Tickets for this event can be signed up for on Arbor.

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

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 11th Dec – Enterprise week
- Tues 12th Dec – Y6 Christingle @church 9.30am, 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 – 3.15pm
- 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	Freddie	For writing an excellent letter for his rainbow challenge
Year 1	Faith	For an excellent improvement in handwriting
Year 2	George	For trying hard in Nativity rehearsals
Year 3	Amelia	For always being so positive in her learning
Year 4	Louie	For being enthusiastic during learning
Year 5	Archie	For being a positive contribution to class life
Year 6	Lillya	For brilliant effort and perseverance!

Lunchtime Awards	
Reception	Sophia
Year 1	Noah
Year 2	Evelyn
Year 3	Faith
Year 4	Isabelle
Year 5	Sophie
Year 6	Liam

Attendance Matters!

Whole school attendance: 96.3%

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

Class Attendance winner: Year 5 - 98.8%