

18th December 2020

Dear Parents,

We've had a fun-filled, action-packed last week of term, trying our best to bring Christmas cheer to all the children (and indeed, each other!) Some highlights include singing at church, party day and a special visitor who appeared on the roof! Some photos and videos have been posted (or will soon be posted) onto google classroom and tapestry for you to enjoy.

Thank you! It is hard to put into words the appreciation felt by all staff when they received their surprise pizza party last night courtesy of you, the parents! Your generosity is very much appreciated. Thanks also for the many gifts, cards and well wishes you have sent. We are all doing our best in difficult circumstances and paid to do this job, but all the same, it's lovely to feel valued.

Thank you! Another huge thank you to Luca's dad Chris from 2G and Daniel's dad Peter in 4Y who came first and second in the Charity Poker night and then both gave their winnings back to the school!! So generous of you both – thank you!

Thank you! This week we received a donation of £1,000 from the volunteers of the St Monica's Baby and Toddler group. Huge thanks to this group and in particular, Ruth Mustafa, Jen Sawley, Eorann Kavanagh and Vi. £200 will be spent on reading books needed for our literacy lessons in the spring term, £200 on science resources and the remaining £600 on early years equipment for the two reception classes.

Trips to church this week: Thanks very much to Fr Mehall, Nacho and John Aston (Co-Chair of the Friends and past parent respectively) for making it possible for us to sing outside church! Thanks also to the parents for providing refreshments. Apologies that the rain caused us to cancel Year 1. Each song performed was recorded in school by the professional videographer and will be available to watch soon.

Dr Bike: Dr Bike checked out over 20 bikes on Tuesday which should have raised over £200 in donations. If you forgot to pay, the link is here! <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserActivities?userUrl=DrBike>

Admission to Reception class September 2021: The closing date for applications is January 15th. We have now received 10 applications from siblings which is still very low. There are usually around 30 siblings. Please don't forget to get your forms in!

Pencil Cases: Your child may have brought home their pencil case. Please check it is fully stocked with pens, pencils, glue stick etc ready for the new term.

Covid Update: Please be aware of the arrangements in terms of Covid-19 cases during the school holidays:

- If a pupil or staff member develops COVID-19 symptoms **up to and including Sunday 20th December (up to 1pm)**, you must arrange a test and notify me via Headteacher@st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk. I then need to be informed of the results of the test so that I can alert anyone who may need to self-isolate. Symptoms are a high temperature, new, persistent cough or loss of taste/smell. If you have any *one* of these, you must get a test.
- If a pupil or staff member develops COVID-19 symptoms after 1pm on Sunday you may inform me, however I do not need to alert anyone to self-isolate as the symptoms have appeared more than 48 hours after you had contact with anyone in school. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

I wish you all a happy and Holy Christmas. I hope you all manage to get some sort of a rest over this festive period and look forward to seeing you back in school on Wednesday 6th January.

Kind regards

Kate Baptiste
Headteacher