

9th December 2022

Dear Parents

If you attended the Christmas Bazaar last Saturday, I hope you had a thoroughly enjoyable time. It was a wonderful atmosphere and we were overwhelmed by the large number of people who came. It was especially pleasing to see so many past pupils return to their "old" school! A massive THANK YOU to The Friends' committee and the very many parents and staff who helped to make this such a successful event. A whopping £9,400 profit was made! See my letter from the Bazaar programme for how money raised so far has been spent.

You will have heard in the media about increased cases of Scarlet Fever which is caused by Strep A bacteria. Information about this was emailed to parents on Tuesday as we have had some cases in school – thankfully none requiring hospitalisation. Please do watch out for symptoms such as raised temperature, sore throat and any sign of a rash. If it is Scarlet Fever/Strep A then antibiotics are needed. Children may return to school as soon as they are feeling well. Our handwashing regime has been increased in response to this situation. See the attached letter from Public Health.

Kitchen roll and boxes of tissues – With so many coughs and sneezes around and also needing to increase our hand washing regime, if you are able to donate a roll of kitchen paper for children to dry their hands on, or a box of tissues to catch the sneezes, we'd be very grateful. Thank you!

Food Bank in Southgate – This is open to everyone on Monday mornings – with no requirement for a referral or voucher. See the attached flyer for details.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - £59.21 was raised for the poppy appeal. Thank you all for your contributions.

Recent news on the school website – More events (eg Christmas dinner day!) have been added to our website, so do take a look <https://www.st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk/category/news/>

IDL before school – For those children who come to school at 8.45am to do IDL the last session is Friday 16th Dec.

SEND Coffee morning - Many thanks to the parents who attended the coffee morning this morning. Parents had the opportunity to listen to Our Voice <https://www.ourvoiceenfield.org.uk/> and what support they can offer parents whose children have been identified with additional needs. The parents also had the opportunity to talk to one another and to share information regarding resources and services. One of the services discussed was ECASS [ECASS | Education](#) We are looking forward to meeting again next term.

Filming of the nativities – Mr O'Shea is going to film the dress rehearsals of the nativities and make them available to parents. The filming for Year 1 will be on Monday afternoon, Reception on Tuesday afternoon and Year 2 on Wednesday afternoon. I hope more children are in school next week as there are lots of poorly children at home at the moment. We'll also aim to film the dress rehearsal in school for the Junior concerts.

Retiring collections – After each Christmas concert or nativity, there is a retiring collection. This is a voluntary contribution that families may be happy to give to. The money is used to pay for costumes and other expenses and then to purchase resources for classes. If you're attending more than one event, only one contribution needs to be given as the money is shared between the classes. Thank you in advance for any donations made. There will be no charge for the recordings of the videos, so this is the only request for funds that will be made from the school!

Diary Dates

- **Monday 12th Dec 7pm** – Years 3 & 4 Carol Service at St Monica's Church – all Yr 3&4 families welcome.
- **Tuesday 13th Dec 9.30am** – Year 1 Christmas Nativity in the main hall – all Year 1 families welcome.
- **Tuesday 13th Dec** – Deadline for the Christmas Pet Picture competition – see flyer attached.
- **Wednesday 14th Dec 9.30am** – Reception Christmas Nativity in the main hall – all Rec families welcome.
- **Thursday 15th Dec 9.30am** – Year 2 Christmas Nativity in the main hall – all Year 2 families welcome.
- **Thursday 15th Dec 3.45pm** – informal performance by the orchestra in the infant hall – families welcome
- **Thursday 15th Dec 7pm** – Years 5 & 6 Carol Service at St Monica's Church – all Yr 5&6 families welcome
- **Friday 16th Dec** – Panto in school (thank you to The Friends for this special treat!)
- **Monday 19th Dec** – Christmas Party Day – children can come to school in party clothes
- **Monday 19th Dec 4pm** – Carols around the Christmas tree – choir and orchestra performing for parents/carers in the main hall – all welcome
- **Tuesday 20th Dec** – School breaks up at 1pm for the holiday – non-uniform day optional

With 20% of the children absent due to illness, I hope this weekend families are able to rest and recover, so they can enjoy the planned Christmas festivities.

Kind regards
Kate Baptiste, Headteacher