

10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents

The news about covid may be fairly bleak, but we are really getting into the Christmas spirit at school and intend to enjoy everything we can!

**Christmas Disco!** – I hope the children enjoyed the Christmas disco this afternoon – they certainly looked like they did! Thank you to all the parents for their generous donations totalling £1,764.25 and to all the staff who swapped days off/hours worked so they could be there – thank you all!

**Christmas Bazaar** – Congratulations to The Friends for putting together a brilliant mini Christmas Bazaar on Sunday. In the region of £2,000 was raised and so thanks to everyone for organising it and also to everyone who came and spent their money.

**Christmas Raffle** – I have attached the long list of incredible prizes to be won at this year's Friends' Christmas raffle. Tickets are £1 each and the draw will take place on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December at assembly. Please send in the ticket stubs and money to Tracey in the school office by Thursday afternoon (16<sup>th</sup>) at the latest.

**Assemblies** – On Monday we lit the second candle on the Advent Wreath and thought about how we would stand tall and proud for Jesus as well as bowing our heads in prayer during Advent. On Tuesday, Miss Smith read a story called 'Ruby's Worry' By Tom Percival. She spoke to the children about what to do and who to tell if they have a worry. No matter how big or small it may seem, it is always important to speak to an adult or a friend you trust about your worry. Although speaking about a worry won't make it disappear instantly, it will help to relieve anxiety. On Wednesday, Mrs Warrington read the story "Stephen Hawking" from the Little People, Big Dreams series, written by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara. She talked to the Juniors about how determination, courage and patience all help us to be successful, even in the face of adversity. We recalled our school motto, "Strive to succeed in the presence of God."

**Strings Group** – Congratulations to the children in the strings group who performed so well for parents on Thursday after school and a big thank you to Lynne and Ms Phillips for preparing the concert. Thanks to the parents for coming to watch and not minding standing in the cold!

**Next week** – The children in Years 1-6 have been busy preparing for their Christmas Carol Services. We aim to perform to families as planned however, it looks like it may rain. The plan is for the children to stay in the infant hall (warm and dry) and sing/play while the adults will be standing outside (possibly cold and wet) in the infant playground to listen. Please bring umbrellas and plenty of warm layers! We will do some recordings inside and post onto Google Classroom for any parents who can't make it or don't want to stand in the rain! If you are coming to listen, please come in via either of the usual gates and walk around to the infant playground. Gates will open at 2.35pm. Children will then be dismissed from their usual classroom doors after the service. Please be aware that there are 120 children performing at each service and so we would advise you to try to limit the number of adults attending to two per family. Visibility will be poor but it will sound fabulous! There will be a retiring collection after each service and money raised will be used to buy books for the classes.

**Years 5 & 6 – Monday starting at 2.45pm – gates will open at 2.35pm**

**Years 3 & 4 – Tuesday 2.45pm**

**Years 1 & 2 – Thursday 2.45pm**

The **Reception children** will be doing a nativity during the week which will be posted on Tapestry.

**Christmas Party Day Friday 17<sup>th</sup>** – Children may come into school wearing their party clothes. Please also send in a drink and a small snack for them to eat in the afternoon. You must not bring any food that contains nuts as we have children in school with severe allergies – thank you. School finishes at normal time

**St Monica's Brownies are looking for new members** - *St Monica's Brownies are looking for new members. 6th Palmers Green Brownies meet Wednesday evening from 6.30 to 8pm. Brownies are 7 until 10 years old and if your daughter would like to join please register online on the Guiding Website and look for new members. For further information contact [Doreen.oatham@googlemail.com](mailto:Doreen.oatham@googlemail.com)*

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards  
Kate Baptiste  
Headteacher